

HB1261 • Virginia

Law-enforcement agencies; use of certain technology & interrogation practices; forensic laboratory.

Introduced

Risk: Medium

Comprehensive

Effective: Jan 01, 2030 | Last Action (Feb 02, 2026): Continued to next session in Communications, Technology and Innovation (Voice Vote)

Summary

The bill mandates a framework for AI technologies, requires policy adoption for interrogation practices by July 1, 2027, mandates forensic lab accreditation for local law-enforcement agencies and campus police departments, and establishes compulsory training standards.

Business Impact

If you operate a law enforcement agency in Virginia, you must adopt AI usage policies by July 1, 2027, or face non-compliance penalties.

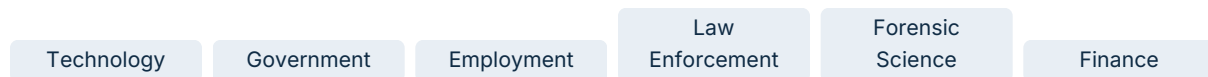
Key Provisions

- Establishes a framework for the use of generative AI and machine learning by law enforcement.
- Requires the Department of Criminal Justice Services to develop and publish model policies for AI technologies by January 1, 2027.
- Mandates training for law enforcement officers on AI technologies by January 1, 2030, for those employed before July 1, 2026.
- Requires compulsory minimum training standards for basic training and recertification of law-enforcement officers.
- Specifies custodial and noncustodial interrogation practices for both adults and juveniles.
- Prohibits unaccredited forensic laboratories from operation unless accredited by an ILAC MRA signatory, specifically for local law-enforcement agencies and campus police departments.
- Restricts purchase of any equipment or instrument intended for forensic laboratory analysis to approved devices by the Department of Forensic Science or the Forensic Science Board, with a delayed effective date of January 1, 2030.
- Mandates law enforcement agencies to adopt policies consistent with model policies by July 1, 2027.

Compliance Checklist

- Adopt model policies for AI and machine learning use | Who: All law enforcement agencies
- Complete required training on AI technologies | Who: Law enforcement officers employed before July 1, 2026
- Ensure forensic laboratories are accredited | Who: Local law enforcement agencies and campus police departments
- Purchase only approved forensic analysis equipment | Who: Local law enforcement agencies and campus police departments

Industries Affected



Topics



Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
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Bloxom		Primary
Kathy K.L. Tran	Democratic	Primary
Elizabeth B. Bennett-Parker	Democratic	Cosponsor
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Marcia S. "Cia" Price		Cosponsor

Related Bills

- HB2433 (VA)
- HB1257 (VA)

Official Source

<https://lis.virginia.gov/bill-details/20261/HB1261>

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