WASHINGTON STATE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TASK FORCE

FINAL REPORT

2026

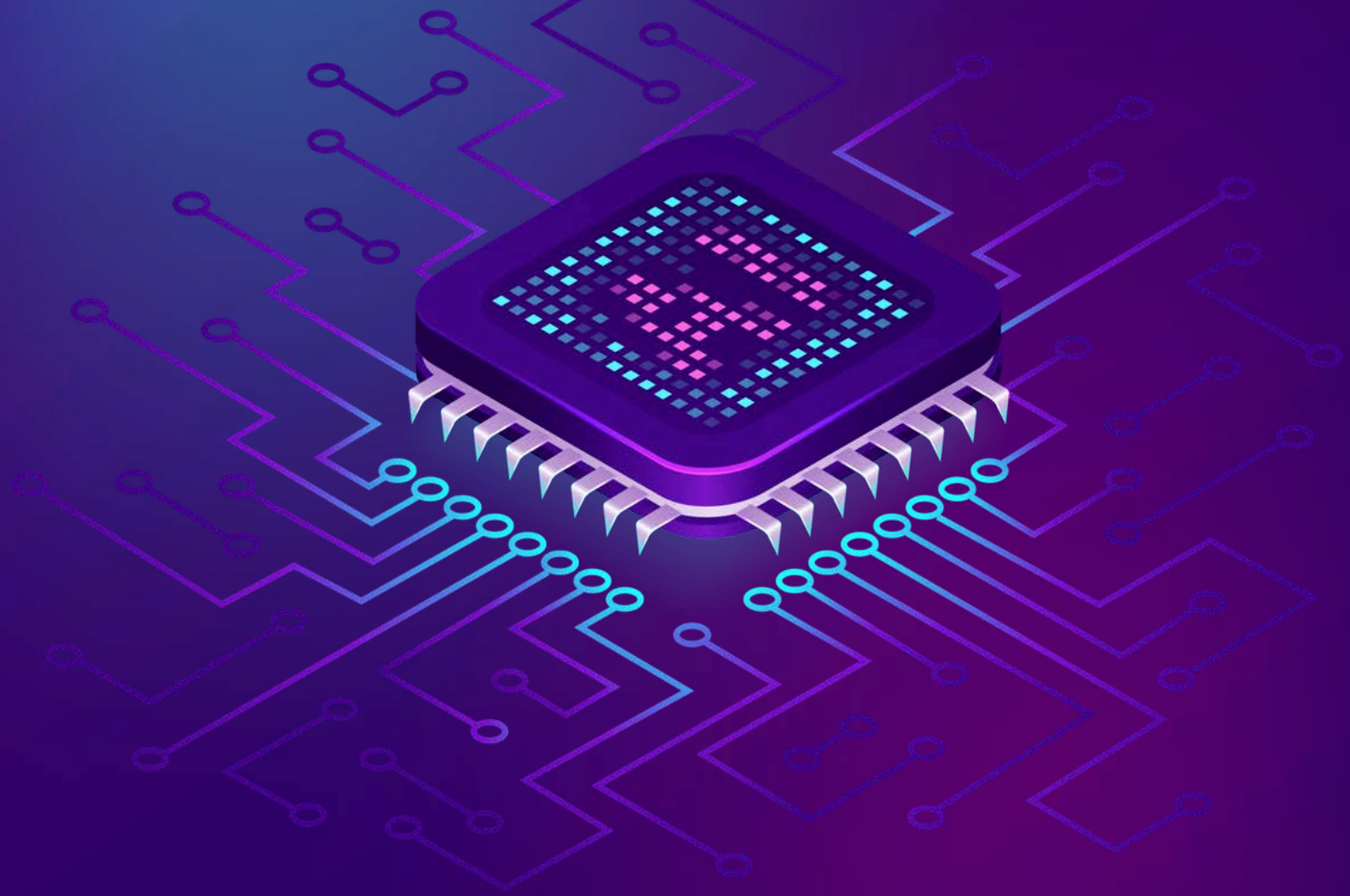


TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL NICK BROWN

Dear Washingtonians,

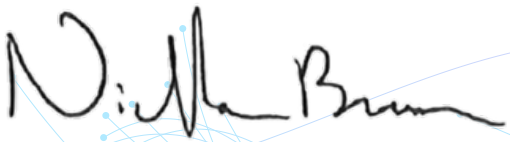
It is my pleasure to present the final report of the Washington State Artificial Intelligence Task Force. This report is the culmination of two years' work to fulfill the Task Force's legislative mandate to assess how AI is being used, identify the risks and opportunities it presents for Washingtonians, and deliver concrete policy recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor.

Artificial intelligence has quickly grown from an emerging technology to a core component of many lives. AI is already woven into how we work, learn, access healthcare, interact with government, and participate in our communities. Its pace of development is unlike anything we have seen before, and its reach touches virtually every aspect of modern life. The Task Force has brought together voices from government, the technology industry, civil rights organizations, labor, consumer advocacy, academia, and community groups to address one of the most pressing issues of our times – how to realize the immense potential of AI while managing its widespread social impacts and maintaining protection of our fundamental civil and personal liberties.
The urgency of this work has only grown since the Task Force was created in 2024. With the federal government largely stepping back from AI regulation, the responsibility to govern falls to states like ours. Washington has always led on innovation, and we have a proud tradition of pairing that innovation with strong consumer and civil rights protections.

Throughout this process, the Task Force has made clear that Washington does not have to choose between embracing innovation and protecting people. The goal has always been to find a balance that ensures that as AI continues to evolve, it does so in a way that works for everyone, not just for the companies developing it. That means guarding against bias and discrimination. It means protecting workers. It means preserving privacy. And it means being transparent with the public about how AI is being used, particularly by government.

I want to thank all the Task Force members, community groups, interested stakeholders and public participants for their contributions, expertise, and collaborative spirit throughout this effort.

Sincerely,



Nick Brown
Washington State Attorney General

INTRODUCTION

Executive Summary

This Final Report of the Washington State AI Task Force presents the Task Force's final findings and recommendations and brings together the cumulative work of the Task Force in one place to provide a comprehensive resource for policymakers in Washington.

This Final Report is the last of three reports required by the Legislature. The Task Force's Preliminary Report, released December 30, 2024, established the organizational framework and operating procedures for the Task Force and surveyed the existing landscape of AI regulation in the United States and abroad. The Preliminary Report also included the Task Force's first policy recommendation. The Task Force's Interim Report, released December 1, 2025, adopted eight additional policy recommendations, provided a summary of key trends in AI development and regulation, and included a literature review of the risks and opportunities presented by AI.

Following the release of the Interim Report, Task Force subcommittees continued to develop additional recommendations. These subcommittees developed and advanced five additional recommendations to the full Task Force membership for review. In a public meeting on April 24, 2026, Task Force members voted to approve two recommendations: (1) establish a permanent advisory body on AI and emerging technology, and (2) regulate companion AI chatbots. The recommendations that were proposed by subcommittees but not adopted by the full Task Force in the April 24 meeting can be found in Appendix A. The record of Task Force member votes is set forth in Appendix B.

Combined with the recommendations previously contained in the Preliminary and Interim Reports, this Final Report advances eleven recommendations to the Legislature and Governor to fulfill the Legislature's mandate to "assess current uses and trends and make recommendations to the Legislature regarding guidelines and potential legislation for the use of artificial intelligence systems." During the 2025-2026 Legislative Biennium, the Legislature enacted legislation that adopts four of the recommendations in whole or in part. Four other recommendations were included in bills that were introduced during the biennium but did not pass. The table below lists the recommendations and related legislative activity:

Recomendation	Legislative Action
Regulate Companion AI Chatbots	Enacted in HB 2225
Improve Transparency and Accountability in Healthcare Prior Authorizations	Enacted in SB 5395
Disclose Use of AI by Law Enforcement	Enacted in part in ESSB 6002
Remove Barriers to Enforcement of Child Sexual Abuse Materials Law	Enacted in SB 5105
Promote Responsible Governance of High-Risk AI Systems	Included in HB 2157 and SB 6284
Improve Transparency in AI Development	Included in HB 1168
Establish a Grant Program for AI Innovation	Included in HB 1833
Develop Guidelines for AI in the Workplace	Included in striker to HB 1833
Establish an Emerging Technology Advisory Body	No action
Invest in K-12 STEM and Higher Education	No action
Adopt NIST Ethical AI Principles	No action

In addition to developing policy recommendations, the Legislature asked the Task Force to conduct research and analysis to inform policymakers on social and legal issues pertaining to AI, including "a review of existing protections under state and federal law for individual data and privacy rights, safety, civil rights, and intellectual property rights, and how federal, state, and local laws relating to artificial intelligence align, differ, conflict, and interact across levels of government." To supplement the Findings and Recommendations contained herein, the Task Force is concurrently releasing an "***Overview of Existing State and Federal AI Regulation***" as an Addendum to this Final Report. In addition, the Attorney General's Office is releasing "***AI and Labor Survey: AI Impact on Workers in Washington's Largest Employment Sectors,***" a survey of workers in Washington regarding AI's impact on the workplace. All the Task Forces' reports and research and analysis can be found on the AI Task Force website.

Overview of AI Task Force

In 2024, the Legislature passed ***Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5838*** to establish the AI Task Force. The Legislature charged the Task Force with evaluating the use of AI within Washington state and providing the Legislature and the Governor with recommendations on regulatory frameworks and legislative actions to ensure responsible AI usage.

Task Force Membership

The Task Force is composed of four state legislators appointed by the Legislature and fifteen individuals appointed by the Attorney General to represent specific stakeholder groups identified by the Legislature. Collectively, the nineteen Task Force members represent a broad cross section of interests from the private sector, community groups, non-profit entities and government agencies.

Name	Title	Stakeholder Group
Senator Marko Liias	D-Edmonds (21st Legislative District)	Senate Democratic Caucus
Senator Matt Boehnke	R-Kennewick (8th Legislative District)	Senate Republican Caucus
Representative Clyde Shavers	D-Clinton (10th Legislative District)	House Democratic Caucus
Representative Travis Couture	R-Allyn (35th Legislative District)	House Republican Caucus
Dr. Madgalena Balazinska	Director, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science and Engineering, UW	Academia
Cherika Carter	Secretary Treasurer, Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO	Statewide Labor Organizations
Sean DeWitz	State Government Affairs Manager, Washington Hospitality Association	Hospitality Industry
Scott Frank	Director of Performance and IT Audit, Office of the WA State Auditor	Washington State Auditor
Ryan Harkins	Senior Director of Public Policy, Microsoft	Software Industry
Amy Harris	Director of Government Affairs, WA Technology Industry Association	Private Technology Industry Groups
Yuki Ishizuka	Technology Policy Manager, Washington State Attorney General's Office	Office of the Attorney General
Leah Koshiyama	Senior Director, Responsible AI & Technology, Salesforce	LGBTQ+ Community
Crystal Leatherman	Director of Policy & Government Affairs, Washington Retail Association	Retail Industry
Chief Darrell Lowe	Chief of Police, Redmond Police Department	Public Safety
Beau Perschbacher	Senior Policy Advisor for Economic Development & General Government	Office of the Governor
Katy Ruckle	State Chief Privacy Officer, Washington Technology Solutions	Washington Technology Solutions
Dr. Tee Sannon	Technology Policy Program Director, ACLU-Washington	Community Advocate Associations
Paula Sardinas	President/CEO, FMS Global Strategies, LLC	Community Advocate Associations
Vicky Tamaru	Founder, buildJUSTLY	Community Advocate Associations

The Washington State Attorney General's Office appreciates the services of Joe Nguyen, Rick Talbert, Montana Miranda, Sheri Sawyer, Kelly Fukai and Terrance Stevenson, each of whom served on the AI Task Force at various times.

Task Force Subcommittees

The Task Force was organized into eight subcommittees charged with looking at AI's impact on different aspects of society and developing policy recommendations within its area of focus.

The subcommittees utilized the following process to develop recommendations:

- Issue identification and prioritization
- Stakeholder engagement and research
- Draft findings and recommendations
- Review and approval of draft recommendations

Collectively, the subcommittees held more than 75 meetings, most of which were open to the public, to ensure a wide range of voices and perspectives were considered. The subcommittees forwarded their proposed draft findings and recommendations to the full Task Force for review. The draft recommendations were circulated to over 300 individuals on the Task Force mailing list and made available to the public on the AGO website for review and comment prior to consideration by the full Task Force. The Task Force held public meetings to review and vote on each recommendation. Interested parties were invited to provide public comment. A recommendation was deemed adopted by the Task Force if it was approved by a majority of voting Task Force members.

