



General Assembly

Amendment

February Session, 2026

LCO No. 4459



Offered by:

SEN. HARTLEY, 15th Dist.
REP. MESKERS, 150th Dist.
SEN. MARTIN, 31st Dist.
REP. ANISKOVICH, 35th Dist.

To: Senate Bill No. 417

File No. 499

Cal. No. 311

"AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ESTABLISH AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM."

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and substitute the
2 following in lieu thereof:

3 "Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, (1)
4 "artificial intelligence" means a machine-based system that makes
5 predictions, recommendations or decisions influencing real or virtual
6 environments, (2) "artificial intelligence technology" means a computer
7 system, application or other product that uses or incorporates one or
8 more forms of artificial intelligence, and (3) "financial assistance" means
9 any and all forms of grants, extensions of credit, loans or loan
10 guarantees, equity investments or other forms of financing.

11 (b) The Department of Economic and Community Development, in

12 consultation with other relevant state agencies, public institutions of
13 higher education or any other public entity that the Department of
14 Economic and Community Development deems necessary, shall
15 develop a plan to establish an artificial intelligence small business
16 program for the purpose of (1) providing financial assistance to eligible
17 small businesses to adopt and deploy artificial intelligence to achieve
18 improvements in productivity and the quality of any products or
19 services offered by such small businesses, and (2) establishing a
20 competitive small business environment for the development and
21 deployment of artificial intelligence technologies. Such plan shall
22 include, but need not be limited to, eligibility criteria and an application
23 process with guidelines and terms for financial assistance for the
24 program, and a requirement that, as a condition of receiving financial
25 assistance, any applicant train such applicant's employees to work with
26 artificial intelligence and prepare any such employees, whose jobs may
27 be displaced as a result of the adoption of artificial intelligence, for new
28 roles with the applicant.

29 (c) Not later than January 1, 2027, the Department of Economic and
30 Community Development shall report on such plan, including any
31 recommendations for legislative action required to implement such
32 plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
33 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
34 having cognizance of matters relating to commerce."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section