

SB394 • Virginia

Artificial intelligence; use of systems for student instruction.

Passed Both Chambers

Risk: Medium

Comprehensive

Last Action (Apr 13, 2026): Acts of Assembly Chapter text (CHAP0943)

Summary

The bill mandates the Virginia Department of Education to develop guidance for the safe use of AI in schools, consulting with stakeholders, and establishes a pilot program for funding, evaluating, and

Business Impact

If you use AI for student instruction in Virginia, you must follow new guidelines from the Department of Education once they are issued.

Key Provisions

- Department of Education to compile information on AIS use in public schools, consulting with school divisions and stakeholders.
- Establishment of guidance for safe, ethical, and equitable AIS use.
- Creation of the AIS Innovation in Education Pilot Program for funding, evaluating, and scaling innovative uses of AIS, expiring July 1, 2030.
- School boards must implement policies consistent with Department guidance.
- Annual reporting on pilot program effectiveness and outcomes to the Chairs of the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by December 1.

Compliance Checklist

- Establish and enforce policies consistent with AIS guidance | Who: Each school board
- Participate in the AIS Innovation in Education Pilot Program | Who: Selected school divisions

Industries Affected

Healthcare

Education

Topics

AI in Education

Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
Stella Pekarsky	D	Sponsor

Roll Call Votes

Date	Description	Yea	Nay	Result
2026-03-13	Conference report agreed to by House (95-Y 0-N 0-A)	95	0	Passed
2026-03-13	Conference report agreed to by Senate (37-Y 2-N 0-)	37	2	Passed
2026-03-12	Senate acceded to request Block Vote (40-Y 0-N 0-A)	40	0	Passed
2026-03-10	House substitute rejected by Senate (0-Y 40-N 0-A)	0	40	Failed
2026-03-09	Passed House with substitute (96-Y 1-N 0-A)	96	1	Passed
2026-03-04	Reported from Education with substitute (20-Y 1-N)	20	1	Passed
2026-03-03	Subcommittee recommends reporting with substitute	9	1	Passed
2026-02-16	Constitutional reading dispensed (on 3rd reading)	39	0	Passed

Related Bills

- HB1186 (VA)

Official Source

<https://lis.virginia.gov/bill-details/20261/SB394>

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