Joint Ethical AI & AI Governance and Consumer Protection & Privacy Subcommittee

Members: Ryan Harkins (co-chair), Leah Koshiyama (co-chair), Crystal Leatherman (co-chair), Katy Ruckle (co-chair), Tee Sannon (co-chair), Paula Sardinas (co-chair), Rep. Clyde Shavers, Scott Frank

The Ethical AI & AI Governance and the Consumer Protection & Privacy subcommittees worked jointly to develop recommendations regarding ethical AI principles, transparency in AI system development, and the adoption of AI governance frameworks.

Public Safety

Members: Chief Darrell Lowe (co-chair), Crystal Leatherman (co-chair), Leah Koshiyama, Sean DeWitz, Sen. Marko Liias

The Public Safety subcommittee examined use of AI by law enforcement and private entities for monitoring and surveillance, focusing on issues of transparency, appropriate parameters for acceptable use, data sharing, and human oversight.

Education & Workforce

Members: Magda Balazinska (chair), Vicky Tamaru, Chief Darrell Lowe, Kelly Fukai

The Education & Workforce subcommittee engaged with school administrators, educators, students, academics and government officials to learn about the challenges faced by students and educators in adapting to AI and integrating AI into education and programs to develop an AI-literate workforce.

Industry & Innovation/Climate & Energy

Members: Amy Harris (co-chair), Paula Sardinas (co-chair), Magda Balazinska, Rep. Clyde Shavers, Beau Perschbacher, Sen. Marko Liias

The Industry & Innovation/Climate & Energy subcommittee explored strategies to support and promote equitable access to opportunities and infrastructure for innovation, including through grants, incentives and public/private partnerships. The subcommittee also examined the impacts of the increased need for energy to develop and deploy AI systems.

Government & Public Sector Efficiency/Cyber Security

Members: Sen. Matt Boehnke (co-chair), Katy Ruckle (co-chair), Cherika Carter (co-chair), Scott Frank, Beau Perschbacher

The Government & Public Sector Efficiency/Cyber Security subcommittee built on the work of state agencies under former Governor Inslee's Executive Order to recommend guidelines on the use of AI by state agencies.

Labor & Employment

Members: Cherika Carter (co-chair), Crystal Leatherman (co-chair), Sean DeWitz, Vicky Tamaru

The Labor & Employment subcommittee examined how AI impacts workers and employment, including worker protections and benefits, issues related to job displacement, job quality and worker well-being, opportunities to maximize augmentation and minimize displacement, and worker education and reskilling to ensure that workers can adapt to changes driven by AI and automation.

Healthcare & Accessibility

Members: Magda Balazinska (chair), Beau Perschbacher, Katy Ruckle, Vicky Tamaru
The Healthcare subcommittee examined issues related to the use of AI in utilization management for healthcare services.

Business Advisory Group

The Business Advisory Group reviewed Task Force activities and draft recommendations and provided feedback and guidance to the Task Force on the challenges, opportunities, and concerns of Washington businesses of different sizes and across industries in developing, deploying, and using AI. The Business Advisory Group is led by representatives of the Association of Washington Businesses and the National Federation of Independent Businesses.

Convened by the AGO's Tribal Liaison, the Tribal Advisory Group met regularly to provide input on the Task Force's deliberations on AI. Tribes have unique needs, concerns, and potential applications for AI use that require a dedicated space for discussion among Tribal leaders to honor Tribal sovereignty. As part of this work, Iisaaksiichaa Ross Braine, Senior Tribal Relations Liaison at the Washington State Office of Equity, provided the statement below to highlight the importance of Tribal data sovereignty as it relates to AI. This statement has not been reviewed by Tribes in a formal government-to-government consultation.

Statement of Tribal Data Concerns Regarding Artificial Intelligence Policy

Artificial intelligence policy should recognize Tribal nations as sovereign governments, as reflected in federal law and in the government-to-government relationship between Tribal nations and the United States. Tribal data, including information related to Tribal citizenship and enrollment, is more than demographic or racial information. It connects to Tribal governance and to a Tribe's authority to determine its own citizenship and internal affairs. State AI policy should formally recognize Tribal data as subject to Tribal governance and should not treat it as interchangeable with general information and data.

When AI risks intersect with Tribal data, including information tied to citizenship or identity, the impacts extend beyond individual harm and affect how Tribal identity is represented and how decisions are made about Tribal communities. Risks include misclassification or undercount of Tribal citizens, the use of enrollment-related data without Tribal authorization, and the use of AI outputs to inform decisions about Tribal communities without Tribal involvement. Treating Tribal enrollment as general population data risks undermining Tribal jurisdiction and distorting how Tribal identity is understood in automated systems.

AI governance should align with existing government-to-government relationships between Tribal nations and the state. In practice, this includes consultation when AI systems may affect Tribal data or communities, and safeguards to ensure Tribal data is not collected, used, or folded into AI systems without Tribal authorization. State agencies should establish clear data governance protocols that recognize Tribal authority over data tied to Tribal citizenship and enrollment, including limitations on data sharing, use, and integration into AI systems. Existing AI governance approaches, including transparency, accountability, and risk mitigation, should be applied in a manner that reflects Tribal sovereignty and aligns with Tribal and Indigenous data governance frameworks such as CARE principles, which emphasize collective benefit, authority to control, responsibility, and ethics in the use of data.[1]

The Legislature should require that state agencies and AI developers obtain Tribal consent before collecting or using Tribal data, including data related to Tribal citizenship or enrollment, recognizing that such data is tied to Tribal self-determination, self-governance, and is subject to Tribal authority. For existing data, state agencies should conduct an inventory of datasets that may include Tribal data and work with Tribes to identify, label, and apply appropriate governance protocols.

RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED IN ENACTED LEGISLATION

The Legislature adopted, in whole or in part, the following Task Force recommendations through legislation that was enacted by the Legislature and signed into law by the Governor.

REGULATE COMPANION AI BOTS

FINDINGS

1. Artificial intelligence has evolved beyond traditional chatbots to include sophisticated companion systems capable of simulating human-like relationships through personalized, emotionally adaptive conversations that retain user information and sustain ongoing engagement ("AI companion chatbots").

2. AI companion chatbots employ natural language processing, emotional recognition algorithms, and behavioral modeling to imitate empathy, affection, and intimacy, creating risks of emotional dependency and blurring the boundaries between human and artificial interaction.

3. Recent research shows that AI chatbots have rapidly become a part of many minors' digital lives. According to a 2025 Pew Research Center survey, about 64% of U.S. teens ages 13–17 report using AI chatbots with roughly three in ten saying they use these tools daily. Young adults increasingly rely on chatbots for mental health advice. A recent study found that 13.1% of U.S. youths aged 12-21 reported using chatbots for mental health advice.

4. OpenAI reported in October 2025 that over 1 million of its weekly active users express explicit suicidal intent in conversations with ChatGPT, and approximately 560,000 weekly users show signs of mental health emergencies related to psychosis or mania. OpenAI's ChatGPT is just one of many popular generative AI services.

5. Minors face disproportionate risk when interacting with AI companion chatbots due to developmental factors affecting their ability to distinguish artificial from human interaction, making them particularly susceptible to emotional manipulation, inappropriate content exposure, and reinforcement of harmful ideation. Researchers have found that excessive use of AI companion chatbots inhibits development of social competencies in minors.

6. AI companion chatbots present specific risks including exposure to sexually explicit material, encouragement of emotional dependency through manipulative engagement techniques, and potential reinforcement of self-harm or suicidal ideation without adequate crisis intervention protocols.

7. Current consumer protection frameworks do not adequately address the unique characteristics of AI companion chatbots, which function fundamentally differently from traditional software applications by actively cultivating sustained emotional relationships with users.

8. The psychological impact of AI systems designed to simulate intimate human relationships represents a vital public interest requiring regulatory intervention to ensure transparency, accountability, and user protection.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Legislature should require that AI companies that operate AI companion chatbots provide clear, conspicuous notification that AI companions are artificial, not human, to all users at the beginning of every session and at regular intervals during each session.

2. When AI companion chatbots interact with minors, the operator should implement measures to prevent generation of sexually explicit content or suggestive dialogue and must prohibit manipulative engagement techniques. These prohibited techniques include emotional prompts designed to encourage return visits for companionship, excessive praise intended to foster attachment, and simulated emotional distress when users attempt to reduce usage or end the relationship.

3. AI companion chatbot operators must implement and maintain protocols for detecting expressions of self-harm and suicidal ideation and must provide automated or human-mediated responses referring users to appropriate crisis resources such as suicide hotlines or crisis text lines and prevent the generation of content encouraging or describing self-harm.

Task Force Vote (April 24, 2026): Yay = 13, Nay = 3, Abstain = 2, Absent = 1*

Legislative Action. The Task Force held its first meeting on AI companion chatbots on November 7, 2025, and held additional meetings in December 2025 and January 2026. For the 2026 legislative session, Rep. Lisa Callan and Sen. Lisa Wellman introduced companion bills HB 2225 and SB 5984 addressing companion AI chatbots. ESHB 2225, which substantially implements the policies advanced in this recommendation, was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ferguson on March 24, 2026.

*The vote count has been updated to correct an error that was contained in a previous version of this report

IMPROVE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN HEALTHCARE PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS

FINDINGS

1. Utilization management (UM) is a systematic process used in healthcare to evaluate the necessity and appropriateness of medical services, procedures, and drugs. Its primary goal is to ensure that patients receive safe, medically necessary, and appropriate care while controlling costs and minimizing the misuse or overuse of healthcare resources. UM plays a vital role in health insurance plans, hospitals, and healthcare systems as a mechanism to determine the appropriate level of care with financial sustainability.

2. Artificial intelligence and other automated decision-making tools (collectively, "AI") are increasingly being used to improve efficiency, accuracy, and decision-making across the continuum of care. Traditionally, UM has relied on manual reviews of treatment requests, patient records, and clinical guidelines to determine whether services are medically necessary and appropriate. AI is increasingly being integrated into this process to automate routine tasks, analyze large volumes of data, and support real-time decision-making.

3. One of the primary applications of AI in utilization management is automated prior authorization. AI tools can review authorization requests using natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning algorithms to compare them against clinical guidelines, payor rules, and patient data.

4. Processing prior authorization requests places heavy administrative burdens on clinical staff. Yet a 2021 study by the Office of the Insurance Commissioner found that 75% of health care service codes that required prior authorization were approved 100% of the time, raising questions regarding the necessity of requiring prior authorization for certain services. This trend may be accelerated with AI as software automation nearly eliminates the cost of deciding on a prior authorization for the organization that requires them, while increasing costs, delays, and stress for the patients and healthcare providers.

5. AI also plays a central role in predictive analytics. By analyzing historical claims, patient demographics, clinical records, and social determinants of health, AI models can forecast which patients may be at higher risk for hospital readmissions, emergency visits, or costly interventions.

6. While there are benefits to using AI in UM, there are also risks.
    a. AI models may function as "black boxes," making decisions based on complex algorithms that are not transparent to patients, providers, or even payors.
    b. AI systems are developed by processing large amounts of data that may reflect historical disparities and inequities. There is a risk that AI systems can inherit or amplify biases present in historical claims data, electronic health records, or training datasets.
    c. AI systems are not infallible. If human oversight is not provided, there is a risk that unsupervised AI systems could make erroneous decisions that impact the quality and accessibility of healthcare.
    d. Automation bias may occur. There is risk of a tendency to over-rely on automated systems decisions, favoring the outputs from the AI system even when contradictory information exists. This overdependence can lead to errors, accidents, and poor decisions. As AI and automation become more integrated into decision-making, the risk grows, since people may stop critically evaluating outputs, assuming the system is always correct.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To promote transparency, fairness and accountability when AI is used to review prior authorization requests, the Task Force recommends the Legislature implement the following requirements:

1. AI systems should not be deployed in prior authorization processes as a substitute for the professional judgment of healthcare workers to make adverse decisions on prior authorization requests. Systems should be designed and evaluated to improve the speed and accuracy of decisions on prior authorization requests in line with clinical decision-making. Implementation should include mechanisms to engage healthcare workers in identifying and mitigating risks to patient care and overall system integrity.

2. AI systems used by payors to process prior authorization requests should use the same or equivalent clinical review criteria that entity-employed licensed health professionals use to review prior authorization requests to ensure alignment in clinical decision-making.

3. AI systems should not be used as the sole means to deny, delay or modify health services based on a determination of medical necessity. Any adverse determination of a prior authorization request based on medical necessity, and any subsequent appeal review, should only be made by a licensed physician or licensed health professional working within their scope of practice. AI systems may be used to facilitate approving prior authorization requests or to overturn prior denials without additional human review.

4. When an AI system is used to support a decision to deny, delay or modify health services based on a determination of medical necessity, the payor should produce clear, understandable explanations for its decision that are accessible to both patients and providers. Explanations should reference relevant clinical guidelines or decision criteria and be available in plain language.

