

**RESOLUTION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL DATA CENTERS IN
THE STATE OF TEXAS**

WHEREAS, the pace of data center construction has exponentially increased across the United States and within the State of Texas, driven by the increasing demand for digital infrastructure; data aggregation; artificial intelligence; cryptocurrency mining and related transaction settlement processes; and cloud computing services; and,

WHEREAS, local resistance to data center projects has emerged across many states, including in Texas, due to concerns about the adverse impact of these massive projects on surrounding communities, the environment, public health, increased consumer costs, and local resources; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Texas' electrical grid — managed by the Electric Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) — is already under significant strain due to a rapidly increasing demand for electricity; and,

WHEREAS, projection data indicate that, without expanded capacity and infrastructure investments, Texas could face substantial shortfalls in electricity generation and grid reliability over the next decade, raising risks of instability and increasingly higher energy costs for consumers; and,

WHEREAS, rapid increases in electricity demand attributable to data centers have raised concerns among grid operators and regulators about how to balance large, continuous loads with the need to maintain reliable service for residential, agricultural, and business customers, especially during peak summer demand and extreme weather events; and,

WHEREAS, Texas faces persistent water scarcity and drought conditions in many regions of the state, leading to constraints on municipal water supplies and water management challenges for both agricultural and residential users; and,

WHEREAS, data centers, particularly the larger facilities commonly known as hyperscalers, require substantial volumes of water for cooling and related operations; and,

WHEREAS, estimates suggest that data center water use in Texas may reach tens of billions of gallons annually, with some projections indicating potential consumption of hundreds of billions of gallons by 2030, equating to a meaningful share of statewide water use amidst ongoing drought conditions; and,

WHEREAS, current regulations in Texas provide only limited requirements for transparent reporting and planning related to water consumption by data centers, making it difficult for communities and water planners to anticipate and manage future supply needs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Republican Party of Texas that:

1. We hereby express our strong opposition to the establishment of additional open loop data centers in the State of Texas until comprehensive, enforceable safeguards are in place that protect electrical grid reliability, ensure responsible water use, and respect community resource and public health needs.

2. The State of Texas and relevant regulatory bodies should enact and enforce policies that require transparent reporting of both anticipated electricity and water demand for all proposed data center projects, with full disclosure to local and State planning authorities and the public before final approval.

3. No future data center project shall be approved without a rigorous independent assessment of impacts on the State grid and regional water resources, including in-depth plans that detail how the project will not degrade grid reliability or contribute to water shortages for households, farmers, and local industries.

4. State agencies should adopt planning and regulatory standards that prioritize local resource sustainability, such as mandatory integration of water-efficient cooling technologies or utilization of waste or reclaimed water for cooling.

5. The Texas Legislature should prioritize legislation that provide mechanisms for Counties, Municipalities, and other appropriate governing bodies to participate meaningfully in land and resource use decisions.

5. Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Governor of Texas, members of the Texas Legislature, the Public Utility Commission of Texas, ERCOT, the Texas Water Development Board, and all county and municipal decision-making bodies for consideration and action consistent with protecting public welfare.