



**Affiliates of The Maryland Association of Counties, Inc.**

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March 5, 2026

TO: Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee  
FROM: Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors  
Maryland Association of County Health Officers

**RE: HB 1534 Data Centers – Standards for Operation and Siting**

The Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors (Conference) and the Maryland Association of County Health Officers (MACHO) join together to provide this letter of **Opposition** for HB 1534 in their capacities as the state's twenty-four Environmental Health Directors who carry out delegated authorities from both MDE and MDH and as the twenty-four Local Health Officers who have the responsibility for the delegated authorities from the State agencies.

The Conference and MACHO respectfully note that Local Health Departments do not have the technical expertise, equipment, resources, or staffing to perform the proposed assigned duties related to noise, vibration, and air quality monitoring that would result in issuing stop work orders under certain circumstances. It is not possible to quantify the additional staff required for this new program without knowing how many of these data centers there are in the state and how MDE would structure the program in their regulations and operating procedures. This would be a new, unfunded, labor intensive program for Local Health Departments.

Accordingly, the Conference and MACHO requests the Committee give HB1534 an **UNFAVORABLE** report. *This communication reflects the position of the Conference and MACHO.*

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this matter. If you have any further questions concerning this written testimony, please contact:

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