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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require that new and existing data centers use off-grid power and water supplies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DONALDS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To require that new and existing data centers use off-grid power and water supplies, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Ratepayers
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-
2 tity” means a private company, or other private en-
3 tity, that—

4 (A) owns, operates, or maintains a data
5 center; or

6 (B) has plans to own, operate, or maintain
7 a data center within the next 5 years.

8 (2) DATA CENTER.—The term “data center”
9 means a data center, as defined in section 453(a) of
10 the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007
11 (42 U.S.C. 17112(a)), with a power demand of 5
12 megawatts or more.

13 (3) EXISTING DATA CENTER.—The term “exist-
14 ing data center” means a data center that has
15 begun operations as of the date of enactment of this
16 Act.

17 (4) NEW DATA CENTER.—The term “new data
18 center” means a data center or planned data center
19 that is not yet operational as of the date of enact-
20 ment of this Act.

21 **SEC. 3. DATA CENTER REQUIREMENT FOR OFF-GRID**
22 **POWER AND WATER SUPPLY.**

23 Beginning on the date that is 180 days after the date
24 of enactment of this Act, a covered entity may not build,

1 own, operate, or maintain a new data center or existing
2 data center unless the data center derives all—

3 (1) energy, including back-up energy, from a
4 captive power plant, on-site power generation, or
5 some other source or combination of sources sepa-
6 rate from, and not deriving power from, the electric
7 grid; and

8 (2) water, including back-up water, from an on-
9 site water source, or some other water source or
10 combination of sources separate from, and not deriv-
11 ing water from, the public water system.

12 **SEC. 4. RATEPAYER PROTECTION PLEDGE.**

13 Proclamation of the President issued on March 9,
14 2026, titled “Ratepayer Protection Pledge” (91 Fed. Reg.
15 11439) shall have the full force and effect of law.