

SB 5 - The C.A.R.T. Act

Connecticut Artificial Intelligence Responsibility and Transparency Act

Artificial intelligence is already affecting how people work, apply for jobs, use online services, interact with digital platforms, consume information, and receive public services. The C.A.R.T. Act makes sure Connecticut is not waiting for larger harms before putting practical safeguards in place.

Protecting consumers

- Requires clear disclosures for paid AI subscriptions.
- Helps consumers understand key terms, limits, and changes before they pay or renew.
- Requires certain large generative AI providers to include provenance data in AI-generated or AI-altered audio, image, and video content when commercially and technically reasonable.
- Helps residents better understand when AI may affect what they see, buy, believe, or rely on.

Protecting children and families

- Creates safeguards for AI companions that interact with users in human-like ways.
- Requires crisis-resource referrals when users express risks of suicide, self-harm, or imminent physical violence.
- Requires users to be told when they are interacting with an AI companion and not a human being.
- Protects minors from AI companion interactions that encourage self-harm, violence, disordered eating, sexual or romantic engagement, isolation from trusted adults, or inappropriate emotional dependence.
- Strengthens youth online safety protections related to social media platforms.

Protecting workers and civil rights

- Requires transparency when automated employment-related decision technology is used as a substantial factor in certain employment decisions.
- Requires notice about the purpose of the technology, the type of decision being made, and the personal data being used.
- Makes clear that using AI is not a defense to unlawful discrimination.
- Requires certain layoff notices to disclose whether layoffs are related to AI or another technological change.

Preparing students, workers, and small businesses

- Establishes the Connecticut AI Academy.
- Promotes AI education, digital literacy, and workforce training.
- Helps small businesses and nonprofits learn how to use AI responsibly.
- Updates teacher preparation and public school computer science instruction to include AI and emerging technologies.
- Requires a study of AI's impact on Connecticut's workforce.

Building responsible innovation and state readiness

- Requires planning for an AI regulatory sandbox program.
- Creates an AI working group to study emerging issues and recommend future policy.
- Provides access to technical expertise through the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering.
- Creates an independent verification pilot program.
- Strengthens standards, inventories, and impact assessments for state agency use of AI.
- Supports responsible data review and future planning for AI in state government.

Why it matters

- The C.A.R.T. Act protects people without banning AI.
- It creates transparency where AI affects important decisions.
- It strengthens safeguards for children, workers, consumers, and families.
- It prepares students, educators, small businesses, workers, and public agencies for the future.
- It builds public trust so responsible innovation can succeed.

Bottom Line

The C.A.R.T. Act is about clear rules, public trust, and Connecticut readiness.

It helps ensure artificial intelligence develops in Connecticut with transparency, accountability, and human oversight while preparing our state for the next phase of responsible innovation.