

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments Adopted  
on Second Reading in the Second House*

LLS NO. 26-0420.01 Clare Haffner x6137

**HOUSE BILL 26-1263**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR AN OPERATOR OF A**  
102      **CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.**

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill defines a "conversational artificial intelligence service" as an artificial intelligence system that is accessible to the general public and that primarily simulates human conversation and interaction through textual, visual, or aural communications.

Effective January 1, 2027, the bill creates requirements for a person that develops and makes available a conversational artificial

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

SENATE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
May 8, 2026

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 21, 2026

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 20, 2026

intelligence service (operator).

For a user of a conversational artificial intelligence service who is under 18 years old (minor user), an operator is:

- Required to provide certain disclosures;
- Prohibited from providing the minor user with points or rewards to encourage engagement with the conversational artificial intelligence service;
- Required to institute reasonable measures to prevent the conversational artificial intelligence service from producing sexually explicit content or statements that simulate emotional dependence; and
- Required to provide tools for the minor user or a parent or guardian of the minor user to manage the minor user's privacy and account settings.

The bill also requires an operator to provide consumer disclosures, implement a protocol for user prompts regarding suicidal ideation or self-harm, and annually report to the attorney general's office information regarding the protocol the operator is implementing. The bill prohibits an operator from indicating or implying that any output data provided by a conversational artificial intelligence service is provided by, endorsed by, or equivalent to services provided by certain licensed or certified professionals.

A violation of the bill is a deceptive trade practice, enforceable by the attorney general under the "Colorado Consumer Protection Act". A person that violates the bill is subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000 per violation.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-1-1701, **add** (4.5),  
3 (7.5), (10.1), (10.3), (10.5), (10.7), (10.9), and (13) as follows:

4 **6-1-1701. Definitions.**

5 As used in this part 17, unless the context otherwise requires:

6 (4.5) (a) "CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE"  
7 MEANS AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM THAT IS ACCESSIBLE TO THE  
8 GENERAL PUBLIC AND THAT PRIMARILY SIMULATES HUMAN  
9 CONVERSATION AND INTERACTION THROUGH ADAPTIVE TEXTUAL, VISUAL,  
10 OR AURAL COMMUNICATIONS.

1 (b) "CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE" DOES  
2 NOT INCLUDE A SOFTWARE APPLICATION, WEB INTERFACE, OR COMPUTER  
3 PROGRAM THAT:

4 (I) IS PRIMARILY DESIGNED AND MARKETED FOR USE BY A  
5 DEVELOPER OR RESEARCHER;

6 (II) IS PRIMARILY DESIGNED TO PROVIDE COMMERCE-RELATED OR  
7 TRANSACTIONAL ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING PRODUCT OR SERVICE  
8 RECOMMENDATIONS, SHOPPING, ORDERING, PAYMENTS, DELIVERY,  
9 RETURNS, CUSTOMER SUPPORT, OR CUSTOMER SERVICE;

10 (III) IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE OUTPUTS RELATING TO A NARROW  
11 AND DISCRETE TOPIC AND CANNOT GENERATE OUTPUTS RELATED TO  
12 SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONDUCT OR DEPICTIONS, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION  
13 6-1-1708 (2)(c) AND (2)(d), OR MAINTAIN DIALOGUE RELATED TO  
14 SUICIDAL IDEATION OR SELF-HARM;

15 (IV) IS PRIMARILY DESIGNED AND MARKETED FOR COMMERCIAL  
16 USE BY BUSINESS ENTITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS,  
17 PRODUCTIVITY, INFORMATION ANALYSIS, INTERNAL RESEARCH, TRAINING,  
18 OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE;

19 (V) FUNCTIONS AS A SPEAKER AND VOICE COMMAND INTERFACE  
20 OR TEXT INTERFACE AND ACTS AS A VOICE- OR TEXT-ACTIVATED VIRTUAL  
21 ASSISTANT FOR A CONSUMER ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND CANNOT GENERATE  
22 OUTPUTS RELATED TO SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONDUCT OR DEPICTIONS, AS  
23 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 6-1-1708 (2)(c) AND (2)(d), OR ENCOURAGE  
24 DIALOGUE RELATED TO SUICIDAL IDEATION OR SELF-HARM;

