

1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to direct the Department of Energy to make certain findings and recommendations and to convene a*
3 *work group to provide expertise and feedback on the use of waste heat from data centers; report.*

4 [H 323]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

7 **1. § 1.** *The Department of Energy (the Department) shall lead efforts to accelerate the use of waste heat*
8 *from data centers in the Commonwealth and shall (i) identify opportunities for beneficial use of waste heat*
9 *from data centers; (ii) determine ways to appropriately share information and facilitate communication*
10 *between existing and proposed data centers and potential public and private heat users, including*
11 *residential, commercial, and public buildings, district heating systems, and industries that use low-*
12 *temperature heat, within the Commonwealth that allow data centers, potential heat users, and the public to*
13 *assess the potential for the use of waste heat from data centers and to establish connections between data*
14 *centers and heat users; (iii) evaluate best practices and policies for using waste heat implemented in other*
15 *localities, states, or countries; (iv) develop recommendations to accelerate the use of waste heat from data*
16 *centers in the Commonwealth that identify the potential for using waste heat from data centers, its benefits*
17 *and challenges, and recommendations for approaches to increase the use of waste heat from data centers in*
18 *the Commonwealth and include an assessment of the estimated costs necessary to develop supporting*
19 *infrastructure and associated programs; and (v) convene a work group that includes representatives from*
20 *the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority, the data center industry, local governments, gas*
21 *and electric utilities, relevant state agencies, potential users of waste heat, and other interested stakeholders*
22 *to provide expertise, assistance, and feedback on the Department's efforts to accelerate the use of waste heat*
23 *from data centers in the Commonwealth. The Department shall submit a report of its efforts, findings,*
24 *legislative proposals, and other state or local policy recommendations to promote the use of waste heat from*
25 *data centers in the Commonwealth to the House Committee on Labor and Commerce and the Senate*
26 *Committee on Commerce and Labor no later than September 1, 2026.*

ENROLLED

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