



## Senate Bill 992

### *Public Utilities - Large Load Customers - Registration and Demand Response Program*

MACo Position: **LETTER OF  
INFORMATION**

To: Education, Energy, and the Environment  
Committee

Date: March 12, 2026

From: Dominic J. Butchko

MACo respectfully submits this Letter of Information on SB 992, which would establish a framework for requiring large load customers, primarily data centers, to provide certain information to the Public Service Commission (PSC) before interconnecting in Maryland.

Maryland's recent policy debates have underscored how quickly electric demand is evolving, and how closely reliability, affordability, and infrastructure planning are now linked. As large-load development accelerates across the region, state and local leaders are increasingly confronting the practical downstream impacts; particularly around water resources, transmission buildout, and the risk of cost-shifting onto residential ratepayers. While the core subject matter of SB 992 sits largely outside of local regulatory authority, counties do offer several broad themes for the Committee to consider.

**Water** – While counties own and operate many of the water and wastewater systems that may serve data centers, decisions regarding water allocations are largely made through the Maryland Department of the Environment. Creating a clearer, earlier picture of anticipated water demand, including opportunities for conservation and reuse, can help state and local decision-makers evaluate projects alongside other competing growth and resource pressures.

**Energy & Transmission** – Early coordination on electric supply and transmission planning recognizes that very large loads can drive major infrastructure upgrades, including construction activity and right-of-way needs. Stronger project transparency can help communities better understand anticipated infrastructure impacts and evaluate how proposed facilities fit within broader local planning and development goals.

**Future considerations** – Allowing the PSC to request additional information provides flexibility in a rapidly evolving and high-impact sector. As technology and project designs continue to change, a durable framework for gathering relevant information can help policymakers and regulators anticipate emerging issues and respond in a timely, informed manner.

SB 992 is a meaningful starting point as Maryland continues to evaluate the role of large-load facilities within the State's energy and infrastructure landscape. Counties remain focused on ensuring that any statewide framework is practical to implement, protects affordability for our mutual constituents, and accounts for sustainable local capacity.