

*Kent County Department of Economic Development  
The County Commissioners of Kent County  
400 High Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Chestertown, MD 21620*

February 24, 2020

The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser, Chair  
Ways and Means Committee  
131 House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: **SUPPORT** House Bill 1339 - Sales and Use Tax and Personal Property Tax - Exemptions – Data Centers

Dear Chair Kaiser and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The Kent County Economic Development Commission fully supports House Bill 1339. The proposed bill encourages data centers to locate in the State of Maryland. This will give Maryland the opportunity to compete in the market for data centers. The industry is both environmentally friendly and provides high paying jobs. Those two factors are very desirable for rural areas, particularly Kent County, which is a Tier I county.

Kent County's substantial investment in fiber infrastructure has positioned us to attract technology-based businesses. In addition, businesses that follow data center locations will create jobs and increase state and county tax revenues.

Please take into consideration the significant opportunities House Bill 1339 would create for the State of Maryland, and rural areas like Kent County. For these reasons, The Kent County Economic Development Commission respectfully requests a favorable consideration of House Bill 1339.

Sincerely,



Jamie Williams, CECD, Director

cc: The County Commissioners of Kent County  
Senator Stephen S. Hershey  
Delegate Jay A. Jacobs  
Delegate Steven J. Arentz  
Delegate Jefferson L. Ghrist

