

SUPPORT HB 323

Topic: data center waste heat re-use study

Bill Patron: Delegate Sullivan

OVERVIEW:

- Directs the Department of Energy to identify opportunities, best practices, and stakeholders for using data center waste heat, facilitate information-sharing between data centers and potential heat users, and designate leadership and a work group to advance these efforts.
- Requires the Department to develop a strategic plan (including benefits, challenges, costs, and recommendations) and submit a report with findings and policy proposals to the House and Senate Commerce committees by September 1, 2026.

REASONS TO SUPPORT:

- Improves energy efficiency and lowers emissions: Capturing and reusing data center waste heat reduces energy waste, cuts greenhouse gas emissions, and supports the Commonwealth's clean energy and climate goals.
- Strengthens planning and coordination: The bill creates a clear, data-driven strategy and stakeholder collaboration framework, enabling smarter infrastructure investments and informed policy decisions without mandating immediate costs or projects.



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