

COMMUNITIES MUST **HAVE A VOICE** IN DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT



Pennsylvania is seeing growing interest in large-scale data center development, making it more important than ever for local communities to have a voice in decisions that affect their neighborhoods.

Rep. Valerie Gaydos has been advocating for responsible data center development and stronger community protections for more than a year. The need is for greater transparency, local input and safeguards for residents, taxpayers and utility customers.

Gov. Josh Shapiro's executive order restricting data center development is a step in the direction Rep. Gaydos and her colleagues have been advocating for. However, lasting protections should come through legislation that gives local communities a meaningful voice in how these projects are developed.

Rep. Gaydos supports responsible economic development and recognizes the important role technology and data infrastructure can play in Pennsylvania's economy. But large data centers can also have significant impacts on electricity and water use, noise, infrastructure and utility costs.

LEGISLATION REP. GAYDOS SUPPORTS

The following bills have passed the House and are awaiting action in the Senate:

House Bill 2151: Requires municipalities to adopt local regulations addressing data center impacts, including noise, setbacks, building design and equipment.

House Bill 2198: Repeals a special tax exemption for data center computer equipment, helping ensure these facilities pay their fair share.

House Bill 2496: Establishes a 180-day pause on data center applications, giving communities time to evaluate potential impacts.

House Bill 2650: Increases transparency and community engagement while adding environmental safeguards and protections against rising utility costs.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES DESERVE TO BE HEARD!

Pennsylvania can welcome responsible investment and new technology without leaving local residents behind. Communities deserve the information and authority needed to understand how data centers could affect their quality of life, infrastructure, environment and electricity costs.

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