Date: August 19, 2026
To: Interested Parties
From: American Infrastructure Alliance
Re: Majorities of Iowa Voters Support New State Laws Expanding Iowa's Ability to Attract and Maintain Data Centers

Executive Summary

Data centers continue to be a highly polarizing issue in Iowa. However, a new survey of likely 2026 Iowa general election voters shows that **Iowa voters on both sides of the aisle support a legislative plan focused on attracting and supporting data center development in the state.** Key survey data is outlined below.

Key Findings

Iowa voters are paying close attention to the debate over data centers, and community-level opposition is percolating on both sides of the aisle – especially on the left.

- 82% of Iowa voters have recently seen a lot or some news about data centers, including 88% of Democrats and 79% of Republicans.

- 66% of Iowa voters oppose the construction of data centers in their communities – *especially* Democrats, 88% of whom oppose. By comparison, 48% of Republicans oppose the construction of data centers in their communities, though only 31% support and 18% have no opinion.

However, proposed Iowa data center plans are popular among voters on both sides.

- A proposal to expand Iowa's ability to develop responsibly and hold data centers accountable by strengthening the state's electric grid, encouraging the development of new power generation like nuclear energy, and protecting consumers from higher utility costs **garners widespread support, including majorities of voters on both sides of the aisle.** 60% of voters support the plan, including 53% of Democrats and 71% of Republicans.

SUPPORT / OPPOSE: *Iowa's Legislative Plan*



Voters are likelier to support data center companies when they commit to having a positive impact on the community in tangible ways.

- Nearly 7 in 10 likely Iowa voters (68%) say they would support data center construction if the company promised to meet requirements on paying for its own energy infrastructure; conserving water; limiting noise; tax breaks; creating good-paying jobs; generating tax revenue for schools and local services; investing in clean water initiatives for Iowa's rivers and streams; improving broadband infrastructure; strengthening the electric grid; and helping reduce household electric bills and property taxes. This level of support holds across the partisan aisle, including among 59% of Democrats and 74% of Republicans.

SUPPORT / OPPOSE: *Data Center Commitments*



Methodology and Additional Survey Information

About the Poll

The American Infrastructure Alliance*, in partnership with Mercury Analytics, conducted a phone and text-to-web (T2W) survey among 800 likely 2026 Iowa general election voters. The survey was conducted between August 6 – August 12, 2026. The margin of error at the 95% confidence level is +/- 3.46% statewide; the margin of error on sub-samples is greater. Care has been taken to ensure the geographic, political, and demographic divisions of the population are properly represented.*

Full Policy Proposal Presented to Respondents

As you may or may not know, a bipartisan team of Iowa elected officials support new state laws that would expand Iowa's ability to attract and support data centers by strengthening the state's electric grid, encouraging the development of new power generation including advanced nuclear energy, and protecting ratepayers from bearing the costs of serving large new electricity users. They have also already shortened the length of tax exemptions for new data centers.