

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 3544
Version:	POLPCS1
Request Number:	16526
Author:	Rep. Maynard
Date:	2/19/2026
Impact:	Please see previous summary of this measure

Research Analysis

The proposed policy committee substitute for HB 3544 requires deployers of artificial intelligence (AI) chatbots to ensure chatbots that exhibit human-like features are inaccessible to minors, as verified by an age-verification system. Deployers, which include individuals, partnerships, corporations, and governmental agencies, may offer a version of the chatbot without human-like features for minors and unverified users. Additionally, AI chatbots designed as companions are prohibited for use by minors.

Therapeutic chatbots are exempt from these restrictions and can be used by minors if they clarify that the AI is not a mental health professional, are not marketed as substitutes for mental health care, are prescribed and monitored by licensed professionals, and are transparent about their limitations and data privacy. Deployers must also implement emergency systems for user safety and may only collect information that aligns with the best interests of users.

The measure does not apply to chatbots used only for customer service, business operations, or virtual assistance.

Prepared By: Autumn Mathews, House Research Staff

Fiscal Analysis

The measure is currently under review and impact information will be completed.

Prepared By: House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.