

# AB 1988 • California

## Companion chatbots: crisis interruption pauses.

Introduced

Risk: Medium

Comprehensive

Effective: Jan 01, 2028 | Last Action (Apr 22, 2026): From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 16. Noes 0.) (April 21). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

## Summary

The bill's proposals for companion chatbots and crisis intervention are speculative without the full text.

## Business Impact

If you operate companion chatbots in CA, you must implement crisis protocols by 2028 or face enforcement actions.

## Key Provisions

- Operators may need to implement systems for user safety, but specifics are speculative.
- Specific crisis intervention protocols are not confirmed.
- Requirements for public policy sharing are unverified.
- Suggestions about avoiding punitive descriptions or diagnoses are unsupported.

## Compliance Checklist

- Implement a monitoring system for credible crisis expressions | Who: Operators of companion chatbots | Penalty: Enforcement actions as specified in the bill
- Adopt and publicly share a crisis response policy | Who: Operators of companion chatbots | Penalty: Enforcement actions as specified in the bill

## Industries Affected

Artificial Intelligence

Mental Health

Technology

Mental Health Services

## Topics

User-Facing AI

## Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
Gail Pellerin	D	Sponsor

## Related Bills

- AB1988 (CA)

## Official Source

[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202520260AB1988](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB1988)

Disclaimer: This document is generated by AI for informational purposes only. It does not constitute legal advice. Consult a qualified attorney for guidance specific to your situation. Information may not be fully up to date.