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Representative Tucker Co-Sponsors Bill Eliminating the Sales and Use Tax Exemptions for Data Centers

Grantsburg, WI — State Assemblyman Duke Tucker announced today that he would be co-sponsoring legislation to eliminate the sales and use tax exemptions for data centers, which were included in 2023 Wisconsin Act 19.

“I always have and always will support local control, and I believe the building of data centers should fall under the same rule – allow the communities that want them to build them. But I also believe that they should pay their own way, so eliminating this tax credit is the right thing to do,” said Representative Tucker. “While tax credits for businesses and industries can help support job creation, I think the prior legislative session took this one a step too far. If local communities are going to allow data centers, then at least they should receive the tax benefits from them – rather than seeing tech billionaires continue to profit off Wisconsinites.”

2023 Wisconsin Act 19 created a sales and use tax exemption for property and equipment used to build, renovate, or operate qualified data centers, controversially incentivizing developers and Big Tech companies to pursue hyperscale data center projects throughout our state. Recent estimates indicate that data center developers could realize over \$1.5 billion in tax savings as a result during the construction of current data center projects, and an additional \$369 million annually once completed, according to the [Legislative Fiscal Bureau](#).

“We can’t simply ignore the impact these data centers are having as it relates to the electrical grid and water usage – and the associated costs for both the community and the local taxpayers. Rather than propping up data centers, we should be protecting our water quality and ratepayers,” Representative Tucker said. “We’ve seen utility rates continue to rise throughout the 75th Assembly District, which is why several communities have begun to consider moratoriums – a right I fully support them exercising.”