



**Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee**  
**Senate Bill 597**  
**Higher Education - Maryland Artificial Intelligence Partnership**  
**March 11, 2026**  
**Favorable**

Good Afternoon Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the committee, I am writing to express my support for **Senate Bill 597**. My name is Dr. Jessica A. Stansbury, and I am the director of The University of Baltimore's Center for AI Learning and Community-Engaged Innovation (CAILI) and director of teaching and learning excellence for UBalt's Center for Excellence in Learning, Teaching and Technology.

**The Center for AI Learning and Community-Engaged Innovation (CAILI)** at the **University of Baltimore (UBalt)** equips faculty, staff, students, and the Baltimore community to responsibly engage with generative AI and artificial intelligence through ethical, equitable, and interdisciplinary learning, research, and innovation. Through meaningful collaboration and community partnerships, CAILI fosters AI fluency, drives social mobility, and applies technology to solve real-world challenges.

CAILI is Maryland's only interdisciplinary AI center that bridges UBalt's Law School, College of Public Affairs, Business School, and Arts & Sciences to provide comprehensive AI expertise spanning legal compliance, workforce training, and ethical implementation. Through CAILI, we have partnered with industry to assess AI readiness and help build AI implementation pathways. Additionally, we have worked with local business and community organizations, including k-12 schools, to provide AI training and workshops.

CAILI's collaborative projects already merge academic expertise with community needs and industry innovation. The Maryland AI Partnership created by this bill provides the exact coordinating infrastructure needed to connect centers like CAILI with state agencies, local workforce boards, and the Maryland Small Business Development Center—preventing fragmentation and maximizing impact.

CAILI currently provides faculty education through interactive workshops, AI tool training, and professional learning communities. We've designed and piloted AI literacy courses adaptable for other institutions. SB597's Maryland Technology Extension Hubs would allow us to extend this proven model to small businesses and underrepresented communities across the state—providing the free AI skills training and single point of contact that Maryland's workforce desperately needs.

SB 597 will allow Maryland to leverage centers like CAILI, scale proven models, and ensure that our state's AI future is innovative, inclusive, and economically competitive. I support SB 597 and urge this committee to issue a **favorable report**.