

1 By Supervisors O'Connor, Logsdon, Capriolo, Martin,
2 Eckblad, Gómez-Tom, Martinez, Shea, Vincent,
3 Taylor (Dist. #5), Coggs-Jones, and Alexander
4

File No. 25-781

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 ~~5432~~**AB 722 & SB 729**) **provided it is amended to exempt government**
63 **bodies from energy-use fees**; and
64

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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70 12/02/25
71 s:\committees\2025\december\igr dec 1\resolutions\25-781 o'connor support data center accountability bill.docx