

House Engrossed

artificial intelligence; statewide education program

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

HOUSE BILL 2409

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 15, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE 2, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 15-249.20; RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 15, chapter 2, article 2, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 15-249.20, to read:

4 15-249.20. Arizona artificial intelligence education program;
5 curriculum; academic credit

6 A. THE ARIZONA ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EDUCATION PROGRAM IS
7 ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL
8 ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM AND OFFER AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EDUCATION
9 COURSE EACH SUMMER IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THIS STATE. THE COURSE
10 THAT IS OFFERED PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION IS OPEN TO ANY RESIDENT OF
11 THIS STATE AND MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST THE FOLLOWING:

12 1. A DIGITAL HYGIENE AND CIVIC INTEGRITY CURRICULUM THAT IS
13 DESIGNED TO TEACH STUDENTS HOW TO NAVIGATE THE DIGITAL WORLD SAFELY AND
14 WITH A CRITICAL EYE. THE CURRICULUM MUST INCLUDE INSTRUCTION ON:

15 (a) THE PRINCIPLES OF DIGITAL HYGIENE BASED ON THE MONOGRAPH
16 "PREVENTING THE MISUSE OF DIGITAL INFLUENCE: THE DEVELOPMENT OF SYSTEMS
17 FOR PRESERVING AND ANALYZING POTENTIALLY HARMFUL ONLINE CONTENT, AND WHY
18 SUCH SYSTEMS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR DEMOCRACY".

19 (b) THE NATURE OF ALGORITHMIC BIAS AND THE METHODS USED BY
20 TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS TO INFLUENCE USER BEHAVIOR, INCLUDING THE SEARCH
21 ENGINE MANIPULATION EFFECT.

22 (c) BEST PRACTICES FOR PROTECTING PERSONAL DATA AND LIMITING ONLINE
23 TRACKING BY THIRD PARTIES.

24 (d) MEDIA LITERACY SKILLS TO IDENTIFY MISINFORMATION AND CONTENT
25 THAT IS GENERATED BY ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE.

26 (e) GENERAL CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS.

27 2. AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND
28 ENTREPRENEURSHIP CURRICULUM THAT INCLUDES PRACTICAL, HANDS-ON TRAINING ON
29 HOW TO START OR GROW A SMALL BUSINESS. THE CURRICULUM MUST INCLUDE:

30 (a) AN OVERVIEW OF THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TOOLS THAT ARE
31 CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

32 (b) INSTRUCTION ON HOW TO USE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR MARKETING
33 AND CUSTOMER OUTREACH, INCLUDING PERSONALIZED ADVERTISING AND CUSTOMER
34 RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT.

35 (c) INSTRUCTION ON HOW TO USE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO IMPROVE
36 OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY, INCLUDING AUTOMATING TASKS, MANAGING INVENTORY AND
37 ANALYZING SALES DATA.

38 (d) AN INTRODUCTION TO THE ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS OF USING
39 ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN A BUSINESS CONTEXT.

40 B. THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY SHALL:

41 1. DEVELOP THE CURRICULUM REQUIRED BY SUBSECTION A, PARAGRAPH 2 OF
42 THIS SECTION.

43 2. IDENTIFY QUALIFIED VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTORS FOR THE PROGRAM FROM A
44 DIVERSE RANGE OF BACKGROUNDS, INCLUDING SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS LEADERS,

1 ENTREPRENEURS FROM THE TECHNOLOGY AND START-UP SECTORS AND EXPERIENCED
2 EDUCATORS.

3 3. IDENTIFY FACILITIES IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THIS STATE
4 THAT THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE TO PROVIDE THE COURSE THAT IS OFFERED PURSUANT
5 TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION.

6 C. A STATE AGENCY, CITY, TOWN, COUNTY, UNIVERSITY, COMMUNITY
7 COLLEGE, PUBLIC SCHOOL, PRIVATE SCHOOL OR OTHER GOVERNMENTAL BUDGET UNIT
8 OF THIS STATE MAY ALLOW UNCOMPENSATED USE OF THE AGENCY'S, CITY'S, TOWN'S,
9 COUNTY'S, UNIVERSITY'S, COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S, PUBLIC SCHOOL'S, PRIVATE
10 SCHOOL'S OR BUDGET UNIT'S FACILITIES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
11 PROVIDE THE COURSE THAT IS OFFERED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS
12 SECTION.

13 D. A PUBLIC SCHOOL, A UNIVERSITY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE
14 ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS OR A COMMUNITY COLLEGE AS DEFINED IN SECTION
15 15-1401 MAY AWARD ACADEMIC CREDIT TO ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO COMPLETES THE
16 COURSE THAT IS OFFERED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OF THIS SECTION.

17 Sec. 2. Legislative findings and intent

18 A. The legislature finds that:

19 1. The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence presents both
20 unprecedented opportunities for economic growth and significant challenges
21 to individual liberty and the integrity of our democratic processes.

22 2. Large technology platforms use sophisticated tools that are
23 driven by artificial intelligence and that can shape the information
24 environment and influence public opinion, a phenomenon documented by
25 nonpartisan researchers.

26 3. Providing Arizona citizens with the knowledge to recognize and
27 resist digital manipulation is essential to preserving a free and fair
28 society.

29 4. Equipping Arizona's small business owners with the skills to use
30 artificial intelligence will foster innovation, create jobs and ensure the
31 long-term prosperity of our state.

32 B. The legislature intends to establish a voluntary, statewide
33 summer education program to empower all residents of this state with the
34 principles of digital hygiene and the practical skills to use artificial
35 intelligence for economic success.

36 Sec. 3. Severability

37 If a provision of this act or its application to any person or
38 circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other
39 provisions or applications of the act that can be given effect without the
40 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
41 act are severable.

42 Sec. 4. Short title

43 This act may be cited as the "Getting Arizona Ready for AI Act".