

# SB903 • California

## Mental health professionals: artificial intelligence.

In Committee

Risk: High

Comprehensive

Last Action (May 20, 2026): In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

## Summary

SB903 proposes regulations for AI use by mental health professionals, focusing on ethical AI application in therapy. Specific provisions require verification from the bill text.

## Business Impact

If you provide therapy services in California, you must inform patients about AI use and obtain their consent or face penalties up to \$10,000 per violation.

## Key Provisions

- Specific requirements for licensed professionals to obtain patient consent before using AI in therapy need verification from the bill text.
- The bill's discussion on AI's role in therapeutic decision-making and client interaction requires confirmation from the bill text.
- AI use in therapy should comply with confidentiality laws, subject to verification.
- Definitions for AI, consent, and psychotherapeutic communication are to be verified from the bill text.
- The prohibition of unlicensed individuals or entities from offering therapy using AI needs confirmation from the bill text.

## Compliance Checklist

- Obtain explicit consent from patients before using AI in therapy. | Who: Licensed mental health professionals | Penalty: Up to \$10,000 per violation
- Ensure AI does not make independent therapeutic decisions. | Who: Licensed mental health professionals | Penalty: Up to \$10,000 per violation

## Industries Affected

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Healthcare

Mental Health Services

## Topics

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AI Healthcare

Comprehensive AI

## Bill Sponsors

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Name	Party	Role
Steve Padilla	D	Sponsor
Susan Rubio	D	Sponsor

## Roll Call Votes

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Date	Description	Yea	Nay	Result
2026-05-19	Senate 3rd Reading SB903 Padilla et al	39	0	Passed
2026-05-14	Do pass	7	0	Passed
2026-05-04	Placed on suspense file	7	0	Passed
2026-04-20	Do pass, but first be re-referred to the Committee	8	0	Passed
2026-04-13	Do pass, but first be re-referred to the Committee	11	0	Passed

## Official Source

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[https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202520260SB903](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billStatusClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB903)

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