

Statement from Michigan Chamber on Governor Whitmer's data center proposal

Michigan doesn't have to choose between economic opportunity and strong community protections. We can achieve both by building on existing safeguards and supporting the digital infrastructure powering our modern economy.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 15, 2026 | Lansing, Mich.— Following today's announcement of Gov. Whitmer's Michigan Affordable and Responsible Growth Action Plan, Michigan Chamber President & CEO Jim Holcomb issued the following statement. Earlier this year, the Michigan Chamber Foundation and partners [commissioned an independent Public Sector Consultants \(PSC\) analysis](#) that concluded Michigan can responsibly compete for data center investment and strengthen public confidence by building on its existing safeguards with practical policy improvements.

“Digital infrastructure has become essential to Michigan's economy, and data centers help power the services, industries and innovations people rely on every day. The challenge isn't choosing between economic opportunity and strong community protections, it's ensuring we achieve both.

“We appreciate the Governor continuing that important conversation. Many elements of today's proposal – including protecting ratepayers and our natural resources, improving transparency and reinforcing Michigan's existing safeguards – align with recommendations from the independent PSC report.

“That analysis concluded Michigan already has a strong regulatory framework and identified practical, targeted opportunities to build on that foundation while remaining competitive for investment. The report wasn't intended to sit on a shelf. Since its release, we've been working with lawmakers, regulators, the Michigan for Responsible Data Centers coalition and other stakeholders into thoughtful, balanced public policy.

“Our work has shifted from research to results. We'll continue working collectively to move the conversation from debate to practical solutions that protect and benefit Michigan communities, employers and our economy alike.”

###

- Media contact: Sara Wurfel, 517-599-3470 or swurfel@michamber.com