

JAN 23 2026

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that scientific evidence  
2 is essential for determining the effectiveness of any program,  
3 policy, or intervention that promotes health and well-being in  
4 specific settings and populations. Interventions backed by  
5 strong scientific evidence protect taxpayer interests by guiding  
6 the optimal allocation of public funds to maximize positive  
7 outcomes and progress. Evidence-based decision-making can  
8 improve the health of all residents of the State by identifying  
9 strategies that work for specific populations and detecting  
10 preventable differences in health outcomes between groups. The  
11 effective use of evidence-based decision-making requires the  
12 systematic gathering, evaluation, and synthesis of evidence from  
13 diverse sources, including scientific studies, experimental  
14 data, expert opinions, and community feedback. Application of  
15 evidence from various scientific disciplines can direct  
16 policymaking to well-tested programs and practices shown to  
17 improve physical, behavioral, and mental health.



1        The legislature further finds that the absence of a  
2 centralized, user-friendly, and continuously updated repository  
3 of these programs inhibits the widespread adoption of proven  
4 treatment and prevention strategies. Artificial intelligence  
5 and related machine learning technologies provide powerful tools  
6 to enhance the evidence ecosystem by synthesizing complex  
7 scientific data, identifying effective programs, and ensuring  
8 timely updates as new evidence emerges.

9        The legislature also finds that legislative efforts,  
10 including the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of  
11 2018 have created frameworks for evidence-building. However,  
12 most government spending, domestically and internationally, is  
13 not regularly guided by robust scientific evidence. Existing  
14 online clearinghouses were initially established to increase  
15 access to, and the utility of, evidence about what works, but  
16 face challenges in user engagement, labor intensity, and  
17 adaptation to innovation. The legislature additionally finds  
18 that these gaps are in areas that enhancement by artificial  
19 intelligence may address.

20        Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the  
21 department of health:



- (1) In coordination with the department of budget and finance and office of enterprise technology services, and department of human services, to establish and maintain an online clearinghouse enhanced by artificial intelligence of evidence-based treatment and prevention programs;
- (2) To support the integration of artificial intelligence in the online clearinghouse; and
- (3) To ensure that any artificial intelligence model used in support of the online clearinghouse is subject to regular audits.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

## "CHAPTER

## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-ENHANCED ONLINE CLEARINGHOUSE

§ -1 Definitions. For the purposes of this chapter:

18 "Artificial intelligence" means any machine learning and  
19 related computational technology designed to augment or expedite  
20 human decision-making, information gathering, review processes,  
21 and translation of evidence into actionable knowledge.



1        "Cultural responsiveness" means the extent to which a  
2 target population's ethnic and cultural characteristics,  
3 experiences, norms, value, or behavioral patterns, including  
4 relevant historical, environmental, and social forces are  
5 incorporated in the design, delivery, and evaluation of targeted  
6 health promotion interventions.

7        "Department" means the department of health.

8        "Evidence-based decision-making" means the process of  
9 integrating the best available scientific evidence with the  
10 expertise of a decision-maker, community needs, and the  
11 implementation context to inform policy and funding choices.

12        "Implementation readiness" means the degree to which an  
13 evidence-based intervention is available to be implemented as  
14 designed and has the organizational capacity to provide  
15 materials, training, and information for potential users to  
16 adopt and implement the intervention with fidelity.

17        "Online clearinghouse" means the publicly accessible, web-  
18 based repository established by the department of health that  
19 synthesizes, evaluates, and disseminates evidence regarding the  
20 effectiveness of interventions, programs, and policies,  
21 including implementation procedures in the State.



1        **§ -2 Online clearinghouse; functions; requirements.** (a)

2        The department, in coordination with the department of budget  
3 and finance and office enterprise technology services, and  
4 department of human services, shall establish and maintain an  
5 online clearinghouse enhanced by artificial intelligence of  
6 evidence-based treatment and prevention programs. The online  
7 clearinghouse shall be accessible to the public and provide  
8 resources for synthesizing the effectiveness of behavioral,  
9 educational, health, and social interventions.