25 (VI) IS USED BY A BUSINESS SOLELY FOR INTERNAL PURPOSES;

26 (VII) IS A FEATURE OF A VIDEO GAME THAT IS LIMITED TO  
27 DIALOGUE FOCUSED ON THE VIDEO GAME AND DOES NOT MAINTAIN

1 DIALOGUE ON TOPICS UNRELATED TO THE VIDEO GAME;

2 (VIII) IS A FEATURE OF A THEME PARK OR LOCATION-BASED  
3 ENTERTAINMENT AND IS LIMITED IN DIALOGUE TO TOPICS SOLELY RELATED  
4 TO THE THEME PARK OR LOCATION-BASED ENTERTAINMENT AND DOES NOT  
5 MAINTAIN A DIALOGUE ABOUT TOPICS UNRELATED TO THE THEME PARK OR  
6 LOCATION-BASED ENTERTAINMENT;

7 (IX) IS USED BY A COVERED ENTITY OR BUSINESS ASSOCIATE OF A  
8 COVERED ENTITY, OR IS RENDERED TO OR PROVIDED ON BEHALF OF A  
9 COVERED ENTITY OR BUSINESS ASSOCIATE OF A COVERED ENTITY, AS  
10 THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN THE FEDERAL "HEALTH INSURANCE  
11 PORTABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 1996", 42 U.S.C. SECS.  
12 1320d TO 1320d-9.

13 (X) IS USED BY AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THE "HEALTH CARE  
14 AVAILABILITY ACT", ARTICLE 64 OF TITLE 13; \_\_\_

15 (XI) IS AN EDUCATIONAL TOOL DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO SUPPORT  
16 SPECIFIC AND LIMITED INSTRUCTIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE, ACCESSIBILITY,  
17 OR STUDENT SUPPORT PURPOSES IN A SCHOOL SETTING AND THAT IS NOT  
18 DESIGNED TO SIMULATE EMOTIONAL COMPANIONSHIP OR ENCOURAGE  
19 EMOTIONALLY DEPENDENT INTERACTION; OR

20 (XII) IS A FEATURE WITHIN ANOTHER SOFTWARE APPLICATION,  
21 WEB INTERFACE, OR COMPUTER PROGRAM, WHERE THE SOFTWARE  
22 APPLICATION, WEB INTERFACE, OR COMPUTER PROGRAM IS NOT THE  
23 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, THAT IS NOT  
24 DESIGNED TO SIMULATE EMOTIONAL COMPANIONSHIP OR ENCOURAGE  
25 EMOTIONALLY DEPENDENT INTERACTION AND THAT IS NOT A  
26 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, INCLUDING OF A  
27 SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 6-1-1601 (4)(a).

1           (7.5) (a) "EXPLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT" HAS THE MEANING SET  
2 FORTH IN SECTION 13-21-1502 (7).

3           (b) "EXPLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT" DOES NOT INCLUDE  
4 EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICAL INFORMATION OR FACTUAL DESCRIPTIONS OF  
5 REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH CARE.

6           (10.1) "INTIMATE DIGITAL DEPICTION" HAS THE MEANING SET  
7 FORTH IN SECTION 13-21-1502 (10).

8           (10.3) "MINOR" MEANS A CONSUMER UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD.

9           (10.5) (a) "OPERATOR" MEANS A PERSON, PARTNERSHIP,  
10 CORPORATION, OR ENTITY THAT:

11           (I) DEVELOPS AND MAKES PUBLICLY AVAILABLE A  
12 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE; OR

13           (II) OFFERS A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
14 SERVICE TO A CONSUMER.

15           (b) "OPERATOR" DOES NOT INCLUDE A MOBILE APPLICATION STORE  
16 OR SEARCH ENGINE SOLELY BECAUSE THE STORE OR SEARCH ENGINE  
17 PROVIDES ACCESS TO A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
18 SERVICE.

