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Testimony in Support of HB 1534 Data Centers – Standards for Operation and Siting

To: Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Rob & Robin

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

We are Rob & Robin Bugos and are residents of Monrovia, Md. We are writing to express our support of HB 1534 Data Centers – Standards for Operation and Siting. Which seeks to protect citizens and Maryland's farmland from harmful development of projects.

As a concerned resident of Frederick County MD we have seen firsthand the devastating impacts that poorly planned projects can have on our communities, land and livelihoods. At this point in the data center boom. Our state and communities need to be proactive and put measurements in place. Measurements that protect our rural communities from loss of agricultural and preserved lands. Once they are gone, they are lost forever.

We need to be assured there is total transparency. We need to know the impacts these facilities will have on our community's health, infrastructure, water table, electrical supply.

We need regulations that protect those in communities that are in close proximity to the data center sites. To be assured the proper equipment and processes are being done by the big corporations running these centers. That there is accountability from these centers. That the local jurisdictions have proper access and oversight of these facilities.

We respectfully urge you to support HB 1534 and to advocate for its passage to preserve our farmland and protect Maryland's natural heritage

We appreciate your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Rob & Robin Bugos