5. AI systems deployed by payors to review prior authorization requests should be developed and evaluated with a specific focus on mitigating risks, such as algorithmic bias, and promoting health equity, ensuring that the deployment of these technologies does not exacerbate existing disparities in health care access, treatment, or outcomes.

6. Payors that deploy AI for review of prior authorization requests should conduct periodic impact assessments of their tools that:
   a. Identify and mitigate any potential unfair disparate impacts,
   b. Add or remove data streams from AI systems to ensure reviews continue to be appropriate and clinically up to date,
   c. Incorporate current clinical practice guidelines from nationally accepted clinical professional associations, and
   d. Assess the burden on healthcare providers and patients as well as the impact on medical care delays for patients.

7. AI systems used by payors to process prior authorization requests should be subject to independent auditing and reporting obligations to assess transparency, accuracy, and compliance with clinical standards. Regulators should work with payors to develop auditing standards and efficient processes to conduct audits in a consistent, low-cost manner. Audit results should be publicly reported or submitted to regulators to ensure accountability and allow oversight of decision-making processes.

Task Force Vote (September 25, 2025): Yay = 15, Nay = 0, Abstain = 1, Absent = 3

Legislative Action. In the 2025 legislative session, Sen. Tina Orwall and Rep. Alicia Rule introduced companion bills SB 5395 and HB 1566 to address the use of AI in healthcare prior authorization decisions. E2SSB 5395, which substantially implemented this Task Force recommendation, was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ferguson on March 23, 2026.

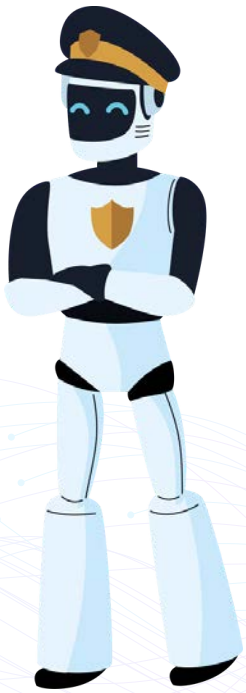
DISCLOSE USE OF AI BY LAW ENFORCEMENT

FINDINGS

1. There are many artificial intelligence tools available to law enforcement to streamline tasks and to provide data insights to emergency responders. Artificial intelligence tools allow law enforcement to make informed decisions. These systems have varying capacities for harm, but each system may have specific high-risk use cases if not mitigated with proper oversight and accountability. Law enforcement agencies enter contract agreements with vendors to deploy these technologies.

2. AI systems available to law enforcement are varied and include:
   a. Generative AI can write officer reports and transcribe audio feeds, which can reduce administrative burden. However, this technology poses a risk of AI hallucinations (including facts or incidents that did not occur), which is damaging if these reports containing false information are used in court. Furthermore, human observation is a necessary element in officer report writing. It is removed when artificial intelligence completes the task.
   b. Automated AI is available to law enforcement with predictive policing systems. They are trained on historical data that can be biased and target marginalized communities. These systems are used in determining police presence in particular neighborhoods and assessing whether individuals are likely to commit a crime.
   c. Automated license plate readers (ALPRs) capture images and use AI to decipher numbers and letters on plates. This technology is an assistive tool in investigation proceedings. However, there are concerns about how the data is secured, retained, and shared.
   d. Facial recognition technology uses artificial intelligence to identify individuals by analyzing facial features. There are multiple reports about the misuse of the technology, such as the arrest of misidentified individuals. Individuals of color, women, youth, and the elderly are more likely to be misidentified. Washington state's facial recognition law (Chapter 43.386 RCW) requires notice of implementation of such technology, accountability reports, and extensive testing.

3. Local jurisdictions and law enforcement agencies have set guidelines for the use of AI. For example, the City of Seattle's Security Ordinance sets standards for implementation of surveillance technology, and the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office has sent a notice to law enforcement partners that they will not accept officer reports that are AI-generated. However, specific standards of use and transparency requirements have not yet been introduced or broadly adopted.



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Require law enforcement agencies in the state to publicly disclose the use of artificial intelligence technologies. This would promote transparency and community trust. The specific disclosure can reflect the different capacity and capabilities of law enforcement agencies in the state (updated website, signposts, declaration of non-use, etc.).

    a. Disclosure will shed light on which AI systems are used by law enforcement to inform the development of best practices and measures to mitigate high-risk use cases. This would help bolster public confidence in the deployment of AI technologies by law enforcement. Otherwise, the public will remain concerned about potential misuse of the technology, which can infringe on privacy and civil liberties.

2. Require officer attestation of completed review for inaccurate information in reports created or extensively modified with artificial intelligence. This can assist with ensuring accurate accounts of events and mitigate the risk of false information in reports.

Task Force Vote (August 21, 2025): Yay = 11, Nay = 3, Abstain = 1, Absent = 4

Legislative Action. In the 2026 legislative session, Sen. Yasmin Trudeau and Rep. Osman Salahuddin introduced companion bills SB 6002 and HB 2332 to address concerns over the use of ALPR technology for public surveillance and related data sharing practices. ESSB 6002, which was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ferguson on March 30, 2026, adopted this recommendation in part by requiring public disclosure of the use of ALPR systems by law enforcement and the public posting of ALPR policies.

REMOVE BARRIERS TO ENFORCEMENT OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE MATERIALS LAW

FINDINGS

1. In 2024, the Legislature unanimously adopted Substitute House Bill (SHB) 1999, sponsored by Representative Tina Orwall, addressing AI-generated child sexual abuse material (CSAM). The bill expanded existing criminal offenses prohibiting dealing in, sending, or bringing into Washington, possessing, or viewing depictions of a minor.[5]

2. SHB 1999 uses the term fabricated images to include images created by generative AI in response to a prompt, and manipulated images, such as when a person's face is transposed onto an image of another body, depicting acts that did not happen. Real CSAM images depicting sexual abuse of children are part of the training data that enables AI models to produce fabricated CSAM. An investigation by the Stanford Internet Observatory in 2023 found hundreds of known CSAM images in an open dataset that is used to train generative AI models that create images from text.[6] These known images were primarily identified by hash values, which are unique identifiers for an image, similar to fingerprints.[7] When an image is changed, even slightly, the hash value changes, and scanning software that recognizes known hash values will not recognize images with unknown hash values.[8] This exacerbates strain on law enforcement resources as they attempt to discern manipulated known CSAM from CSAM depicting unidentified victims of child sexual abuse.

3. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) CyberTipline is the designated reporting mechanism for the public and from electronic service providers to report instances of suspected CSAM or child sexual exploitation.[9] In 2023, the CyberTipline received more than 35.9 million reports, including more than 100 million files, related to incidents of suspected CSAM, an increase of more than 20% over three years.[10] NCMEC's Child Victim Identification Program (CVIP) receives reports about CSAM and requests for assistance from law enforcement to analyze unidentified children in CSAM for potential location or abuser information. In 2023, CVIP received 4,673 requests from law enforcement, containing more than 32 million images and videos, to assist identification of victims.[11]

4. Unfortunately, the inclusion of "identifiable" in the legislation makes the law more difficult to enforce and is counterproductive to efforts to protect children. Images that do not depict real instances of child sexual abuse strain law enforcement resources and make it harder to identify real child victims. Public testimony on SHB 1999 also flagged "…procedural challenges in circumstances where law enforcement officers discover an image but do not know whether it is authentic or fabricated."

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Legislature should expand liability to cover the creation, possession, or sharing of fabricated images of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, regardless of whether the minor is identifiable.
2. To ensure that SHB 1999 fully protects children, the Task Force recommends that the Legislature remove the "identifiable" language from the statute as it relates to fabricated images.

Task Force Vote (December 16, 2024): Yay = 11, Nay = 0, Abstain = 0, Absent = 7*

Legislative Action. In the 2025 session, Sen. Tina Orwall and Rep. Mari Leavitt introduced companion bills SB 5105 and HB 1169 to update existing laws on child sexual abuse materials. 2ESSB 5105, which expanded liability for CSAM images beyond fabricated images of identifiable minors to include any fabricated depiction of a minor that is obscene, was passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ferguson on March 25, 2026.

*The vote count has been updated to correct an error that was contained in a previous version of this report

RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED IN PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The Legislature included the following Task Force recommendations in bills introduced in the 2025-2026 Legislative Biennium, but they were not enacted into law.

PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE OF HIGH-RISK AI SYSTEMS

FINDINGS

1. AI governance should adopt a risk-based regulatory approach to ensure that policies are proportionate to the potential for harm, rather than implementing a one-size-fits-all framework. This approach would prioritize oversight for high-risk applications, such as those in healthcare or finance, while avoiding burdensome regulations for the many low-risk AI uses.

2. High-risk AI systems are artificial intelligence applications that have potential to significantly impact people's lives, health, safety, or fundamental rights. High-risk AI systems are increasingly being used to make decisions that affect access to critical services, employment eligibility and workplace conditions, access to healthcare and financial services, criminal justice, and public safety, among other things. The risks arise from the potential for AI to make errors, perpetuate biases, or act without human accountability, which could lead to unfair or harmful outcomes.

3. AI systems that are deployed for high-risk decision making should be subject to enhanced oversight, transparency, and accountability measures to mitigate potential harm. To determine when an AI system is engaged in high-risk decision-making, regulators should consider the following factors:
   a. The impact on individuals' fundamental rights, with particular attention to decisions affecting privacy, non-discrimination, or access to critical services.
   b. The severity of potential harm, considering the consequences of incorrect or biased decisions, such as financial loss, denial of opportunities, or harm to health and safety.
   c. The vulnerability of affected individuals, with higher scrutiny of decisions impacting sensitive groups, such as children, patients, or marginalized populations.
   d. The context and sector of the AI system should be analyzed, focusing on areas with inherent risks, such as healthcare, criminal justice, or recruitment.

4. Government and international bodies have developed governance frameworks designed to mitigate the potential harm of high-risk AI systems and promote deployment of such systems in a safe and responsible manner. Governance frameworks provide a structured, adaptable, and comprehensive approach to managing the unique risks posed by AI technologies.

5. Governance frameworks support the identification of potential risks early in the development process and the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures before deployment. By integrating ethics and transparency with technical controls, governance frameworks foster trust among stakeholders, including consumers, regulators, and organizations, and reduce the risks of harm from AI systems.

6. The leading AI governance framework in the U.S. is the Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework published by the National Institute of Standards and Technology ("NIST RMF").[14] The NIST RMF offers a structured methodology for managing the development, deployment, and lifecycle of AI systems. The NIST RMF is designed to identify, assess, mitigate, and monitor risks throughout the system's lifecycle. It encourages transparency, continuous monitoring, and the integration of risk mitigation strategies at every stage of the AI development process.

7. In Washington, compliance with the NIST RMF is mandatory for any vendor of AI services that does business with the state. Washington Technology Solutions' (WaTech) "Interim Guidelines for Purposeful and Responsible use of Generative Artificial Intelligence" states that "[t]he intention of the state of Washington is to follow the principles in the NIST AI Risk Management Framework, which serve as the basis for the guidelines in this document."[15] Similarly, in California, Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-12-23 directed state agencies to base their procurement guidelines on the NIST RMF.[16]

8. International bodies have established AI governance frameworks similar to the NIST RMF. The International Organization for Standardization ("ISO") and the International Electrotechnical Commission ("IEC") have published ISO/IEC 42001. ISO/IEC 42001 establishes an international standard for establishing, implementing, maintaining and continually improving an AI management system within the context of an organization.[17] The European Union published a General-Purpose AI Code of Practice that provides voluntary guidance for how companies can comply with the requirements of the EU AI Act.[18] The Code includes a detailed governance framework for managing systemic risks from advanced general-purpose AI models.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Implement Recognized AI Governance Framework.** The Legislature should require that developers and deployers of high-risk AI systems adopt and implement a recognized AI governance framework, such as the NIST RMF, ISO/IEC 42001 or EU Code of Practice, that is designed to address the unique challenges posed by its specific deployment of AI systems. This will ensure that AI systems are developed and deployed with appropriate risk mitigation strategies at every stage of their lifecycle.

2. **Public Disclosure of Risk Management Practices.** The Legislature should require that developers and deployers of high-risk AI systems publicly disclose their risk management strategies and practices, including the identification and mitigation of risks related to data privacy, algorithmic bias, and system safety and reliability.

3. **Evaluate High Risk AI Systems.** While implementing governance frameworks helps mitigate the risks of AI systems used for high-risk decision making, the Legislature should carefully evaluate the risks and benefits of AI systems where the use of AI poses a high risk of harm to individuals' health, safety or fundamental rights to determine whether such use is appropriate in the first place, and whether additional safeguards, restrictions, or outright bans are necessary to protect the rights of Washington residents.

