

Maryland General Assembly
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21410

February 10th, 2026

Dear Members of the General Assembly:

I am writing to ask the delegates vote favorably on HB0560, “Sales and Use Tax and Property Tax - Exemptions for Data Centers – Repeal.” As a Maryland and Baltimore City taxpayer, I am concerned about data centers entering Maryland because of the environmental impacts, and the cruelty and inequality that artificial intelligence is presently facilitating. It is well documented that data centers are using an unprecedented amount of [precious natural resources](#), and causing both [material and noise pollution](#). A report from the BBC (linked in the prior sentence) notes that residents near data centers were unable to drink their water. For what societal benefits are these centers using vast amounts of resources? While companies are promising a utopian future, or [the end of labor](#), the present uses of artificial intelligence do not live up to the hype, and in some cases, the only use is cruelty. Early reports from [MIT](#), [Forbes](#), and [others](#), suggest the AI investments are not panning out, and its ability is over-promised. Federal government officials are [reportedly using AI](#) to stalk and intimidate citizens. Young girls around the United States [report](#) being bullied by sexually explicit AI content, and there are dozens of ongoing [lawsuits against AI companies](#) whose chatbots drove young people to overdose and suicide.

Moreover, as a college professor, the disturbing trend of Artificial Intelligence, and the data centers that support them, has changed college education for the worse. My and my peers’ research has been stolen by AI companies, training bots without compensation or consent. My students report either feel like the recent explosion of AI in all facets of the internet feels non-consensual, or they use AI to write patently false things in papers. AI and its data centers are a parasite on education. Delegates have a chance to slow this spread of data center parasitism.

I do not want to live near data centers and feel the burden on my energy bills, water quality, and noise pollution. I do not want AI to expand into degrading privacy, art, and knowledge. **I encourage all to vote yes, and support HB0560.**

Sincerely,
Dr. Stephanie Saxton