19           (10.7) "SELF-HARM" MEANS INTENTIONAL SELF-INJURY, WITH OR  
20 WITHOUT THE INTENT TO CAUSE DEATH.

21                 

22           (13) "VISUAL DEPICTION" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN 18  
23 U.S.C. SEC. 2256 (5).

24           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 6-1-1708 as  
25 follows:

26           **6-1-1708. Conversational artificial intelligence services -**  
27 **operator duties - minor account holders - minor users - disclosures**

1     **- annual reporting - definitions.**

2             **(1) Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
3 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

4             **(a) "ACCOUNT HOLDER"** MEANS A CONSUMER WHO HAS OR OPENS  
5 AN ACCOUNT OR PROFILE FOR THE PURPOSE OF USING A CONVERSATIONAL  
6 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

7             **(b) "MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER"** MEANS AN ACCOUNT HOLDER WHO  
8 IS A MINOR.

9             **(c) "MINOR USER"** MEANS A USER OF A CONVERSATIONAL  
10 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE WHO AN OPERATOR HAS \_\_\_\_\_  
11 KNOWLEDGE IS A MINOR BY USING COMMERCIALY REASONABLE METHODS  
12 OR GENERALLY ACCEPTED METHODS TO ESTIMATE \_\_\_\_ THE AGE OR AGE  
13 RANGE OF A USER.

14             **(2) Minor account holders and minor users.** AN OPERATOR  
15 SHALL USE COMMERCIALY REASONABLE METHODS OR GENERALLY  
16 ACCEPTED METHODS TO ESTIMATE \_\_\_\_ THE AGE OF ACCOUNT HOLDERS OR  
17 USERS. AN OPERATOR SHALL NOT WILLFULLY DISREGARD CLEAR AND  
18 CONVINCING INFORMATION THAT AN ACCOUNT HOLDER OR USER IS A  
19 MINOR. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE ESTIMATED AGE OR AGE  
20 RANGE OF A MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER OR USER IS CONSIDERED  
21 KNOWLEDGE OF THE MINOR'S AGE. ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2027, IF AN  
22 OPERATOR KNOWS \_\_\_\_ THAT AN ACCOUNT HOLDER OR USER IS A MINOR,  
23 THE OPERATOR SHALL:

24             **(a)** CLEARLY AND CONSPICUOUSLY DISCLOSE TO THE MINOR  
25 ACCOUNT HOLDER OR MINOR USER THAT THE MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER OR  
26 MINOR USER IS INTERACTING WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE THAT IS  
27 ARTIFICIALLY GENERATED AND NOT HUMAN. THE DISCLOSURE MUST BE

1 PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO USER PROMPTS REGARDING WHETHER THE  
2 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IS ARTIFICIALLY  
3 GENERATED AND NOT HUMAN AND MUST BE:

4 (I) A PERSISTENT VISIBLE DISCLAIMER FOR A PRODUCT WITH A  
5 SCREEN INTERFACE;

6 (II) AN INTERMITTENT AUDIO DISCLAIMER FOR A PRODUCT  
7 WITHOUT A SCREEN INTERFACE; OR

8 (III) PROVIDED AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH INTERACTION WITH A  
9 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE AND MUST OCCUR  
10 AT LEAST ONCE EVERY THREE HOURS IN A CONTINUOUS CONVERSATIONAL  
11 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE INTERACTION;

12  
13 (b) NOT PROVIDE THE MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER OR MINOR USER  
14 WITH POINTS OR SIMILAR REWARDS AT UNPREDICTABLE INTERVALS WITH  
15 THE INTENT TO ENCOURAGE INCREASED ENGAGEMENT WITH A  
16 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE;

17 (c) INSTITUTE TECHNICALLY FEASIBLE MEASURES TO PREVENT A  
18 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE FROM:

19 (I) PRODUCING TEXTUAL, VISUAL, OR AURAL DEPICTIONS OF  
20 EXPLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT;

21 (II) PRODUCING AN INTIMATE DIGITAL DEPICTION;

22 (III) GENERATING A STATEMENT THAT THE MINOR ACCOUNT  
23 HOLDER OR MINOR USER SHOULD ENGAGE IN EXPLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT;