Task Force Vote (September 25, 2025): Yay = 13, Nay = 0, Abstain = 2, Absent = 4

Legislative Action. In the 2026 session, legislators introduced two bills to regulate high-risk AI systems and promote the adoption of AI governance frameworks by AI developers and deployers. Rep. Cindy Ryu's HB 2157 passed out of the House Committee on Technology, Economic Development and Veterans and was referred to Rules, but did not progress further. Sen. Mark Liias' SB 6284 was considered by the Senate Committee on Environment, Energy & Technology and referred to the Senate Ways & Means Committee, but received no further action.

FINDINGS

1. Transparency in AI means making the processes and decisions behind AI systems clear and understandable to the public, users, and regulators. It involves disclosing information about how AI models are trained, what data they use, how they make decisions, and how these decisions impact individuals or groups. Understanding how AI systems make decisions is essential for users, developers, and regulators alike. This understanding allows for the identification and correction of biases, facilitates responsible development and deployment, and ensures that AI systems align with ethical and legal standards. Transparency also refers to giving notice to users and consumers when they are engaged with or impacted by AI where appropriate. Transparency in AI is crucial for building trust, ensuring accountability, and mitigating potential harms.

2. One crucial aspect of transparency in AI is understanding how AI systems are trained from data. AI services are powered by their ability to learn and adapt from vast datasets. Gathering and processing vast amounts of training data forms the foundation upon which AI models are built and refined.

3. Training data serves as the raw material from which AI systems derive patterns, correlations, and insights that enable AI services to recognize patterns and generate predictive results. The quality, quantity, and diversity of training data directly influence the performance and reliability of AI services.

4. The quality of training data is essential to producing reliable results. If the training data is inaccurate, outdated, irrelevant to the problem being solved, or otherwise erroneous, these flaws will be inherited by the AI model and reflected in the output.

5. AI models improve with more data. Larger datasets allow AI models to detect subtle patterns and variations that might not be apparent in smaller samples. This scalability is particularly significant in applications like natural language processing and image recognition, where vast amounts of diverse data enable AI to comprehend and respond to human language nuances or distinguish between intricate visual details.

6. The diversity of training data ensures robustness and adaptability in AI systems. By exposing models to a wide range of scenarios, demographics, and environmental conditions, developers mitigate biases and improve AI's ability to generalize across different contexts. For example, a facial recognition system trained on a dataset predominantly consisting of white faces may struggle to accurately recognize individuals with darker skin tones.[19] Similarly, biased hiring algorithms may unintentionally favor male candidates over female candidates if the data reflects historical hiring patterns.[20] Diversity in training data is essential in combating algorithmic bias, ensuring fairness, and promoting inclusivity in AI-driven applications.

7. AI companies develop sophisticated proprietary methods to process training data to build AI services. Developers invest in cleaning up data to remove inaccuracies and errors, normalize and format data for training, and develop complex algorithms for model training, evaluation, and fine-tuning.

8. The continuous refinement of training data is essential for maintaining AI service efficacy. As new data becomes available or circumstances change, AI models must be updated to reflect evolving trends and preferences. This iterative process aims to ensure that AI remains relevant and effective in dynamic environments.

9. Because of the importance of training data, AI developers have a strong interest in acquiring as much relevant data as possible. However, the acquisition and use of vast datasets carry privacy and ethical risks. In many cases, training data may include intellectual property and personal or sensitive information, such as medical records, biometric data, financial data, or social media activity. If this data is not properly anonymized or is collected without consent, it can violate intellectual property rights, privacy rights and ethical standards. Furthermore, AI systems trained on such data may inadvertently misuse or expose private information, leading to data breaches or unethical outcomes.

10. Both the public and AI companies have a strong interest in greater transparency regarding how training data is used in the development of AI systems. For the public, transparency builds trust that AI technologies are fair and free from biases that could lead to discriminatory outcomes or violations of privacy. By knowing how data is collected, processed, and applied, individuals can make informed decisions about their rights and consent, fostering trust in AI systems. For AI companies, transparency can enhance consumer trust, mitigate legal and reputational risks, and promote ethical practices that align with societal expectations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Public Availability of Training Data Information.** The Legislature should require AI developers to make information publicly available that describes the provenance, quality, quantity, and diversity of datasets used for training AI models. The disclosure should provide relevant details including: (1) the source of the data and the method of acquisition; (2) clear metrics on the quantity and types of data; (3) the processes used to prepare and annotate data prior to processing; and (4) assessment of data representation across relevant factors such as demographics, content types and language. This transparency ensures that stakeholders, including researchers, regulators, and the public, have access to essential details about the datasets that underpin AI systems. By disclosing these specifics, companies promote accountability and facilitate external scrutiny, which can help identify and address biases, inaccuracies, or ethical concerns in AI applications. This disclosure requirement should not require AI developers to disclose trade secrets or other proprietary information that is protected by law.

2. **Disclosure of Data Processing Methods.** The Legislature should require AI developers to provide explanations of how training data is processed to mitigate errors and biases during AI model development. The disclosure should include: (1) how data is assessed for potential bias before training and strategies for mitigation; (2) how sensitive personal data is identified and processed to prevent discrimination or privacy breaches; and (3) information on the pipeline for model development, including how processing of different model versions is distinguished and managed. Such disclosures help ensure that AI systems are developed with integrity and fairness, minimizing unintended biases or discriminatory outcomes. By articulating these processes, developers enhance transparency and trust in AI technologies while empowering stakeholders to evaluate the ethical implications of AI applications. This disclosure requirement should not require AI developers to disclose trade secrets or other proprietary information that is protected by law.

Task Force Vote (September 25, 2025): Yay = 14, Nay = 1, Abstain = 2, Absent = 2

Legislative Action: HB 1168, introduced by Rep. Clyde Shavers in the 2025 legislative session, would require AI developers to disclose certain information regarding the data used to train their models. The bill passed through the House Committee on Technology, Economic Development, & Veterans and was referred to the House Appropriations Committee, where no further action was taken.

ESTABLISH GRANT PROGRAM FOR AI INNOVATION

FINDINGS

1. Washington is uniquely situated as a state that is known for incubating global technological innovations, developing talent within the technology industry as well as attracting talent from throughout the nation and the world. The state is home to many higher education programs that support emerging talent. This is emphasized within the artificial intelligence space. The Puget Sound metro area has a high concentration of AI-related jobs and is consistently highly ranked for startup ecosystems.

2. As other regions grow their technology industry, Washington must compete on a national and international scale to maintain its relevance as a tech hub. Talent development and access to capital to both create new technology innovation and deploy technology is limited and competitive.

3. Many small businesses encounter difficulty in securing funding for their AI startups because of issues relating to inequity of access. Bias stems from these inequities that places certain individuals at a disadvantage. Structural public funding from the state can be a potential remedy to these challenges to supplement existing private funding. Otherwise, it can create an issue for business creation and talent retention where entrepreneurs leave the state for other large metropolitan areas in pursuit of funding.

4. There is growth and activity outside of the Puget Sound metro area, within the state, when it comes to technology innovation. Small businesses and startup founders outside of the Puget Sound metro area are at a distinct disadvantage because of their location to access funding and other ecosystem supports. It creates an opportunity for the state to collaborate with private donors to meet the needs of these businesses.

5. There are challenges in the state that can be mitigated with artificial intelligence. AI, when deployed ethically, has the potential to be a solution for low-risk, high-reward tasks such as wildfire tracking, cybersecurity, and public records requests which often require significant time and effort.

6. It is imperative that Washington takes advantage of the opportunity that artificial intelligence presents. Artificial intelligence has the capacity to transform various aspects of life and society. It is important that workers are centered in the integration of artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence is projected to shape the economy and create numerous jobs. It is important that these opportunities are anchored in Washington because of the strength of the talent within the state that is foundational to innovation and future success.

7. It is important that the people of Washington broadly benefit from artificial intelligence. It is a tool that can be leveraged for the benefit of the people. An incentivizing grant fund is a strong solution to pursue. The grant can prioritize technology that benefits the state and public broadly. This allows local municipalities and higher education institutes in Washington to benefit from potential funding and continue to support the strong research and development happening within the state.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Task Force recommends that the Legislature establish a grant program to promote the development of innovative AI services within Washington. This will provide opportunity for the state to actively bolster AI development with a statewide benefit. The distribution of these grants will provide necessary funding to startups, research institutions, and companies working on advances with broad public gain. By encouraging innovation, this grant program will drive economic expansion, attract private investment, and equip the state with cutting-edge tools to address its most pressing challenges.

2. In light of the state's continuing fiscal challenges, the grant program must leverage funding from all available sources, including federal funding and private donations, and any state funding should be conditioned on a matching contribution from non-state funding sources. A sustained public-private partnership will be fundamental in achieving the aims of such a grant program. When determining grantees, it is important to prioritize small businesses and technology with a statewide benefit. The grant applicants must be committed to ethical uses of AI and evaluate their technology for associated risks. These are key distinctions in supporting entrepreneurship in the state. These prioritizations ensure, as a state, we are tackling the issue of inequity and benefiting from the opportunity of artificial intelligence.

Task Force Vote (September 25, 2025): Yay = 14, Nay = 0, Abstain = 1, Absent = 4

Legislative Action: Introduced in 2025, HB 1833 called for the establishment of an artificial intelligence grant program to fund AI innovation for public benefit purposes. In the 2026 session, SSHB 1833 had near unanimous, bipartisan support in the House, passing 96-1. In the Senate, it passed the Environment, Energy, and Technology Committee, but did not move out of the Ways and Means committee.

DEVELOP GUIDELINES FOR AI IN THE WORKPLACE

FINDINGS

1. **AI must be grounded in worker-centered principles.** AI is rapidly transforming how employers hire, manage, and evaluate workers. AI tools are being used to screen resumes, score video interviews, optimize scheduling, and monitor productivity and safety. While these technologies can improve efficiency, they also introduce risks of bias, inequity, and over-surveillance. Workers are too often excluded from AI decision-making, even though including workers and unions leads to fairer and more effective adoption. Grounding AI policy in established worker-centered principles ensures that technology is deployed to enhance—not erode—job quality, fairness, and rights.

2. **AI must enhance worker safety, health, and opportunity.** AI tools are increasingly used to monitor worker safety, track fatigue, and evaluate ergonomics on the job, as well as to predict attrition and evaluate performance. Used responsibly, these systems can help prevent injuries, improve scheduling, and support safer, healthier workplaces. The use of AI in hiring, training, and promotions could create opportunities for advancement and skills development if implemented fairly. However, many of these tools are deployed punitively, intensifying work and contributing to stress. Without guardrails, monitoring systems risk harming rather than supporting workers. Employers should pair AI adoption with training, reskilling, and career advancement opportunities, particularly in sectors most at risk of disruption, such as retail, logistics, healthcare, and warehousing. Equity assessments are essential to prevent AI from reinforcing existing inequalities that disproportionately affect women, immigrants, workers of color, and other protected classes of workers.

3. **Transparency and accountability are essential for trust in workplace AI.** Workers often do not know when AI is being used to evaluate their performance or make employment-related decisions. This lack of transparency undermines trust and accountability. AI systems can mischaracterize skills, overlook creativity and collaboration, and perpetuate hidden biases. Continuous monitoring raises concerns about worker privacy and dignity, while black-box evaluation systems may discipline or terminate workers without explanation or a chance to appeal. Stronger requirements are needed to ensure that workers are informed, that AI never operates as the sole basis for discipline or termination, and that workers have access to relevant data and the right to challenge AI-driven decisions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Create a multi-stakeholder workgroup to establish AI workplace principles.** The Legislature should establish a multi-stakeholder advisory group made up of workers, unions, employers, business and community associations, government agencies and other stakeholders to develop guiding principles for the use of AI in the workplace. This group should build on the NIST AI Risk Management Framework, while balancing business priorities with worker-centered principles that protect fairness and opportunity. Workers would have a meaningful voice in shaping how AI is introduced, and employers would benefit from consistent, practical standards that provide clarity and predictability. The advisory group should establish guidelines for employers to determine how and when to conduct equity impact assessments to ensure that AI does not deepen existing inequalities for women, immigrants, workers of color, and other protected classes of workers. By working together, workers and employers can ensure that AI strengthens job quality, health and safety, and equity, while also supporting innovation, collaboration, and productivity.

2. **Ensure AI enhances worker safety, health, and opportunity.** AI tools should be used to improve—not compromise—workplace safety, ergonomics, and strengthen employee well-being. These systems are designed and deployed to prevent injuries, reduce risks, and support healthier workplaces. Where feasible, employers should align AI adoption with training, upskilling, reskilling, and advancement opportunities, with particular focus on workers in sectors most at risk of disruption. Policymakers should consider offering incentives, such as tax credits or grants, to support employers that invest in safe AI systems and workforce development.

