

**HB 1265 - AS INTRODUCED**

2026 SESSION

26-2482

04/09

HOUSE BILL            **1265**

AN ACT                prohibiting the construction of data centers in the state and establishing a committee to study the environmental impact of data centers.

SPONSORS:            Rep. Schmidt, Straf. 14; Rep. W. Thomas, Hills. 12; Rep. Caplan, Merr. 8

COMMITTEE:          Commerce and Consumer Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This bill prohibits the construction of data centers in New Hampshire and establishes a committee to study the environmental impact of data centers.

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Explanation:        Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~  
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six*

AN ACT prohibiting the construction of data centers in the state and establishing a committee to study the environmental impact of data centers.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 1 Moratorium on Construction of Data Centers.

2 No person, business, or entity shall begin construction of a new data center in the state of New  
3 Hampshire from the effective date of this act through one year following. For the purposes of this  
4 section, "data center" means a facility consisting of a large group of networked computer servers  
5 used for the remote storage, processing, or distribution of large amounts of data.

6 2 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the environmental impact  
7 of data centers being built in New Hampshire.

8 3 Membership and Compensation.

9 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

10 (a) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the  
11 house of representatives.

12 (b) One member of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

13 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to  
14 the duties of the committee.

15 4 Duties. The committee shall study the environmental impact of data centers.

16 5 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from  
17 among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named house  
18 member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this  
19 section. Three members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

20 6 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed  
21 legislation to the speaker of the house of representatives, the president of the senate, the house  
22 clerk, the senate clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2025, and shall  
23 submit a final report on or before November 1, 2026.

24 7 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.