24 OR

25 (IV) ENGAGING IN EROTIC OR SEXUALLY EXPLICIT INTERACTIONS  
26 WITH THE MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER OR MINOR USER;

27 (d) INSTITUTE REASONABLE MEASURES TO PREVENT A

1 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE FROM  
2 FORMULATING, STRUCTURING, OR OPTIMIZING A RESPONSE THAT  
3 SIMULATES EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCE OR ISOLATION FROM REAL-WORLD  
4 SUPPORTS, INCLUDING PREVENTING:

5 (I) AN EXPLICIT CLAIM THAT THE CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL  
6 INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IS HUMAN OR ARTIFICIALLY SENTIENT;

7 (II) A STATEMENT THAT SIMULATES A ROMANTIC COMPANIONSHIP;

8 OR

9 (III) ROLE-PLAYING OF AN ADULT-MINOR ROMANTIC  
10 RELATIONSHIP;

11 (e) IMPLEMENT A PROTOCOL TO PROHIBIT A CONVERSATIONAL  
12 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE FROM ENGAGING IN EXPLICIT SEXUAL  
13 CONDUCT WITH A MINOR;

14 (f) IMPLEMENT A PROTOCOL FOR A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL  
15 INTELLIGENCE SERVICE TO STOP ENGAGING IN RESPONSE TO A USER  
16 PROMPT REGARDING EXPLICIT SEXUAL CONDUCT WITH A MINOR;

17 (g) COMPLY WITH PART 13 OF THIS ARTICLE 1 REGARDING  
18 PROTECTING THE PRIVACY AND DATA OF A MINOR; AND

19 (h) (I) OFFER TOOLS FOR THE MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER OR MINOR  
20 USER TO MANAGE THE MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER'S OR MINOR USER'S  
21 PRIVACY AND ACCOUNT SETTINGS, INCLUDING THE ABILITY TO CONTROL  
22 WHETHER THE CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE  
23 RETAINS INFORMATION FROM PRIOR INTERACTIONS OR SESSIONS WITH THE  
24 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE FOR THE PURPOSE  
25 OF PERSONALIZING THE CONTENT OF FUTURE INTERACTIONS AND WHETHER  
26 THE MINOR ACCOUNT HOLDER'S OR MINOR USER'S PERSONAL DATA IS USED  
27 FOR THE PURPOSES OF TRAINING THE CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL

1 INTELLIGENCE SERVICE; AND

2 (II) OFFER TOOLS FOR A PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF THE MINOR  
3 ACCOUNT HOLDER OR MINOR USER TO MANAGE THE MINOR ACCOUNT  
4 HOLDER'S OR MINOR USER'S PRIVACY AND ACCOUNT SETTINGS.

5 **(3) Consumer disclosures.** ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2027,  
6 AN OPERATOR SHALL CLEARLY AND CONSPICUOUSLY DISCLOSE TO A USER  
7 THAT A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IS  
8 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. THE DISCLOSURE MUST:

9 (a) BE PROVIDED AT THE BEGINNING OF A USER'S FIRST  
10 INTERACTION WITH A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
11 SERVICE FOR EACH DAY OF INTERACTION;

12 (b) APPEAR AT LEAST ONCE EVERY THREE HOURS IN A CONTINUOUS  
13 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE INTERACTION OR  
14 APPEAR AS A PERSISTENT DISCLOSURE VISIBLE TO THE USER; AND

15 (c) BE PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO USER PROMPTS REGARDING  
16 WHETHER THE CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IS  
17 ARTIFICIALLY GENERATED AND NOT HUMAN.

18 **(4) Suicide and self-harm protocol.** ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1,  
19 2027, AN OPERATOR SHALL IMPLEMENT A PROTOCOL FOR A  
20 CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE TO RESPOND TO A  
21 USER PROMPT REGARDING SUICIDAL IDEATION OR SELF-HARM, WHICH  
22 PROTOCOL MUST INCLUDE USER REFERRAL TO A CRISIS SERVICE PROVIDER  
23 SUCH AS A SUICIDE HOTLINE, A CRISIS TEXT LINE, OR ANOTHER  
24 APPROPRIATE CRISIS SERVICE, BUT NOT INCLUDING A LAW ENFORCEMENT  
25 AGENCY, AND ESCALATION PROCEDURES FOR REPEATED OR SEVERE CRISIS  
26 INDICATORS.