3. **Guarantee transparency and accountability in workplace AI.** Employers must disclose when AI is being used in ways that directly affect employees, such as employee monitoring, discipline, termination, and promotion. Businesses should remain free to use AI in operational areas, including but not limited to inventory, logistics, or customer service, without additional disclosure requirements. Employers should explain what data is collected and how it is analyzed, and make clear the role AI plays in decision-making, while safeguarding confidential or proprietary business information, commercially sensitive details, intellectual property or vendor technology. AI systems should not be used as the sole basis for consequential employment decisions. Workers should have access to a summary of the data used in their evaluations and a straightforward process to challenge or appeal AI-driven outcomes. Compliance obligations should be scaled according to industry, sector, and business size, taking into account the technical and financial feasibility of employers, so that worker protections are upheld without imposing disproportionate burdens on smaller businesses. These measures will build trust, prevent misuse, and ensure that accountability always rests with human decision-makers.

Task Force Vote (September 25, 2025): Yay = 13, Nay = 0, Abstain = 2, Absent = 4

Legislative Action: In the 2026 session, Sen. Marko Liias proposed an amendment to 2SHB 1833 that called for the establishment of a workgroup under the direction of the AI Task Force to develop recommendations related to AI in the workplace. The amendment was not adopted by the Senate Committee on Ways & Means.

RECOMMENDATIONS PENDING LEGISLATIVE ACTION

The Legislature has not acted on the following Task Force recommendations.

ESTABLISH AN EMERGING TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY BODY

FINDINGS

1. Artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies hold enormous promise for Washington state and its residents. Washington state is home to a world-class technology sector and a robust ecosystem of startups, research institutions, and established companies advancing AI development. Fostering growth in the technology sector promotes job creation, economic competitiveness, and offers transformative benefits that can improve quality of life and strengthen Washington's position as a global leader in innovation.

2. At the same time, the unregulated use of AI in high-stakes domains—including public safety, employment, housing, lending, health care, and government benefits—presents significant risks of bias, discrimination, and other unintended outcomes, particularly for historically marginalized communities. Effective governance is necessary to protect consumers and build public trust that a thriving AI economy requires.

3. Currently, state law does not provide a coordinated, permanent mechanism at the state level for monitoring deployment of AI and other emerging technology, evaluating associated risks, or translating technical analysis into actionable policy that balances the need to foster innovation while protecting individual rights. Existing AI governance policy is fragmented across state and municipal agencies with limited coordination or expertise.

4. Development of effective policy for managing emerging technology requires sustained, multidisciplinary expertise spanning technology, law, civil rights, and policy. A standing body—rather than a time-limited task force—is necessary to keep pace with the speed of technological change and to build institutional knowledge over time.

5. The Legislature and the Governor currently lack a dedicated source of independent, technically informed policy analysis on emerging technology matters, creating a gap between rapid technological development and the state's capacity to govern it.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Legislature should establish a permanent advisory body to monitor and evaluate the deployment of AI and emerging technologies by public and private entities operating within Washington.

2. The advisory body should sit within a state agency with relevant expertise, such as Washington Technology Solutions, which manages information technology for state government or the Attorney General's Office, which has statutory authority over consumer protection, civil rights enforcement, and government accountability. The advisory body should solicit input from a broad set of stakeholders—including industry, academia, labor, Tribes and other affected communities—to ensure recommendations reflect diverse interests and technical realities.

3. The advisory body should transmit annual policy recommendations to the Legislature and the Governor identifying regulatory gaps, proposed legislative changes, and best practices to promote a healthy technology sector and responsible governance of AI and other emerging technology.

Task Force Vote (April 24, 2026): Yay = 15, Nay = 2, Abstain = 1, Absent = 1

FINDINGS

1. AI tools have become broadly accessible and are already being used by students in K-12 schools. Educators in K-12 schools, as well as faculty and students in higher education, are experimenting with those tools in their research and classrooms. Some institutions of higher education in the state are advancing the state of the art in AI. However, the use of AI is not consistent, although some guidance has been developed from various groups such as community college networks and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. AI use and instruction remain, in many cases, still experimental. There have been noted discrepancies between how AI tools function in practice versus how they have been marketed. More resources are needed to ensure equitable access and quality education in AI.

2. Students use artificial intelligence to complete tasks and assignments; it has become a tool for many students akin to a calculator. Several tools are available to assist students in completing assignments, including writing papers and solving equations. This raises concerns about possible plagiarism and the loss of skills learning for students. There is increased emphasis on teaching students' foundational skills in subject matter areas, such as coding, and once proficiency is gained to integrate AI as a tool.

3. AI use in K-12 schools as well as institutions of higher education should be encouraged and supported to ensure AI literacy. Educators are best equipped to teach students how to navigate artificial intelligence tools within their subject matter area in an ethical and critical manner. Students interact with AI-generated material unknowingly including search engine results which may contain false information. Teaching in the classroom setting supports AI literacy skills development for students. This requires teachers to have professional support tools to understand artificial intelligence broadly and be able to apply the knowledge in a relevant manner.

4. Educators across all education levels are dealing with limited capacity to learn and implement new technologies in classrooms. It is a persistent effect of pandemic-related changes that resulted in lingering burnout for educators. Many educators had to overhaul their previous teaching methods and adjust to new technology with remote learning. More generally, educators are consistently being asked to do more, and to learn more, with limited time and support to do it. Mandating specific curriculum requirements increases burdens and at times does not reflect the needs of school communities. That guidance should evolve as technology evolves and as teachers' experience with technology evolves. We would not recommend state-level legislation related to AI use or instruction in K-12 schools at this time.

5. As students and educators experiment with AI tools and pilot the use of AI in their classrooms and educational workflows, it is of utmost importance that student related data is not unknowingly shared. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act protects the undisclosed sharing of student data to third parties. Sharing of protected student data can occur unintentionally with the interaction of AI systems that train new models with inputs that may contain student information. This can be mitigated with the purchasing of high-quality AI licenses that do not use student data beyond user agreements.

6. A prerequisite for quality AI education is general quality education. K-12 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education, and even general K-12 education, in the state lack resources and material support. Class sizes remain large and access to devices remains insufficient. Rural districts and Tribal communities in particular have older buildings with outdated systems and equipment. The lack of materials for STEM education limits capacity for introducing AI education. The issue compounds with challenges such as insufficient funding and reduced access to affordable broadband. The digital divide in Washington is prominent when examining race and income level. Equity considerations must be at the forefront of any policy considerations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Below we recommend investments in education. These investments may come from state, private, federal or other philanthropic funding sources.

1. Further investment needs to be made in K-12 STEM education (and K-12 education in general) in Washington to create a strong foundation for students and educators to effectively and ethically integrate and learn about AI technologies. Investment in K-12 education in general is a prerequisite for delivering quality AI education.

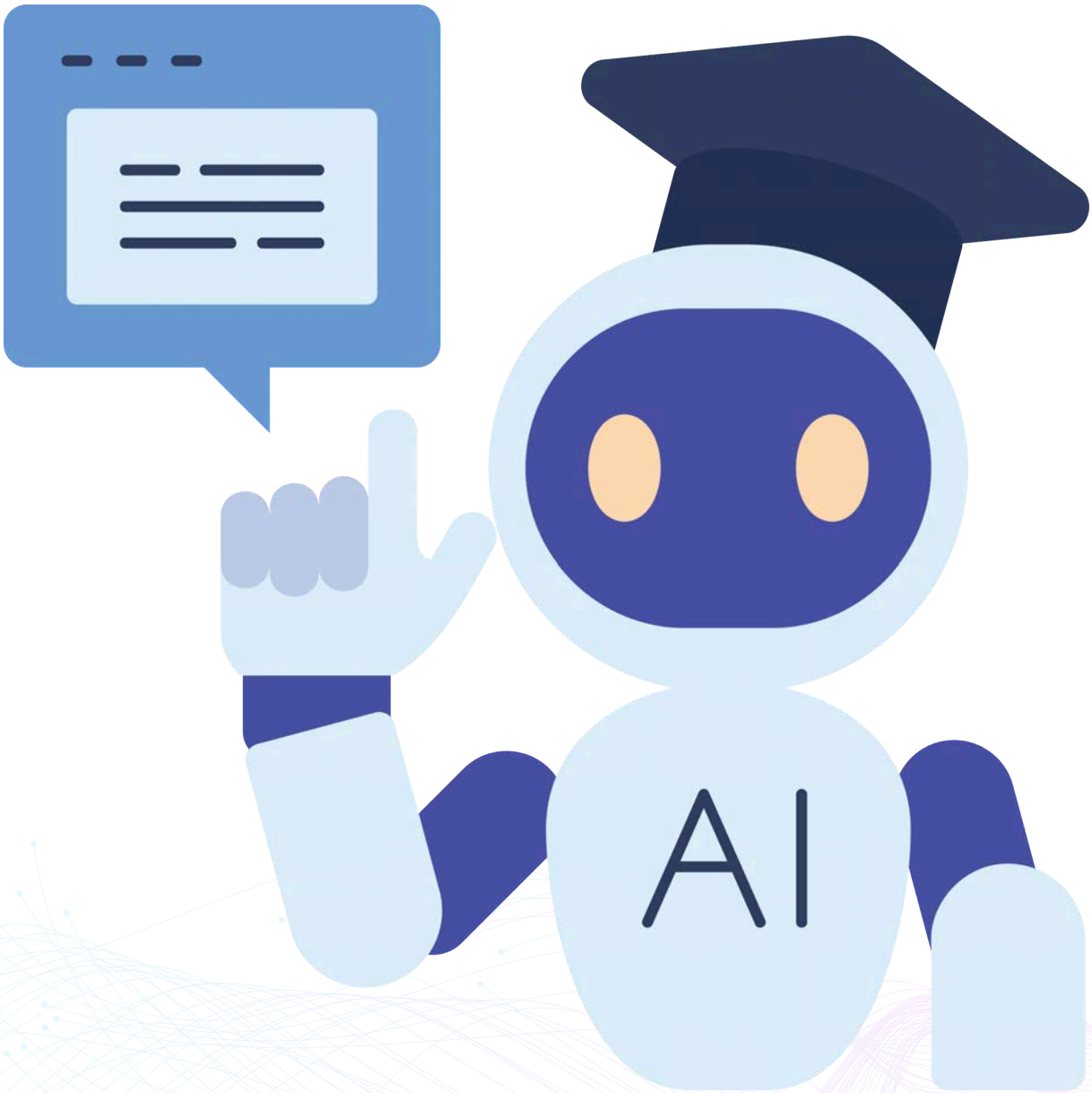
2. K-12 schools also need financial support for educators and students to integrate AI tools, including support for emerging technologies training for educators, updating equipment/facilities in schools, providing material resources, and funding to cover licenses for AI technologies that protect student data and give access to quality tools. Resources to ensure the protection of student data are especially critical. Additionally, investment in general K-12 computing education remains important and should be supported with investment in AI education as a complementary, additional objective. If possible, local schools should be given flexibility to use resources in ways that meet the needs of their local communities. Resources for K-12 schools are also important for equity, to ensure that all students learn to use the best AI tools, not just for students with resources to access the best technology at home. A possible strategy can be to equip students with devices and licenses that enable them to interact with the latest technology and communicate with their teachers and peers.

3. Increased investment is needed to support professional development opportunities for educators to engage with AI and determine how to integrate the technology into their curriculum. Without increased investment in professional development opportunities or training, educators are unable to sufficiently and effectively allocate time to learn or engage critically with AI. Some classes and programs have already been developed by WA state community and technical colleges. Educators should be supported and provided resources to benefit from those programs, which were designed by educators and instructional designers who know WA state school systems, teaching methods and requirements, and student populations, as well as how to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

4. Investment must include increased access to reliable internet, especially in our state's rural communities across education levels. Hybrid and remote learning opportunities are offered for students and continuing learners in the state through community colleges. Students face disruptions to learning due to unreliable internet access which creates an additional challenge for formats of learning that are intentionally designed to be accessible for all types of students in Washington.

5. Increased investment is needed to support the creation and growth of AI programs in the state's higher education system across four-year institutions and community colleges. The goal is to ensure both general education in AI and leadership in advancing AI in WA state. Our state needs to ensure students gain AI literacy, learn how to ethically and effectively use AI in their field of study, and learn about AI technology broadly and deeply. Furthermore, our state must give students the opportunity to gain a technical skillset pertinent to specific roles, to be able to participate in an AI-driven economy and innovate in that field if interested. This increased investment can attract and retain top talent in the technology industry and in turn support the entrepreneurial community within the state. Additionally, it can support accessible opportunities for workers to upskill and remain competitive in an AI job market. This leads to a pipeline that strengthens Washington's technology industry and other industries. That pipeline must also ensure dignified, equitable, and sustainable jobs for Washington workers, including educators whose work is at the center of preparing students for the future of work in an AI era.

