

1 By Supervisors O'Connor, Logsdon, Capriolo, Martin,  
2 Eckblad, Gómez-Tom, Martinez, Shea, Vincent,  
3 Taylor (Dist. #5), Coggs-Jones, and Alexander

File No. 25-781

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5 **AN ENGROSSED RESOLUTION**

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7 Protecting the well-being and longevity of Wisconsin's residents and environment by  
8 imploring the Wisconsin State Legislature to pass the Data Center Accountability Bill  
9 (LRB 5432)

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12 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County has committed to being the healthiest  
13 county in Wisconsin and has also committed to being carbon neutral by 2050;  
14 and

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16 WHEREAS, the increased use of various software, including generative  
17 artificial intelligences, has resulted in more and more data centers being  
18 constructed around the country; and

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20 WHEREAS, data centers will significantly increase the energy needs of  
21 the State of Wisconsin, and require large amounts of water to function; and

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23 WHEREAS, there are significant concerns about lack of transparency to  
24 the public regarding the impacts of data centers environmentally and  
25 economically; and

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27 WHEREAS, investing in jobs that provide living wages, benefits, promote  
28 fair labor practices, and develop green infrastructure are vital for the Wisconsin  
29 economy; and

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31 WHEREAS, state legislators have circulated the Data Center  
32 Accountability Bill, Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) 5432, a draft bill that  
33 proposes to regulate data centers in Wisconsin to ensure the protection of  
34 Wisconsin's environment and population, that has not yet been formally  
35 introduced and assigned a bill number; and

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37 **WHEREAS, LRB 5432 was subsequently introduced as 2025**  
38 **Assembly Bill 722 (AB 722) and 2025 Senate Bill 729 (SB 729); and,**

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40 WHEREAS, the Data Center Accountability Bill would increase  
41 transparency regarding water and energy use, guarantee that laborers be paid a  
42 fair wage, and create a "very large customer class" for utility companies to  
43 ensure that data centers are bearing their fair share of the energy cost and  
44 generation; and

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46        WHEREAS, the ~~draft~~ bill also would require informing the public about the  
47 amount of water and energy used by data centers, increase renewable energy  
48 options, provide funding for the Focus on Energy Fund, and mandate the use of  
49 sustainable construction and design certifications; and

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51        **WHEREAS, as currently drafted, the legislation could classify**  
52 **Milwaukee County as a large energy consumer and impose significant**  
53 **energy-use fees, which the County seeks to avoid and supports addressing**  
54 **through an exemption for public entities; and**

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56        WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting  
57 of December 1, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-781 as amended  
58 (vote 4-0); now, therefore,

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60        BE IT RESOLVED, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors urges that  
61 the Wisconsin State Legislature pass the Data Center Accountability Bill (~~LRB~~  
62 **5432AB 722 & SB 729) provided it is amended to exempt government**  
63 **bodies from energy-use fees;** and

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65        BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Director of Government Affairs is  
66 requested to provide a copy of this resolution to the members of the Wisconsin State  
67 Legislature and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

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71        12/02/25  
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