



132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 872

H.P. 558

House of Representatives, March 4, 2025

An Act to Ensure Determinations Made by the State Are Free from Unethical, Unsafe or Illegal Interference by Artificial Intelligence

Reference to the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative FRIEDMANN of Bar Harbor.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1977 is enacted to read:

§1977. Artificial intelligence software

1. Office responsible for artificial intelligence software. The office shall create, maintain and ensure the use of a list of approved artificial intelligence software or systems for procurement and use by an agency, administrator, agent, employee or subcontractor of the State.

2. Purchase and use of software employing artificial intelligence. The State, including an agency, administrator, agent, employee or subcontractor of the State, may not purchase or use software employing artificial intelligence unless the software:

A. Demonstrably conforms to ethical, legal and safety standards that ensure the software can provide explicable and transparent decision making that guarantees that the State maintains the sovereign, intentional control of the behavior of the software to enable the State to fully comply with constitutional and legal mandates; and

B. Guarantees that a resident affected by a decision made by the State with the assistance of the software is afforded the ability to secure due process and has an accessible and affordable way to understand, review and appeal the decision.

3. Office to seek collaboration on use of artificial intelligence. The office shall remain current on the status and advancement of artificial intelligence, in collaboration with the Federal Government, other states, municipalities, other national governments and other public and private organizations, to maintain access to ethical, legal, safe and affordable forms of artificial intelligence to allow the State and residents of the State to:

A. Effectively fulfill governmental and civic obligations;

B. Guarantee rights under the United States Constitution and the Constitution of Maine
and state and federal laws, rules and regulations; and

C. Advance economic, cultural and environmental well-being.

4. Ethical, legal and safety standards. The Chief Information Officer shall establish ethical, legal and safety standards under this section by rule pursuant to section 1982, subsection 8.

SUMMARY

This bill requires the Office of Information Technology within the Department of Administrative and Financial Services to be responsible for creating, maintaining and ensuring the use of a list of approved artificial intelligence software or systems for procurement and use by the State. The bill also prohibits the purchase and use of artificial intelligence software by the State unless the State maintains the sovereign, intentional control of the behavior of the software to enable the State to fully comply with constitutional and legal mandates and secures the right to due process by guaranteeing that residents affected by a decision made by the State with the assistance of the software have an accessible and affordable way to understand, review and appeal the decision.