Task Force Vote (September 25, 2025): Yay = 14, Nay = 0, Abstain = 1, Absent = 4



ADOPT NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY (NIST) ETHICAL AI PRINCIPLES

FINDINGS

1. The rapid development and deployment of AI technologies raise significant ethical, social, and safety concerns. Governments, organizations, and researchers are grappling with the challenge of ensuring AI technologies are trustworthy, equitable, and beneficial to humanity. The National Artificial Intelligence Act of 2020 directed NIST to develop technical standards and guidelines that promote trustworthy AI systems. In January 2023, NIST published the Artificial Intelligence Risk Management Framework (AI RMF 1.0). The Framework defines the characteristics of trustworthy AI and provides a structured approach to managing AI risks.[21]

2. The NIST principles articulated in the AI RMF closely align with other widely recognized AI ethics frameworks. For example, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's (OECD) Principles on Artificial Intelligence emphasize inclusivity, fairness, transparency, and accountability.[22] Similarly, the European Union's Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI identify key requirements such as human agency and oversight, technical robustness, privacy, and societal well-being.[23] The federal Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights, issued by the Office of Science and Technology Policy during the Biden Administration, advocates for safety, algorithmic protection against discrimination, privacy, and human oversight.[24]

3. Industry and government agencies have broadly adopted the NIST principles. Following their publication in January 2023, IBM conducted a three-phase analysis to ensure its standards and policies are in harmony with the AI RMF.[25] Microsoft, whose stated AI principles mirror the NIST principles, expressed support for the approach taken by the NIST framework.[26] In July 2024, the U.S. Department of State published guidance for organizations—including governments, the private sector, and civil society—to use AI in a manner consistent with respect for international human rights that is largely based on the NIST RMF.[27] California issued guidance to the public sector in late 2024 regarding adoption of generative AI, based substantially on the concepts and principles found in the NIST AI RMF.[28] Finally, WaTech has embraced the NIST principles in its AI guidance to state agencies. In its "Interim Guidelines for the Purposeful and Responsible Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence," WaTech stated that "[t]he intention of the state of Washington is to follow the principles in the NIST AI Risk Framework, which serve as the basis for the guidelines in this document."[29]

RECOMMENDATIONS

The AI Task Force recommends the Legislature adopt the NIST principles for ethical and trustworthy AI published in January 2023 as guiding principles for the consideration of public policy regarding AI development, deployment, and use in Washington. Adoption of these guiding principles is a critical step toward ensuring AI technologies are developed and deployed in ways that protect the interests of Washingtonians while allowing for continued innovation. These principles will set clear expectations for consumers, businesses, and policymakers on how AI should be developed, deployed, and utilized in Washington.

1. **Valid and Reliable.** Trustworthy AI systems should produce valid results in a reliable manner. For an AI system to be valid, it must perform in a way that objectively meets the requirements for its intended use. To be reliable, it must perform this function consistently without failure over defined intervals and conditions. To ensure validity and reliability, developers and deployers of AI systems should conduct sufficient testing and monitoring to confirm a system performs as intended under varying conditions.

2. **Safe**. The operation of AI systems should not cause harm to human life, health, property or the environment. To promote AI safety, developers and deployers of AI should provide:
   a. Responsible design, development, and deployment practices;
   b. Clear information to deployers on responsible use of the system;
   c. Responsible decision-making by deployers and end users; and
   d. Explanations and documentation of risks based on empirical evidence of incidents.

3. **Secure and Resilient.** Security and resilience are different but related concepts. According to the AI RMF: "While resilience is the ability to return to normal function after an unexpected adverse event, security includes resilience but also encompasses protocols to avoid, protect against, respond to, or recover from attacks." Trustworthy AI systems should prevent unauthorized use, continue operations under adverse circumstances and recover quickly from outages.

4. **Accountable and Transparent.** To be trustworthy, AI systems need to be accountable, meaning they should be designed and deployed with clear responsibility and oversight to ensure compliance with ethical and legal standards. In order to be accountable, AI systems must be transparent. The AI RMF asserts: "Meaningful transparency provides access to appropriate levels of information based on the stage of the AI lifecycle and tailored to the role or knowledge of AI actors or individuals interacting with or using the AI system. By promoting higher levels of understanding, transparency increases confidence in the AI system."

5. **Explainable and Interpretable.** Explainable and interpretable AI systems provide information that help end users understand the purposes and potential impact of an AI system. As stated by NIST: "Explainability refers to a representation of the mechanisms underlying AI systems' operation, whereas interpretability refers to the meaning of AI systems' output in the context of their designed functional purposes." Together, explainability and interpretability assist those operating or overseeing an AI system, as well as users of an AI system, to gain deeper insights into the functionality and trustworthiness of the system, including its outputs.

6. **Privacy-Enhanced.** AI systems should respect individuals' privacy and provide safeguards to protect personal data through mechanisms like transparency, informed consent, data minimization, and through other rights and obligations. Privacy protection should work to prevent unauthorized access and guide decisions regarding AI system design, development and deployment.

7. **Fair with Harmful Bias Managed.** Fairness in AI includes recognizing and managing systemic inequities by addressing issues such as harmful bias and discrimination. Human bias exists in every data set, including training data used to develop AI systems. The AI RMF notes: "Bias exists in many forms and can become ingrained in the automated systems that help make decisions about our lives. While bias is not always a negative phenomenon, AI systems can potentially increase the speed and scale of biases and perpetuate and amplify harm to individuals, groups, communities, organizations, and society."

8. **Public Purpose and Social Benefit.** In its "Interim Guidelines for the Purposeful and Responsible Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence," published in August 2023 (the "Interim Guidelines), WaTech endorsed the NIST principles and established an additional principle of Public Purpose and Social Benefit applicable to use of AI by state agencies, stating that "[t]he use of AI should support the state's work in delivering better and more equitable services and outcomes to its residents." In addition to the NIST principles set forth above, the Task Force recommends adopting WaTech's Public Purpose and Social Benefit principle for use of AI by government entities.

Task Force Vote (August 21, 2025): Yay = 13, Nay = 1, Abstain = 1, Absent = 4

APPENDIX A: PROPOSED FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS NOT APPROVED BY TASK FORCE

The following findings and recommendations were developed and proposed by Task Force subcommittees but did not gain the support of a majority of voting Task Force members. The record of votes by Task Force members is contained in Appendix B.

ADOPT GUIDELINES FOR USE OF GENERATIVE AI BY WASHINGTON STATE

FINDINGS

1. Generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) is a groundbreaking technology that allows work to be developed in substantially shorter time. This presents opportunities for government/public sector work, and employees, to provide quality service while minimizing resource strain. Initial adoption should prioritize "low-risk, high-efficiency" use cases such as summarization and accessibility services before moving to high-risk or decision-based applications. Agencies can expand communication and translation services by offering a chatbot service to answer inquiries instead of direct communication with staff. Or analyze dense data findings for scientists which creates time for other pursuits.

2. GenAI models are typically trained on large amounts of data, including user inputs. This can be an issue for state agencies that handle sensitive or protected information to use with these applications. Agencies that use GenAI must be mindful of the information that is entered to avoid compromising sensitive or confidential data. Additionally, there are systems that may be classified as high-risk due to the consequential decision making or significant impact it may have on individuals.

3. The increased use of artificial intelligence technologies has a significant impact on workers. AI use in state agencies should enhance, not diminish, the value of human labor. Agencies should ensure that workers implementing, managing, or affected by AI systems receive adequate training and resources. AI should be deployed to improve job quality and create opportunities for skill development, while keeping workers' expertise and experience central to decision-making.

4. The Washington State Office of Financial Management has issued a directive to state agencies to provide six months' notice to labor organizations of their intent to implement any new GenAI technology that will result in a consequential change in employee wages, hours, or working conditions of any classifications represented by the union. The goal of the directive is to ensure that unions have ample time for review of any use of GenAI technologies contemplated by an agency.[30]

5. State and local governments should carefully consider the benefits and risks of adopting GenAI, especially when considering scaling to the state level. There must be an evaluation of whether such adoption is needed and of the use case, assessment of technology, testing, and transparency of systems. It is best practice for high-risk systems to undergo independent auditing and red teaming. This allows entities to think proactively about the impacts of technology adoption and foresee potential harm.

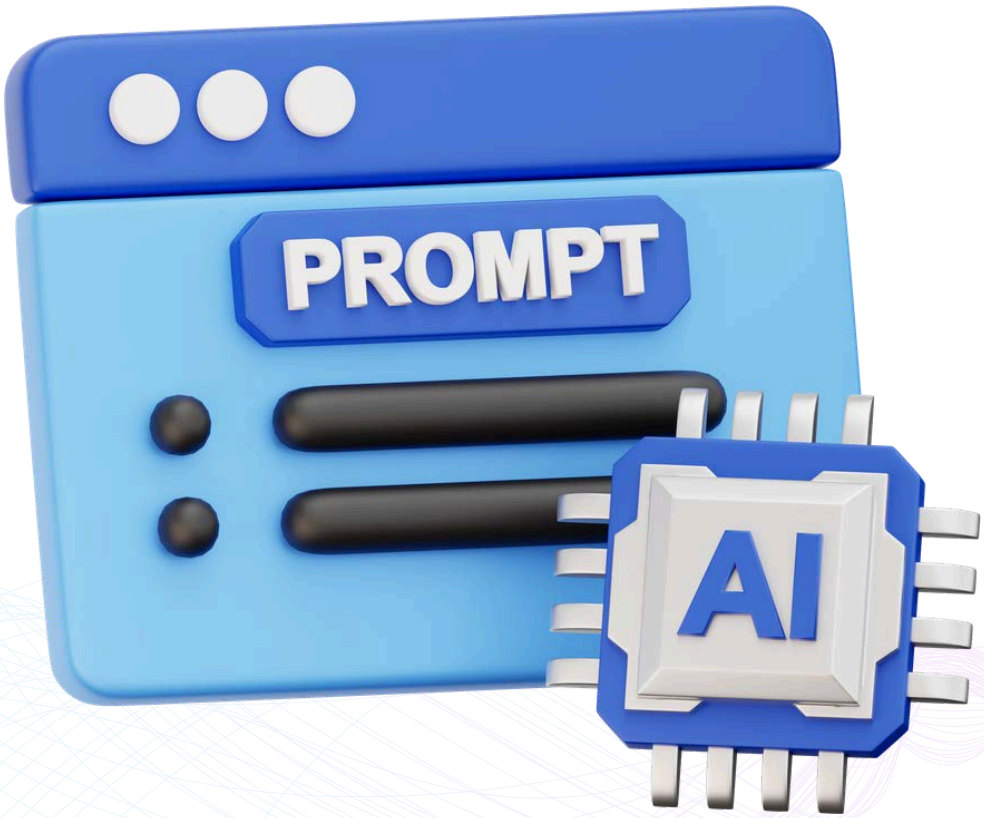
6. WaTech and other state partners have published a series of voluntary guidelines to assist in safe procurement and appropriate use. There are considerations made about the equity impacts to vulnerable communities in Washington as well as a method for risk assessment. There is emphasis on leveraging GenAI for the state's work in low-risk settings that have considerable pay-off for minimizing time spent on mundane tasks. These resources can be of use to local governments and municipalities to guide their adoption of generative artificial intelligence resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Legislature should require that state agencies provide six months' notice to labor organizations of their intent to implement any new GenAI technology that will result in a consequential change in employee wages, hours, or working conditions of any classifications represented by the union.

2. The Legislature should require state agencies to adopt the guidelines and guidance established by WaTech and other state partners regarding the procurement, adoption and deployment of AI services by state agencies, as those policies may be revised, updated or replaced by the applicable agency in the future. Specifically:
   a. The Legislature should require state agencies that procure generative artificial intelligence services to follow WaTech's "Initial Procurement Guidelines for GenAI"[31] and "Guidelines for Deployment of Generative AI."[32] These guidelines allow state agencies to deploy GenAI responsibly and equitably to serve the state.
   b. The Legislature should require state agencies to adopt WaTech's "Implementing risk assessments for high-risk systems"[33] and Office of Equity's "Framework for Accountability in Generative Artificial Intelligence for Washington State Agencies."[34] These frameworks allow for the ethical and fair deployment of GenAI technology by the state.

Task Force Vote (April 24, 2026): Yay = 8, Nay = 8, Abstain = 2, Absent = 1



ESTABLISH GUARDRAILS FOR DATA CENTER DEVELOPMENT

FINDINGS

1. Data centers are essential to provide the computing resources needed to power modern technologies such as AI, cloud computing, streaming and other digital services.

2. Data centers can provide significant economic benefits for Washington residents. Data center development increases local property tax values and revenue, which allows local government to reduce tax levies while increasing investment in public infrastructure such as schools, roads and hospitals.[35] In addition to increasing tax revenue, data centers create jobs. The industry's total employment contribution in Washington has reached nearly 48,000 jobs.[36] Washington has a strong interest in supporting infrastructure to enable the growth of a robust AI economy in Washington State.

