

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

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

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

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

(b) The chief data officer shall develop the artificial intelligence chatbot in phases. The chief data officer shall



1 ensure full transparency throughout the process and publish the
2 contents covered in each phase of development of the chatbot,
3 including tests and yearly audits, on data.hawaii.gov or
4 successor website. State departments and agencies shall utilize
5 the artificial intelligence chatbot or link their departmental
6 chatbot to the comprehensive Hawaii data hub to ensure chat
7 chatbot results are consistent across state websites.

8 (c) In developing the artificial intelligence chatbot
9 pursuant to this section, the chief data officer shall ensure
10 that:

- 11 (1) Queries for the chatbot and answers by the chatbot are
12 available in English and Olelo Hawaii;
- 13 (2) Any answer provided by the chatbot includes a source
14 link;
- 15 (3) The chatbot includes a disclaimer that any answer
16 provided by the chatbot is artificial intelligence-
17 generated;
- 18 (4) There is a clear means of connecting a chatbot user
19 with a human if the user requests assistance;
- 20 (5) The chatbot is explicitly prohibited from providing
21 any legal advice or medical advice to a user; and



1 (6) No user can delete data collected by the chatbot to
2 respond to the user.

3 (d) The chief data officer may provide the artificial
4 intelligence chatbot developed pursuant to this section to any
5 state department or agency for use on that department's or
6 agency's website.

7 (e) The chief data officer shall ensure the artificial
8 intelligence chatbot developed pursuant to this section adheres
9 to the State's privacy and security policies.

10 (f) As used in this section, "artificial intelligence
11 chatbot" or "chatbot" means a software application, web
12 interface, or computer program designed to have textual or
13 spoken conversations that uses a generative artificial
14 intelligence system capable of maintaining a conversation with a
15 user in a manner that uses natural language and simulates the
16 way a natural person would behave as a conversational partner.

17 §27- Chief data officer; artificial intelligence;
18 governance tools; departmental and agency use. (a) The chief
19 data officer shall develop a system to evaluate and select for
20 procurement artificial intelligence governance tools for use by



1 state departments and agencies to ensure the responsible use of
2 artificial intelligence by those departments and agencies.

3 (b) The chief data officer shall establish a mechanism for
4 state departments and agencies to report to the chief data
5 officer on any artificial intelligence use cases and artificial
6 intelligence vendors used by the departments and agencies and
7 publish a list of use cases and vendors on data.hawaii.gov or
8 successor website; provided that state departments and agencies
9 shall participate in the use case reporting process."

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

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

13 "(a) There is established within the office of enterprise
14 technology services a full-time chief data officer to develop,
15 implement, and manage statewide data policies, procedures, and
16 standards pursuant to section 27-44.3 [~~and to~~]; facilitate data
17 sharing across state agencies[~~+~~]; and develop and publish an
18 artificial intelligence chatbot to assist the public in
19 navigating the State's open data portal and finding information
20 about statewide services pursuant to section 27- . The chief
21 data officer shall use the state information assets and



1 analytics to research and recommend processes and tools to
2 improve inter-departmental and intra-departmental decision
3 making and reporting. The chief data officer shall be appointed
4 by and report directly to the chief information officer. Each
5 executive branch department, including the department of
6 education and University of Hawaii, shall use reasonable efforts
7 to make appropriate and existing data sets maintained by the
8 department electronically available to the public through the
9 State's open data portal at data.hawaii.gov or successor website
10 designated by the chief data officer; provided that:

11 (1) Nothing in this chapter shall require departments to
12 create new electronic data sets or to make data sets
13 available upon demand;

14 (2) Data licensed to the State by another person or entity
15 shall not be made public under this chapter unless the
16 person or entity licensing the data agrees to the
17 public disclosure; and

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

20 This disclosure shall be consistent with the policies,
21 procedures, and standards developed by the chief data officer



1 and consistent with applicable law, including chapter 92F and
2 other state and federal laws related to security and privacy,
3 and no personally identifiable information shall be posted
4 online unless the identified individual has consented to the
5 posting or the posting is necessary to fulfill the lawful
6 purposes or duties of the department."

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

8 "(d) There is established a data task force to assist the
9 chief data officer in developing the State's data policies,
10 procedures, and standards[-], including advising in the
11 development and publishing of an artificial intelligence chatbot
12 to assist the public in navigating the State's open data portal
13 and finding information about statewide services pursuant to
14 section 27- . The task force shall comprise the following
15 members:

16 (1) One representative of the judiciary, to be appointed
17 by the chief justice of the supreme court;

18 (2) The superintendent of education, or the
19 superintendent's designee;

20 (3) The director of human services, or the director's
21 designee;



1 (4) The director of health, or the director's designee;

2 (5) The director of business, economic development, and
3 tourism, or the director's designee;

4 (6) The president of the University of Hawaii, or the
5 president's designee;

6 (7) Two members of the public to represent nonprofit
7 organization stakeholders having experience in data,
8 of 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 and

13 (8) Two members of the public to represent for-profit
14 business stakeholders having experience in data, of
15 which one member shall be chosen and invited to
16 participate by the speaker of the house of
17 representatives and one member shall be chosen and
18 invited to participate by the president of the senate.

19 The chief data officer shall serve as the chair of the task
20 force and shall ensure that the task force is evaluated
21 periodically."



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

4 (1) The chief data officer to develop and publish an
5 artificial intelligence chatbot to assist the public
6 in navigating the State's open data portal and finding
7 information about statewide services pursuant to
8 section 27- , Hawaii Revised Statutes;

9 (2) Artificial intelligence governance tools;

10 (3) The establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0
11 FTE) artificial intelligence engineer position;

12 (4) The establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0
13 FTE) artificial intelligence scientist position; and

14 (5) For any necessary improvements, as determined by the
15 chief data officer, for the State's open data portal
16 at data.hawaii.gov.

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

19 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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



H.B. NO. 2597

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INTRODUCED BY:

Lindeslenger
JAN 28 2026



H.B. NO. 2597

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.

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