



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Kristen Gonzalez

Senator Kristen Gonzalez's Leading Chatbot Liabilities Legislation Included in 25-26 State Budget

KRISTEN GONZALEZ May 9, 2025

| ISSUE: **2025-2026 STATE BUDGET, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE; AI, ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

ALBANY, NY – Included in the 2025-2026 New York State Budget are new guardrails for the safe and responsible operation of companion chatbots. Provisions from two bills, [S5668](#) and [S934](#) first introduced in the State Legislature by Senator Kristen Gonzalez (D-59) in 2024's legislative session. One is meant to address the unmitigated risks users face when utilizing chatbots for social interactions, as well as recent news stories that highlighted the deeply troubling consequences of these risks.

Companion chatbots, which are designed to maintain social engagement with its users, are often used by vulnerable people of all ages looking for someone to talk to. This provision in the 2025 State Budget requires that companion chatbot operators *must*:

- Include a protocol that detects users' suicidal ideation or expressions of self-harm, directing such users to crisis services, and
- Display a notification reminding users that they are not interacting with a human, at least once daily and for ongoing chats lasting more than 3 hours.

Senator Kristen Gonzalez, Chair of the Internet and Technology Committee said, “As large language models of artificial intelligence continue to develop, we’re seeing more and more people turn to chatbots for everyday needs, including basic social interactions. To embrace technological advancement, we need to ensure that vulnerable users are protected from the risks of digital companionship over direct support from real-people they can trust.”

Failure to adhere to these requirements will result in enforcement action by the Attorney General’s Office, with any related fines and penalties collected for violations committed to a suicide prevention fund within the Office of Mental Health.

RELATED LEGISLATION

2025-S934

-
- Introduced
 - - In Committee Assembly
 - In Committee Senate
 - - On Floor Calendar Assembly
 - On Floor Calendar Senate
 - - Passed Assembly
 - Passed Senate

- Delivered to Governor
- Signed By Governor
-

Requires warnings on generative artificial intelligence systems

January 07, 2025

In Assembly Committee

Sponsored by **Kristen Gonzalez**

Do you support this bill?