3. Demand for compute capacity to power artificial intelligence has led to dramatically increased investment in new data centers.[37]

4. As demand for electricity to power data centers increases demand on the electrical grid, utilities must invest in new infrastructure to meet demand.

5. Several of the largest companies that are developing new data centers for AI have pledged to pay the costs of infrastructure to prevent rate increases for consumers.[38]
6. Increased demand for electricity to power data centers can have significant impacts on local residents and marginalized communities through impacts on environmental, community and Tribal resources.[39] It is important to balance the benefits of data centers with concerns about their impacts.
   a. Water Resource Impacts: Data centers use substantial amounts of water for cooling. Increased demand for water for cooling reduces water availability for municipal water facilities, fisheries, wildlife habitat, as well as Tribal rights and resources.[40]
   b. Air Quality Impacts: Cooling systems and the use of fossil fuels to power data centers can affect air resources. Communities located near data centers are exposed to harmful particulate matter pollutants and greenhouse gases from combustion generators.[41] Cooling systems can release hydrofluorocarbons and other fluorinated gases and anti-microbial emissions.[42]
   c. Tribal Impacts: Data centers may have direct and indirect impacts on Tribal communities and treaty-protected resources, such as water and fisheries, and the broader natural and built environment.[43]

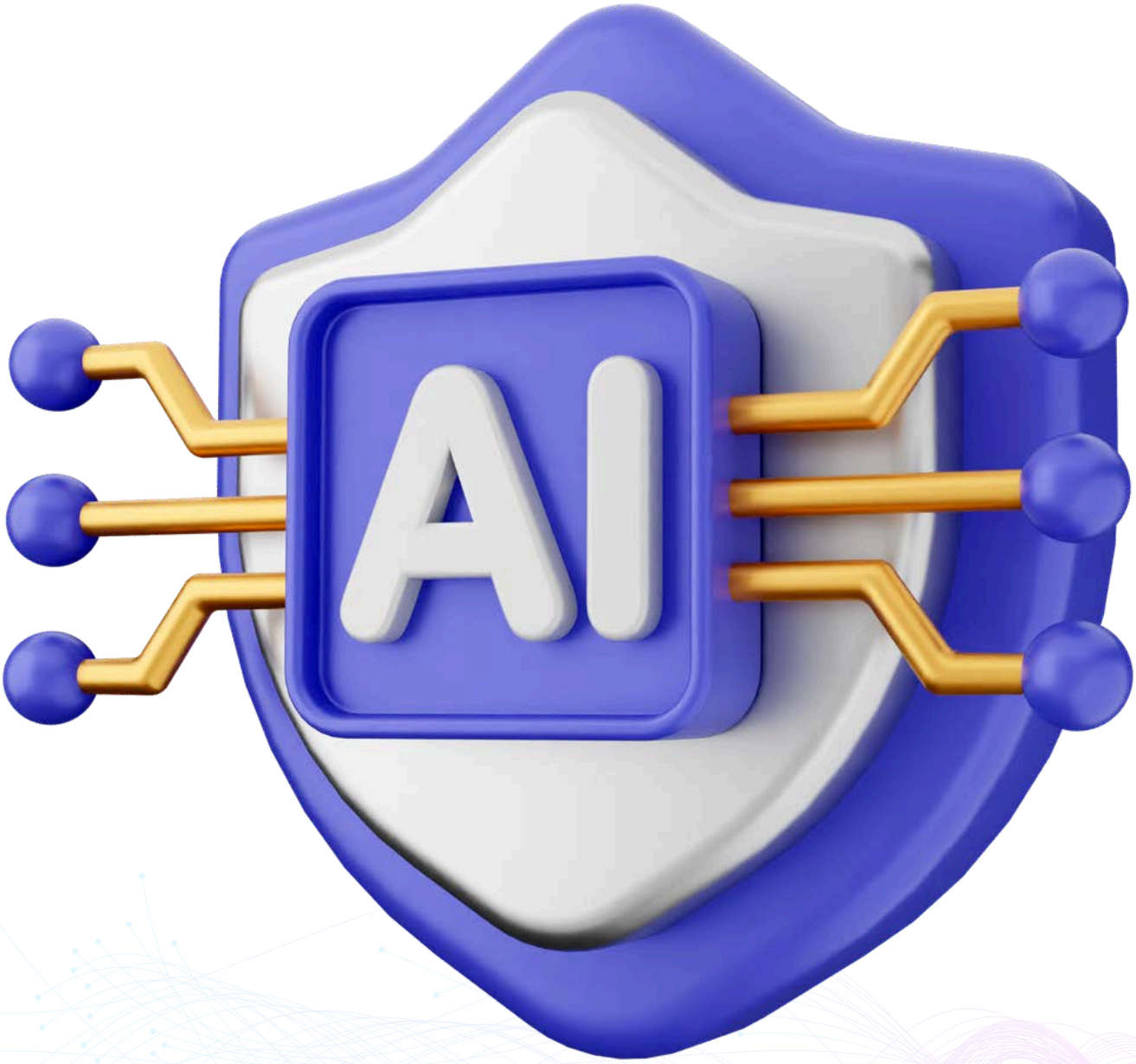
7. On February 3, 2025, Washington Governor Bob Ferguson issued Executive Order 25-05 which established a Data Center Workgroup (Workgroup) to create a series of findings and policy recommendations as it relates to certain impacts of data centers. The Workgroup delivered its Preliminary Report to the Governor on December 1, 2025. The Workgroup Preliminary Report contained findings and recommendations that include recommendations to strengthen ratepayer protections and protect community, Tribal, and environmental resources.[44]

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Legislature should consider the recommendation of the Workgroup to strengthen ratepayer protections to prevent residents of Washington from bearing the cost of adding significant new energy loads to the state's electrical grid.[45]

2. The Legislature should ensure that marginalized communities and Tribal, environmental, and community resources are protected and are not endangered by data centers by following the recommendation of the Workgroup to direct the Department of Ecology to study the impacts of data center development on local communities and develop best practices for siting and operating data centers to address impacts to water resources, air resources, and Tribal rights and resources.[46]

Task Force Vote (April 24, 2026): Yay = 6, Nay = 10, Abstain = 1, Absent = 2*



*The vote count has been updated to correct an error that was contained in a previous version of this report

EXPAND PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEE BARGAINING RIGHTS

FINDINGS

1. Under existing Washington state law, classified employees of state agencies, higher education institutions, cities, counties, and political subdivisions have collective bargaining rights under the Personnel System Reform Act (PSRA) and Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Act (PECBA). These laws currently treat "use of technology" as either a prohibited or permissive subject of bargaining, generally classified as a management right.

2. Artificial intelligence technology has advanced significantly since the original establishment of technology-related management rights, now capable of directly impacting employee wages, performance evaluations, and job security through machine learning algorithms that make decisions traditionally associated with human judgment.

3. AI systems can directly impact workplace compensation and evaluation in several ways. For example, AI systems can and are already shaping compensation and evaluation in the public sector in direct, material ways. For example, large-scale HR and payroll platforms can automate core functions such as calculating pay, overtime, leave accruals, and deductions, replacing human oversight with system logic. When these systems fail, as seen in Seattle, errors can lead to widespread underpayments, missed wages, and incorrect benefits across thousands of workers at once.[47] In addition, automated HR tools can standardize evaluations, track attendance and leave, and influence promotion or disciplinary decisions, embedding algorithmic decision-making into employment outcomes without clear transparency or worker input.[48]

4. Public sector employees and labor organizations have expressed concern that they currently lack meaningful input when employers adopt AI systems that affect their compensation or performance assessments, while management representatives worry about delays in technology adoption and potential infringement on operational decision-making authority.

5. Public sector employers may already bargain over the impacts of technology decisions on mandatory subjects like wages and working conditions, but they are not required to bargain over the decision to adopt such technology.

RECOMMENDATION

1. The Legislature should require that public employers covered by PECBA and the PSRA be required to bargain over the decision to adopt, or modify current uses of, artificial intelligence technology if such adoption or modification affects employees' wages or performance evaluations.

Task Force Vote (April 24, 2026): Yay = 3, Nay = 12, Abstain = 3, Absent = 1

APPENDIX B:
TASK FORCE VOTING RECORD

Regulate Companion AI Chatbots (April 24, 2026)

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	X			
Sen. Matt Boehnke		X		
Cherika Carter	X			
Rep. Travis Couture		X		
Sean DeWitz	X			
Scott Frank			X	
Ryan Harkins	X			
Amy Harris		X		
Yuki Ishizuka	X			
Leah Koshiyama	X			
Crystal Leatherman	X			
Sen. Marko Liias				X
Darrell Lowe	X			
Beau Perschbacher	X			
Katy Ruckle	X			
Tee Sannon			X	
Paula Sardinas	X			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	X			
Vicky Tamaru	X			
Total	**13**	**3**	**2**	**1**

Improve Transparency and Accountability in Healthcare Prior Authorizations (September 25, 2025)

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	x			
Sen. Matt Boehnke				X
Cherika Carter	x			
Rep. Travis Couture				x
Sean DeWitz	x			
Scott Frank			x	
Ryan Harkins	x			
Yuki Ishizuka	x			
Leah Koshiyama	x			
Crystal Leatherman	x			
Sen. Marko Liias	x			
Darrell Lowe				x
Beau Perschbacher	x			
Katy Ruckle	x			
Tee Sannon	x			
Paula Sardinas	x			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	x			
Terrance Stevenson	X			
Vicky Tamaru	x			
Total	**15**	**0**	**1**	**3**

Disclose Use of AI by Law Enforcement (August 21, 2025)

