



1           WHEREAS, the risk of potential water and energy impacts from data centers only  
2 being addressed at the permitting phase could cause adverse impacts to water and energy  
3 sources that may also affect existing businesses and land uses; and

4           WHEREAS, the state does not have a process for analyzing individual and  
5 sector-wide water resource impacts, and the state legislature has historically expressed  
6 support for developing a statewide water policy; and

7           WHEREAS, in order to secure the longevity and sustainability of Louisiana's natural  
8 resources, it should consider a more proactive approach to planning and oversight that would  
9 be beneficial for economic prospects and the public interest by reducing the potential for  
10 future conflict and competition for resources; and

11           WHEREAS, providing for an interagency consultation process to assess the energy  
12 and water impacts of planned and proposed data centers would utilize the expertise of state  
13 agencies to help ensure protection of resources and predictability of planning.

14           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
15 create a special task force to be named the Interagency Data Center Consultation and  
16 Assessment Group, referred to as the "Interagency Group", composed of members as  
17 provided herein, to study and make recommendations regarding the growth of data center and  
18 related operations, including decommissioning.

19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Interagency Group shall be composed of the  
20 following members:

21           (1)   The chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and  
22 Environment, or his designee.

23           (2)   The chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, or his designee.

24           (3)   The secretary of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources, or his  
25 designee.

26           (4)   The chairman of the Public Service Commission, or his designee.

27           (5)   The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, or his  
28 designee.

29           (6)   The commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, or his  
30 designee.

1 (7) The secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality, or her designee.

2 (8) A member of the Water Resources Commission appointed by the secretary of  
3 the Department of Energy and Natural Resources.

4 (9) The president of the Public Affairs Research Council, or his designee.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Interagency Data Center Consultation and  
6 Assessment Group shall be chaired by the designee of the chairmen of the House Committee  
7 on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, and  
8 the group shall report to and be staffed by the Department of Energy and Natural Resources.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Interagency Group shall:

10 (1) Investigate long-term energy and water consumption demand for or by  
11 approved and potentially proposed projects.

12 (2) Identify a process in which the Interagency Group can review data center  
13 proposals with meaningful opportunity to assess impacts.

14 (3) Identify options the state can consider to implement long-term water resource  
15 and energy planning into project approvals.

16 (4) Identify pathways to resolve potential conflicts between water users, especially  
17 in times of water shortages.

18 (5) Hold public meetings on findings and proposals.

19 (6) Produce assessment reports for each planned or proposed data center detailing  
20 the above measures.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the special task force shall report its findings to  
22 the legislature no later than February 27, 2026.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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2025 Regular Session

Coates

Creates the Interagency Data Center Consultation and Assessment Group to assess the needs of current and future data centers to for long-term use of water resources. Requires the group report its findings to the legislature by Feb. 27, 2026.