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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To prohibit the construction of data centers on Federal land, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. DEXTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the construction of data centers on Federal land, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Protecting Our Public Lands from Data Centers Act of 2026''.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF CONSTRUCTION OF DATA CENTERS ON FEDERAL LAND.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) DATA CENTER.—The term ''data center'' has the meaning given the term in section 453(a) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17112(a)).

(2) FEDERAL LAND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''Federal land'' means—

(i) National Forest System land; and

(ii) land managed by the Secretary of the Interior.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ''Federal land'' does not include—

(i) any land located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation, pueblo, or rancheria; or

(ii) any land not located within the boundaries of an Indian reservation, pueblo, or rancheria, the title to which is held—

(I) in trust, or taken into trust after the date of the enactment of this Act, by the United States for the benefit of an Indian Tribe or an individual Indian;

(II) by an Indian Tribe or an individual Indian, subject to restriction

against alienation under laws of the United States; or

(III) by a dependent Indian community.

(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ''Indian Tribe'' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

(4) NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM.—The term ''National Forest System'' has the meaning given the term in section 11(a) of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 1609(a)).

(b) PROHIBITION ON CONSTRUCTION OF DATA CENTERS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the construction of data centers on Federal land is prohibited.

(c) REVERSIONARY CLAUSE REQUIRED FOR FEDERAL LAND CONVEYANCES.—Any conveyance of Federal land occurring on or after the date of enactment of this Act shall include a reversionary clause to ensure that the conveyed Federal land shall revert to the United States if the conveyed Federal land is used for a data center, unless the use of the conveyed Federal land for a data center is specifically authorized by an Act of Congress.