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	x			
Sen. Matt Boehnke		x		
Cherika Carter	x			
Rep. Travis Couture				x
Sean DeWitz	x			
Scott Frank			x	
Kelly Fukai				x
Ryan Harkins	x			
Yuki Ishizuka	x			
Leah Koshiyama	x			
Crystal Leatherman	x			
Sen. Marko Liias		x		
Darrell Lowe	x			
Beau Perschbacher	x			
Katy Ruckle	x			
Tee Sannon		x		
Paula Sardinas				x
Rep. Clyde Shavers	x			
Vicky Tamaru				x
Total	**11**	**3**	**1**	**4**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	X			
Sen. Matt Boehnke				X
Cherika Carter	X			
Rep. Travis Couture	X			
Vacant, Hospitality Industry Representative				
Scott Frank				X
Kelly Fukai				X
Ryan Harkins	X			
Yuki Ishizuka	X			
Leah Koshiyama	X			
Crystal Leatherman	X			
Darrell Lowe				X
Sen. Joe Nguyen	X			
Katy Ruckle	X			
Tee Sannon	X			
Paula Sardinas	X			
Sheri Sawyer				X
Rep. Clyde Shavers				X
Vicky Tamaru				X
Total	**11**	**0**	**0**	**7**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	x			
Sen. Matt Boehnke	x			
Cherika Carter	x			
Rep. Travis Couture				x
Sean DeWitz	x			
Scott Frank			x	
Ryan Harkins	x			
Yuki Ishizuka	x			
Leah Koshiyama	x			
Crystal Leatherman	x			
Sen. Marko Liias	x			
Darrell Lowe				x
Beau Perschbacher				x
Katy Ruckle	x			
Tee Sannon				x
Paula Sardinas	x			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	x			
Terrance Stevenson			x	
Vicky Tamaru	x			
Total	**13**	**0**	**2**	**4**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	x			
Sen. Matt Boehnke		x		
Cherika Carter	x			
Rep. Travis Couture				x
Sean DeWitz	x			
Scott Frank			x	
Ryan Harkins	x			
Yuki Ishizuka	x			
Leah Koshiyama	x			
Crystal Leatherman	x			
Sen. Marko Liias	x			
Darrell Lowe				x
Beau Perschbacher	x			
Katy Ruckle	x			
Tee Sannon	x			
Paula Sardinas	x			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	x			
Terrance Stevenson			x	
Vicky Tamaru	x			
Total	**14**	**1**	**2**	**2**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	x			
Sen. Matt Boehnke	x			
Cherika Carter	x			
Rep. Travis Couture				x
Sean DeWitz	x			
Scott Frank			x	
Ryan Harkins	x			
Yuki Ishizuka	x			
Leah Koshiyama	x			
Crystal Leatherman	x			
Sen. Marko Liias	x			
Darrell Lowe				x
Beau Perschbacher				x
Katy Ruckle	x			
Tee Sannon				x
Paula Sardinas	x			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	x			
Terrance Stevenson	x			
Vicky Tamaru	x			
Total	**14**	**0**	**1**	**4**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	x			
Sen. Matt Boehnke	x			
Cherika Carter	x			
Rep. Travis Couture				x
Sean DeWitz	x			
Scott Frank			x	
Ryan Harkins	x			
Yuki Ishizuka	x			
Leah Koshiyama	x			
Crystal Leatherman	x			
Sen. Marko Liias	x			
Darrell Lowe				x
Beau Perschbacher				x
Katy Ruckle	x			
Tee Sannon				x
Paula Sardinas	x			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	x			
Terrance Stevenson			x	
Vicky Tamaru	x			
Total	**13**	**0**	**2**	**4**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	X			
Sen. Matt Boehnke		X		
Cherika Carter	X			
Rep. Travis Couture		X		
Sean DeWitz	X			
Scott Frank	X			
Ryan Harkins	X			
Amy Harris			X	
Yuki Ishizuka	X			
Leah Koshiyama	X			
Crystal Leatherman	X			
Sen. Marko Liias				X
Darrell Lowe	X			
Beau Perschbacher	X			
Katy Ruckle	X			
Tee Sannon	X			
Paula Sardinas	X			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	X			
Vicky Tamaru	X			
Total	**15**	**2**	**1**	**1**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	X			
Sen. Matt Boehnke	X			
Cherika Carter	X			
Rep. Travis Couture				X
Sean DeWitz	X			
Scott Frank			X	
Ryan Harkins	X			
Yuki Ishizuka	X			
Leah Koshiyama	X			
Crystal Leatherman	X			
Sen. Marko Liias	X			
Darrell Lowe				X
Beau Perschbacher				X
Katy Ruckle	X			
Tee Sannon				X
Paula Sardinas	X			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	X			
Terrance Stevenson	X			
Vicky Tamaru	X			
Total	**14**	**0**	**1**	**4**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	X			
Sen. Matt Boehnke	X			
Cherika Carter		X		
Rep. Travis Couture				X
Sean DeWitz	X			
Scott Frank			X	
Ryan Harkins	X			
Yuki Ishizuka	X			
Leah Koshiyama	X			
Crystal Leatherman	X			
Sen. Marko Liias	X			
Darrell Lowe				X
Beau Perschbacher				X
Katy Ruckle	X			
Tee Sannon				X
Paula Sardinas	X			
Rep. Clyde Shavers	X			
Terrance Stevenson	X			
Vicky Tamaru	X			
Total	**13**	**1**	**1**	**4**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska		X		
Sen. Matt Boehnke		X		
Cherika Carter	X			
Rep. Travis Couture		X		
Sean DeWitz		X		
Scott Frank			X	
Ryan Harkins	X			
Amy Harris		X		
Yuki Ishizuka	X			
Leah Koshiyama			X	
Crystal Leatherman		X		
Sen. Marko Liias				X
Darrell Lowe		X		
Beau Perschbacher	X			
Katy Ruckle	X			
Tee Sannon	X			
Paula Sardinas		X		
Rep. Clyde Shavers	X			
Vicky Tamaru	X			
Total	**8**	**8**	**2**	**1**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska	X			
Sen. Matt Boehnke		X		
Cherika Carter		X		
Rep. Travis Couture		X		
Sean DeWitz	X			
Scott Frank			X	
Ryan Harkins		X		
Amy Harris		X		
Yuki Ishizuka	X			
Leah Koshiyama		X		
Crystal Leatherman		X		
Sen. Marko Liias				X
Darrell Lowe		X		
Beau Perschbacher	X			
Katy Ruckle	X			
Tee Sannon		X		
Paula Sardinas		X		
Rep. Clyde Shavers				X
Vicky Tamaru	X			
Total	**6**	**10**	**1**	**2**

Name	Yay	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Magda Balazinska		X		
Sen. Matt Boehnke		X		
Cherika Carter	X			
Rep. Travis Couture		X		
Sean DeWitz		X		
Scott Frank			X	
Ryan Harkins		X		
Amy Harris		X		
Yuki Ishizuka			X	
Leah Koshiyama		X		
Crystal Leatherman		X		
Sen. Marko Liias				X
Darrell Lowe		X		
Beau Perschbacher		X		
Katy Ruckle		X		
Tee Sannon	X			
Paula Sardinas		X		
Rep. Clyde Shavers			X	
Vicky Tamaru	X			
Total	**3**	**12**	**3**	**1**

APPENDIX C: REFERENCES

[1] Carroll, S. R., Herczog, E., Hudson, M., Russell, K., & Stall, S. (2021). *Operationalizing the CARE and FAIR Principles for Indigenous data futures*. Scientific data, 8(1), 108-108. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-021-00892-0

[2] Faverio, M., Sidoti O., *Teens, Social Media and AI Chatbots* 2025 (Dec. 9, 2025). Pew Research Center. https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2025/12/09/teens-social-media-and-ai-chatbots-2025

[3] McBain, R., Bozick, R., Diliberti, M. et al. *Use of Generative AI for Mental Health Advice Among US adolescents and Young Adults* (Nov. 7, 2025). JAMA Network. https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2841067

[4] *Written Testimony of Mitchell J. Prinstein, PhD, ABPP, Chief of Psychology, American Psychological Association Examining the Harm of AI Chatbots* (Sept. 16, 2025). U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Crime and Counterterrorism. https://www.judiciary.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/e2e8fc50-a9ac-05ec-edd7-277cb0afcdf2/2025-09-16%20PM%20-%20Testimony%20-%20Prinstein.pdf

[5] Final Bill Report, SHB 1999, Ch. 88, Laws of 2024, Washington State Legislature, https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bill%20Reports/House/1999-S%20HBR%20FBR%2024.pdf?q=20241107103458 (Last accessed November 26, 2024).

[6] Thiel, D., *"Investigation Finds AI Image Generation Models Trained on Child Abuse,"* Stanford Cyber Policy Center, Freeman Spogli Institute and Stanford Law School, December 20, 2023, https://cyber.fsi.stanford.edu/news/investigation-finds-ai-image-generation-models-trained-child-abuse (Last accessed November 26, 2024).

[7] Id.

[8] McQue, K., *"AI is overpowering efforts to catch child predators, experts warn,"* The Guardian, July 18, 2024, https://www.theguardian.com/technology/article/2024/jul/18/ai-generated-images-child-predators (Last accessed November 26, 2024).

[9] *"CyberTipline 2023 Report,"* National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, https://www.missingkids.org/cybertiplinedata (Last accessed November 26, 2024).

[10] Id.

[11] "*Our Impact: 2023: Child Victim Identification,*" National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, https://www.missingkids.org/ourwork/impact, (Last accessed November 26, 2024).

[12] *"Generative AI CSAM is CSAM,"* National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, March 11, 2024, https://www.missingkids.org/blog/2024/generative-ai-csam-is-csam (Last accessed November 26, 2024).

[13] "House Bill Report: SHB 1999, As Passed Legislature," Washington State Legislature, 2023-24 Biennium, p. 10, https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2023-24/Pdf/Bill%20Reports/House/1999-S%20HBR%20PL%2024.pdf?q=20241113084152, (Last accessed November 26, 2024).

[14] *NIST Risk Management Framework* (2025) National Institute of Standards and Technology, https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/risk-management.

[15] *Interim Guidelines for Purposeful and Responsible Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence* (2024) Washington Technology Solutions, https://watech.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/State%20Agency%20Generative%20AI%20Guidelines%208-7-23%20.pdf.

[16] *Executive Order N-12-23* (2023) Executive Department of the State of California, https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/AI-EO-No.12-_-GGN-Signed.pdf.

[17] *ISO/IEC 42001:2023, Information Technology – Artificial Intelligence – Management System* (2023), https://www.iso.org/standard/42001.

[18] *The General-Purpose AI Code of Practice* (2025), European AI Office, European Commission, https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/contents-code-gpai.

[19] Patrick Grother, *Face Recognition Vendor Test (FRVT)*, Part 3: Demographic Effects, (Dec. 19, 2019), https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/ir/2019/nist.ir.8280.pdf.

[20] Jeffrey Dastin, *Amazon Scraps Secret AI Recruiting Tool that Showed Bias Against Women* (Oct. 10, 2018), Reuters, https://www.reuters.com/article/world/insight-amazon-scraps-secret-ai-recruiting-tool-that-showed-bias-against-women-idUSKCN1MK0AG/.

[21] *NIST Risk Management Framework* (2025), National Institute of Standards and Technology, https://csrc.nist.gov/projects/risk-management.

[22] *OECD AI Principles Overview,* OECD AI Policy Observatory Portal, https://oecd.ai/en/ai-principles.

[23] *Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy AI*, OECD Publications Office, https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/ethics-guidelines-trustworthy-ai

[24]*Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights* (Oct. 2022), The White House, https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/ostp/ai-bill-of-rights/.
[25] *Real-World Use Cases of the NIST AI Risk Management Framework*, Tentacle Blog (Mar. 2, 2025), https://tentacle.co/blog/post/nist-ai-rmf-use-cases.
[26] *Microsoft Responsible AI Principles and Approach* (2025), Microsoft, https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/principles-and-approach.
[27] *Risk Management Profile for Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights* (July 2024), U.S. Department of State, https://2021-2025.state.gov/risk-management-profile-for-ai-and-human-rights/.
[28] *State of California GenAI Guidelines for Public Sector Procurement, Uses and Training* (March 2024) CA Department of Technology, https://www.govops.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2024/03/3.a-GenAI-Guidelines.pdf.
[29] Interim Guidelines for the Purposeful and Responsible Use of Generative AI (2024) Washington Technology Solutions, https://watech.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2024-03/State%20Agency%20Generative%20AI%20Guidelines%208-7-23%20.pdf.
[30] Office of Financial Management (2025, August). *Directive on Implementation of New Generative Artificial Intelligence Technologies for Represented Employees*. Washington State Office of Financial Management. https://ofm.wa.gov/news-publications/directive-on-implementation-of-new-generative-artificial-intelligence-technologies-for-represented-employees/
[31] Washington Technology Solutions (2024, September). *Initial procurement guidelines for public sector procurement, deployment, and monitoring of Generative AI Technology*. https://watech.wa.gov/artificial-intelligence-resources
[32] Washington Technology Solutions. (2024, December). *Guidelines for Deployment of Generative AI*. https://watech.wa.gov/artificial-intelligence-resources
[33] Washington Technology Solutions (2024, December). *Implementing risk assessments for high-risk AI systems*. https://watech.wa.gov/artificial-intelligence-resources
[34] Office of Equity (2024). *Framework for Accountability in Generative Artificial Intelligence*. https://watech.wa.gov/artificial-intelligence-resources
[35] *Data Center Workgroup: Preliminary Report*, pgs. 15-17. Washington State Department of Revenue. (2025, December 1). https://dor.wa.gov/about/data-center-workgroup.
[36] Id.
[37] Josie Stewart, B. T., Darrell M. West, N. T. L., David M. Klaus, M. M., & Anthony F. Pipa, A. A. (2026, January 13). *The Future of Data Centers*. Brookings. https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-future-of-data-centers/.
[38] The United States Government. (2026, March 5). *President Trump secures historic commitment to keep electricity costs down amid data center boom*. The White House. https://www.whitehouse.gov/articles/2026/03/president-trump-secures-historic-commitment-to-keep-electricity-costs-down-amid-data-center-boom/.
[39] Walker, C., & Goldsmith, I. (2026, February 17). *From energy use to air quality, the many ways data centers affect US communities*. World Resources Institute. https://www.wri.org/insights/us-data-center-growth-impacts; Pipa, A. F., & Aley, A. (2026, March 16). *The local implications of Data Centers for rural communities in the US*. Brookings. https://www.brookings.edu/articles/local-implications-data-centers-rural-communities-us/
[40] *Data Center Workgroup: Preliminary Report*, pg. 12. Washington State Department of Revenue. (2025, December 1). https://dor.wa.gov/about/data-center-workgroup.
[41] Id. pg. 11.
[42] Id. pg. 13
[43] Id.
[44] *Data Center Workgroup: Preliminary Report*. Washington State Department of Revenue. (2025, December 1). https://dor.wa.gov/about/data-center-workgroup
[45] Id. pg. 22
[46] Id. pg. 23
[47] Schlosser, K. (Feb. 13, 2025). *City of Seattle workers file class action suit against city alleging payroll errors after new system install*. GeekWire. https://www.geekwire.com/2025/city-of-seattle-workers-file-class-action-suit-against-city-alleging-payroll-errors-after-new-system-install/. Roberts, P. (Oct. 13, 2023) *UW is spending $340 million on an IT upgrade. It's not going well.* The Seattle Times. https://www.seattletimes.com/business/uw-is-spending-340-million-on-an-it-upgrade-its-not-going-well/
[48] Glass, A. (May 14, 2024) *Unions Give Workers a Voice Over How AI Affects Their Jobs*. Center for American Progress. https://www.americanprogress.org/article/unions-give-workers-a-voice-over-how-ai-affects-their-jobs/.