10       (b) The online clearinghouse shall:

11       (1) Aggregate and synthesize data from peer-reviewed  
12 studies, federal registries, research organizations,  
13 and academic databases;

14       (2) Utilize artificial intelligence tools to continuously  
15 analyze and classify programs by level of evidence,  
16 population served, implementation readiness, and  
17 cultural responsiveness;

18       (3) Provide user-friendly, interactive, personalized  
19 search capabilities for stakeholders, including  
20 educators, policymakers, and community organizations;



- 1 (4) Include a feedback mechanism to incorporate
- 2 practitioner experience and local implementation data;
- 3 (5) Issue artificial intelligence-generated
- 4 recommendations according to geographic, demographic,
- 5 and sector-specific needs;
- 6 (6) Provide, where available, summaries of costs,
- 7 training, and technical assistance resources; and
- 8 (7) Allow for updates and cross-linking to scientifically
- 9 vetted sources of relevant information to support the
- 10 assessment, implementation, and adaptation of
- 11 recommendations.

## § -3 Online clearinghouses; artificial intelligence;

13 **integration.** (a) The department shall support the development  
14 and integration of artificial intelligence and related  
15 technologies into the online clearinghouse to:

16 (1) Augment human expertise in the screening, review, and  
17 organization of evidence;

18 (2) Expedite the review process for evaluation and  
19 literature;

20 (3) Increase the utility and interactivity of any  
21 clearinghouse for various end users;



(4) Improve relevance, usability, and broad access to evidence-based information for communities, schools, agencies, funders, and policymakers; and

(5) Guide the user through an evidence-based protocol for the implementation of any program.

6 (b) The online clearinghouse may serve as a model platform  
7 for the integration of artificial intelligence to enhance the  
8 translational process and scaling of evidence-based  
9 interventions; provided that the resultant artificial  
10 intelligence-enhanced clearinghouse shall be applicable to a  
11 variety of other issue areas amenable to evidence-based  
12 decision-making.

## § -4 Interagency coordination; public-private

14 **partnerships.** (a) The department shall collaborate with other  
15 state agencies, including but not limited to the department of  
16 education, department of the attorney general, and department of  
17 labor and industrial relations to ensure the comprehensive  
18 inclusion of multi-sectoral programs.

19 (b) The department shall encourage any public-private  
20 partnership involving academic institutions, nonprofit



1 organizations, and private artificial intelligence developers to  
2 contribute to platform development, maintenance, and evaluation.

3 **§ -5 Institutional knowledge; evidence-based standards;**  
4 **implementation guidelines; intervention reports.** (a) The  
5 department shall develop and adopt guidelines for the  
6 strengthening and preservation of the collective knowledge and  
7 experience, research infrastructures, and evidence-based  
8 standards with respect to the online clearinghouse and related  
9 activities.

10 (b) The department shall consult with scientific experts  
11 and relevant agencies and organizations to produce, update, and  
12 disseminate evidence standards, implementation guidelines, and  
13 intervention reports.

14 **§ -6 Audits; annual report.** (a) The department shall  
15 ensure that any artificial intelligence model used in support of  
16 the online clearinghouse shall be subject to regular audits to  
17 ensure transparency, fairness, and mitigation of bias.

18 (b) The department shall submit an annual report of its  
19 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
20 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
21 each regular session. The report shall detail:



- (1) The status, effectiveness, and changes implemented in the online clearinghouse under this chapter; and
- (2) Any legislative or regulatory action necessary to enhance evidence-based decision-making and research sustainability.

**§ -7 Rules.** The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to carry out the purposes of this chapter."

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the  
11 establishment of an artificial intelligence-enhanced online  
12 clearinghouse.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
14 health for the purposes of this Act.

**15** SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Mike Gabbard*



# S.B. NO. 2585

**Report Title:**

DOH; BNF; ETS; DHS; Online Clearinghouse; Artificial Intelligence; Audits; Annual Report; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Finance and Office of Enterprise Technology Services, and Department of Human Services, to establish and maintain an online clearinghouse enhanced by artificial intelligence of evidence-based treatment and prevention programs. Requires DOH to support the integration of artificial intelligence in the online clearinghouse. Requires DOH to ensure that any artificial intelligence model used in support of the online clearinghouse is subject to regular audits. Requires an annual report to the Legislature. 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.*

