

**Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and Distinguished Members of the Committee,**

My name is Brandon Russell, and I am a resident of Maryland. I am writing in **support of HB560** - Repeal of Sales and Use Tax and Property Tax Exemptions for Data Centers.

Data centers are primarily responsible for the increased stress on the PJM electric network, driving up costs for ratepayers. Marylanders have been pushing back against this type of development across the state, urging lawmakers to protect not only our wallets but the environment and local infrastructure.

If data center developers want to build in Maryland, they not only need to provide their own energy, they need to benefit the community. Excluding data centers from paying sales and use tax and property tax decreases that benefit.

**I urge a favorable report on HB560.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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