

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding two new sections to part VII to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:

4        **"§27- Open data portal; comprehensive Hawaii data hub;**  
5 **artificial intelligence chatbot; phased development.** (a) The  
6 chief data officer shall enhance the State's open data portal at  
7 data.hawaii.gov or successor website, as designated by the chief  
8 data officer, to make the open data portal the comprehensive  
9 Hawaii data hub, which shall include public data from all state  
10 entities, by developing and publishing an artificial  
11 intelligence chatbot and necessary data visualizations on  
12 statewide shared data sets to assist the public in navigating  
13 the State's open data portal and finding information about  
14 statewide services across state departments and agencies.

15        (b) The chief data officer shall develop the artificial  
16 intelligence chatbot in phases. The chief data officer shall  
17 ensure full transparency throughout the process and publish the



1    contents covered in each phase of development of the chatbot,  
2    including tests and yearly audits, on data.hawaii.gov or  
3    successor website.

4        (c) In developing the artificial intelligence chatbot  
5    pursuant to this section, the chief data officer shall ensure  
6    that:

7        (1) Queries for the chatbot and answers by the chatbot are  
8        available in English and Olelo Hawaii;

9        (2) Any answer provided by the chatbot includes a source  
10      link;

11      (3) The chatbot includes a disclaimer that any answer  
12      provided by the chatbot is artificial intelligence-  
13      generated;

14      (4) There is a clear means of connecting a chatbot user  
15      with a human if the user requests assistance;

16      (5) The chatbot is explicitly prohibited from providing  
17      any legal advice or medical advice to a user; and

18      (6) No user can delete or export data collected by the  
19      chatbot to respond to the user.

20      (d) The chief data officer may provide the artificial  
21      intelligence chatbot developed pursuant to this section to any



1    state department or agency for use on that department's or  
2    agency's website.

3       (e) The chief data officer shall adopt rules pursuant  
4    chapter 91 to carry out the purposes of this section. The rules  
5    shall include but not be limited to the following:

6       (1) Security safeguards, including:

7          (A) Standards based on security and privacy controls  
8    as provided in the most recent revision of the  
9    National Institute of Standards and Technology  
10    Special Publication 800-53;

11       (B) Protocols for monitoring queries received and  
12    answers given by the artificial intelligence  
13    chatbot;

14       (C) A system to report incidents when using the  
15    artificial intelligence chatbot;

16       (D) Audit rights;

17       (E) Guidelines on indemnification; and

18       (F) Exit options to avoid contract lock-in;

19       (2) Privacy rules to prevent model training based on user  
20    prompts for the chatbot;



1           (3) Retention limits for user search queries and answers  
2           generated by the chatbot; and  
3           (4) Standards to determine whether a conversation between  
4           a user and the chatbot is considered government  
5           records.  
6           (f) As used in this section, "artificial intelligence  
7           chatbot" or "chatbot" means a software application, web  
8           interface, or computer program designed to have textual or  
9           spoken conversations that uses a generative artificial  
10           intelligence system capable of maintaining a conversation with a  
11           user in a manner that uses natural language and simulates the  
12           way a natural person would behave as a conversational partner.

13           **S27- Chief data officer; artificial intelligence;**  
14           **governance tools; departmental and agency use.** (a) The chief  
15           data officer shall develop a system to evaluate and select for  
16           procurement artificial intelligence governance tools for use by  
17           state departments and agencies to ensure the responsible use of  
18           artificial intelligence by those departments and agencies.

19           (b) The chief data officer shall establish a mechanism for  
20           state departments and agencies to report to the chief data  
21           officer on any artificial intelligence use cases and artificial



1     intelligence vendors used by the departments and agencies, to be  
2     published on data.hawaii.gov or successor website."

