

# SB 269 • Virginia

Mental health service providers; definitions, use of artificial intelligence system, civil penalty.

Unknown

Risk: Medium

Sector-Specific

Last Action (Mar 02, 2026): Continued to next session in Communications, Technology and Innovation (Voice Vote)

## Summary

The bill permits AI use in therapy under provider responsibility, prohibits AI-only therapy, mandates health privacy compliance, and imposes penalties for violations.

## Business Impact

If you provide mental health services in Virginia and use AI, you must ensure compliance with data privacy and maintain responsibility for AI outputs.

## Key Provisions

- Permits AI use in therapy under provider responsibility.
- Prohibits AI-only therapy without a licensed provider.
- Requires compliance with health privacy requirements.
- Civil penalties up to \$10,000 for violations.
- Exceptions for peer support, religious counseling, and self-help materials.

## Compliance Checklist

- Ensure AI systems used in therapy comply with responsibility requirements. | Who: Mental health service providers | Penalty: Up to \$10,000 for violations.
- Maintain compliance with health records privacy requirements. | Who: Mental health service providers | Penalty: Up to \$10,000 for violations.

## Industries Affected

## Topics

## Bill Sponsors

Name	Party	Role
Barbara A. Favola		Primary

## Related Bills

- SB269 (VA)
- HB668 (VA)

## Official Source

<https://openstates.org/va/bills/2026/SB269/>

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