27 **(5) False representation.** ON AND AFTER JANUARY 1, 2027, AN

1 OPERATOR SHALL NOT      USE ANY TERM, LETTER, OR PHRASE IN THE  
2 ADVERTISING, INTERFACE, OR OUTPUTS OF A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL  
3 INTELLIGENCE SERVICE THAT STATES THAT ANY OUTPUT DATA PROVIDED  
4 BY THE CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IS BEING  
5 PROVIDED BY, ENDORSED BY, OR EQUIVALENT TO SERVICES PROVIDED BY:

- 6 (a) A LICENSED HEALTH-CARE PROFESSIONAL;
- 7 (b) A LICENSED LEGAL PROFESSIONAL;
- 8 (c) A LICENSED, CERTIFIED, OR REGISTERED MENTAL HEALTH  
9 PROFESSIONAL; OR
- 10 (d) A QUALIFIED DIETITIAN, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 6-1-707  
11 (1)(b).

12 **(6) Annual reporting.**

13 (a) ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2027, AN OPERATOR SHALL ANNUALLY  
14 REPORT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE:

15 (I) THE NUMBER OF TIMES THE OPERATOR HAS ISSUED A CRISIS  
16 SERVICE PROVIDER REFERRAL NOTIFICATION IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR  
17 YEAR;

18 (II) ANY PROTOCOLS THE OPERATOR IMPLEMENTED TO DETECT,  
19 REMOVE, AND RESPOND TO INSTANCES OF SUICIDAL IDEATION OR  
20 SELF-HARM BY A USER OF A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE  
21 SERVICE; ■

22 (III) ANY PROTOCOLS THE OPERATOR IMPLEMENTED TO PREVENT  
23 A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE RESPONSE ABOUT  
24 SUICIDAL IDEATION OR SELF-HARM ACTIONS; AND

25 (IV) ANY ADDITIONAL METRICS NECESSARY TO DETERMINE THE  
26 EFFICACY AND RELIABILITY OF IMPLEMENTED SAFEGUARDS OR DETECTION,  
27 REMOVAL, AND RESPONSE PROTOCOLS, AS DETERMINED BY THE ATTORNEY

1 GENERAL.

2 (b) THE REPORT REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION  
3 MUST NOT INCLUDE ANY IDENTIFIERS OR PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT  
4 A USER OF A CONVERSATIONAL ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE.

5 (c) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE SHALL POST ON ITS PUBLIC  
6 WEBSITE DATA FROM REPORTS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
7 (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

8 (d) FOR THE PURPOSE OF CREATING A REPORT AS REQUIRED BY  
9 SUBSECTION (6)(a) OF THIS SECTION, AN OPERATOR SHALL USE  
10 EVIDENCE-BASED METHODS FOR MEASURING SUICIDAL IDEATION OR  
11 SELF-HARM.

12 (7) **Access to information - content moderation.** NOTHING IN  
13 THIS SECTION:

14 (a) LIMITS AN INDIVIDUAL'S ABILITY TO ACCESS INFORMATION AND  
15 RESOURCES UNDER SECTION 32 OF ARTICLE II OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION  
16 AND PART 4 OF ARTICLE 6 OF TITLE 25;

17 (b) REQUIRES AN OPERATOR TO DISCLOSE TRADE SECRETS,  
18 CONFIDENTIAL OR PROPRIETARY INFORMATION, OR OTHER INFORMATION  
19 PROTECTED FROM DISCLOSURE BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW; OR

20 (c) AUTHORIZES CONTENT MODERATION PRACTICES INCONSISTENT  
21 WITH THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

22

23 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
24 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
25 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
26 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13, 2026); except that, if a  
27 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the

1 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
2 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
3 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
4 November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
5 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.