3         SECTION 2. Section 27-44, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4     amended as follows:

5             1. By amending subsection (a) to read:

6             "(a) There is established within the office of enterprise  
7     technology services a full-time chief data officer to develop,  
8     implement, and manage statewide data policies, procedures, and  
9     standards pursuant to section 27-44.3 ~~and to~~; facilitate data  
10   sharing across state agencies~~;~~; and develop and publish an  
11   artificial intelligence chatbot to assist the public in  
12   navigating the State's open data portal and finding information  
13   about statewide services pursuant to section 27-. The chief  
14   data officer shall use the state information assets and  
15   analytics to research and recommend processes and tools to  
16   improve inter-departmental and intra-departmental decision  
17   making and reporting. The chief data officer shall be appointed  
18   by and report directly to the chief information officer. Each  
19   executive branch department, including the department of  
20   education and University of Hawaii, shall use reasonable efforts  
21   to make appropriate and existing data sets maintained by the



1 department electronically available to the public through the  
2 State's open data portal at data.hawaii.gov or successor website  
3 designated by the chief data officer; provided that:

4 (1) Nothing in this chapter shall require departments to  
5 create new electronic data sets or to make data sets  
6 available upon demand;

7 (2) Data licensed to the State by another person or entity  
8 shall not be made public under this chapter unless the  
9 person or entity licensing the data agrees to the  
10 public disclosure; and

11 (3) Proprietary and other information protected from  
12 disclosure by law or contract shall not be disclosed.

13 This disclosure shall be consistent with the policies,  
14 procedures, and standards developed by the chief data officer  
15 and consistent with applicable law, including chapter 92F and  
16 other state and federal laws related to security and privacy,  
17 and no personally identifiable information shall be posted  
18 online unless the identified individual has consented to the  
19 posting or the posting is necessary to fulfill the lawful  
20 purposes or duties of the department."

21 2. By amending subsection (d) to read:



1       "(d) There is established a data task force to assist the  
2 chief data officer in developing the State's data policies,  
3 procedures, and standards[‐], including assisting in the  
4 development and publishing of an artificial intelligence chatbot  
5 to assist the public in navigating the State's open data portal  
6 and finding information about statewide services pursuant to  
7 section 27-. The task force shall comprise the following  
8 members:

9           (1) One representative of the judiciary, to be appointed  
10           by the chief justice of the supreme court;  
11           (2) The superintendent of education, or the  
12           superintendent's designee;  
13           (3) The director of human services, or the director's  
14           designee;  
15           (4) The director of health, or the director's designee;  
16           (5) The director of business, economic development, and  
17           tourism, or the director's designee;  
18           (6) The president of the University of Hawaii, or the  
19           president's designee;  
20           (7) Two members of the public to represent nonprofit  
21           organization stakeholders having experience in data,



1 of which one member shall be chosen and invited to  
2 participate by the speaker of the house of  
3 representatives and one member shall be chosen and  
4 invited to participate by the president of the senate;  
5 and

6 (8) Two members of the public to represent for-profit  
7 business stakeholders having experience in data, of  
8 which one member shall be chosen and invited to  
9 participate by the speaker of the house of  
10 representatives and one member shall be chosen and  
11 invited to participate by the president of the senate.

12 The chief data officer shall serve as the chair of the task  
13 force and shall ensure that the task force is evaluated  
14 periodically."

15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much  
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for:

18 (1) The chief data officer to develop and publish an  
19 artificial intelligence chatbot to assist the public  
20 in navigating the State's open data portal and finding



1 information about statewide services pursuant to  
2 section 27- , Hawaii Revised Statutes;  
3 (2) Artificial intelligence governance tools;  
4 (3) The establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0  
5 FTE) artificial intelligence engineer position;  
6 (4) The establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0  
7 FTE) artificial intelligence scientist position; and  
8 (5) For any necessary improvements, as determined by the  
9 chief data officer, for the State's open data portal  
10 at data.hawaii.gov.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
12 accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

16

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 28 2026



# H.B. NO. 2591

**Report Title:**

Chief Data Officer; Open Data Portal; Comprehensive Hawaii Data Hub; Artificial Intelligence; Governance Tools; State Departments and Agencies; Artificial Intelligence Chatbot; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Chief Data Officer to enhance the State's open data portal website through the phased development and publishing of an artificial intelligence chatbot and necessary data visualizations on statewide shared data sets to assist the public in navigating the open data portal website and finding information about statewide services across state departments and agencies. Requires the Chief Data Officer to develop a system to evaluate and select for procurement artificial intelligence governance tools for use by state departments and agencies and establish a mechanism for reporting and publication of artificial intelligence use cases and artificial intelligence vendors used by the departments and agencies. Appropriates funds.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

