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## **HB1579 Support**

January 30, 2025

Dear Energy and Natural Resources Committee Members,

This bill would add data centers to the list of facilities that must obtain a certificate of public convenience from the Public Service Commission. Data centers present impacts to the electrical grid that political subdivisions with zoning authority are not equipped to adequately assess. The Public Service Commission should have the opportunity to make this assessment, whenever a new data center is proposed.

There are other factors to be considered when siting land uses, which are best left in the hands of the local community. The North Dakota Planning Association **supports passage of HB1579, as long as political subdivisions retain zoning authority over data center siting.** The wording of the bill, as introduced, supports this objective.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rachel Laqua, President  
North Dakota Planning Association Board