

HB 528: Require High Resource Use Facilities to Provide Disclosures Regarding Community Impact

Legislative Rubric from Science for Georgia

[HB 528](#) requires high resource use facilities to submit annual disclosure reports providing detailed information about their energy and water usage, and the taxes they pay to the state.

Criteria	Variables			
Impact Who is going to be impacted? Is it equitable? List stakeholders & opinions.	Negative		Positive	
	This bill increases transparency about the environmental impacts of high resource use facilities (defined as facilities with a peak energy load of 30 megawatts or more) by mandating public disclosure of their resource use and community interactions.			
Reach Does it reach its target audience?	0 - No impact on target audience.	1 - Impacts narrow segment.	2 - Impacts majority; exceptions.	3 - Impacts entire target audience
	This bill will keep high-resource use facilities such as data centers accountable to the communities in which they exist. High resource facilities place a strain on the power grid and water resources. Their taxes should cover additional impacts. Without transparent reporting of their impact, the state cannot plan accurately for current needs and future growth.			
Scientific Merit Does it utilize scientific research accurately?	YES - this does follow scientific research accurately. Here's why....		NO - this does not present scientific research accurately.	
	Yes, this bill follows scientific research accurately. For high-resource facilities such as data centers to function, they use incredibly high levels of water and energy to power and cool the centers. According to one study, a large single data center can consume between 1 and 5 million gallons of water a day . Unfortunately, many of these statistics are hard to find for Georgia because these facilities are not mandated to be transparent.			
Financial Feasibility Is it financially feasible? or does this have burdensome finances (higher taxes, future costs, etc)?	0 - Extremely high costs	1 - Expensive but can be done	2 - Slight	3 - No financial burden
	The bill does not require financial support. It only focuses on ensuring that high resource facilities accurately report their resource use. .			
Political Feasibility Level of opposition and partisan disagreement.	0 - Majority disagreed	1 – Split along party lines	2 - Minimal Opposition	3 - Complete consensus (0-5 'Nays').
	This bill has 6 sponsors, 3 Democrats and 3 Republicans.			
Measurable Metrics? We recommend looking at these 3 metrics. Is the data available or being measured?	0 - no data	1 - some data / not accessible	2 - most data / somewhat accessible	3 - complete transparency
	A metric to measure the success of this bill will be demonstrated through the number of facilities that report on their energy and water usage.			