



Annual Report 2025

New York State Senate Standing Committee on
Internet and Technology

Senator Kristen Gonzalez

Chair

Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins
President Pro Tempore
NYS Senate Majority Leader



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INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY

COMMITTEES:
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
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SENATOR KRISTEN GONZALEZ

59TH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
STATE OF NEW YORK

January 5, 2026

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Temporary President and Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins,

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate Standing Committee on Internet and Technology for the 2025 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction.

During the 2025 Session, this Committee met four times in Session and reported 23 bills.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts and support of the work that was done in the Committee this year, and I thank you for the continued support from the Majority Conference in the Committee's operations.

Yours truly,

Senator Kristen Gonzalez
Senate District 59



2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY

**Senator Kristen Gonzalez,
Chairperson**

Majority Members

Senator Andrew S. Gounardes

Senator Michelle Hinchey

Senator Kevin S. Parker

Senator Sean M. Ryan

Minority Members

Senator Daniel G. Stec (ranking member)

Senator Mark Walczyk

Committee Staff

Elan Silver, Senior Counsel and
Committee Director

Nayram Gasu, Senior Counsel,
Office of Majority Counsel

Mobeen Bhatti, Assistant Deputy Director,
Office of Majority Counsel

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Internet and Technology has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning State Technology Law, Economic Development Law, Executive Law and General Business Law, including, but not limited to, the internet, technology, computers, email, cybersecurity, forensics, DNA databases and the NYS Broadband Office.

During the 2025 Legislative Session, 72 (seventy-two) bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, 23 (twenty-three) were reported from the Committee, 15 (fifteen) were passed by the Senate, and 2 (two) passed in both houses. This work was conducted through a series of 4 (four) Committee meetings. A list of all bills that were reported from the Committee is provided at the end of this report.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following key bills were acted on by the Committee in 2025:

- **Protection of Health Information (S929)**- Many New York residents are under the impression that HIPAA protects their health information from access by and sale to third parties, but the reality is far more complicated. For instance, HIPAA only applies to covered entities, which excludes app-based fitness or health trackers. This bill would create a complete framework for residents to regain control over their health data, including requiring affirmative consent and allowing for remedies for violations.
- **Multifactor Authentication for Governmental Entities (S1139)**- Governmental information networks are attractive cybersecurity targets constantly experiencing evolving threats. To keep pace with the expanding threat landscape while enabling innovation within government, the government must seek out cost-effective defensive measures to defend its systems. Many government entities already use multi-factor authentication to secure access to their IT resources. This bill would require governmental agencies to adopt multi-factor authentication for access to systems, includes requirements for such multi-factor authentication, and adds encryption requirements to government websites.
- **New York Artificial Intelligence Act (S1169)**- Artificial intelligence (“AI”) tools are used widely in business settings to discover efficiencies and minimize costs. The saturation of AI tools in business operations means it can be difficult if not impossible to determine whether AI is being used to make a consequential decision about one’s life. AI has unpredictable and often intractable issues associated with its use, which creates risk of bias in its outcomes, especially in edge cases or situations with limited training data. This bill would create a framework for developers and deployers to increase transparency, understanding, and evaluation of their systems to minimize the harms of these systems when used in high-risk contexts.
- **Secure Our Data Act (S1961)**- State technology assets are constantly under attack, and addressing one threat can open the door for new types of attacks. This bill would fortify the state’s defensive posture with respect to personal information of New York residents, requiring protection and backups of sensitive data, and regular vulnerability testing of critical information systems.
- **Banning Biometrics in Schools (S3827A)**- Biometric identifying technology collects and stores extensive data on detected individuals. Usage in schools could create repositories of student, faculty, and visitor identifying information, a practice that would be in conflict with state education law requiring minimally intrusive data collection in schools. This bill would prohibit public, private, and charter K-12 schools from purchasing and using most types of biometric technologies.
- **Warning Labels on Addictive Social Media Platforms (S4505)**- Studies have shown that adolescents who spend significant time on social media face a higher risk of negative mental health outcomes, such as anxiety or depression. Many adolescents are stuck in the cycle of social media, feeling that it is integral to their social lives yet reporting that it is detrimental to their well-being. This bill would require that social media platforms with certain features bear warning labels whose contents and duration are determined by the commissioner of mental health.
- **Peer-to-Peer Payment Security (S5500)**- The use of smartphone financial apps has fueled a rise in financial crimes over recent years. Companies offering such apps should have a responsibility to limit fraud and abuse of their customers enabled through innovative product offerings. This bill would require financial app creators to implement a PIN system that users must use for certain actions, such as transactions above a defined monetary threshold, and would require certain actions upon input of an incorrect PIN code.

- **Content Provenance in Synthetic Content (S6945A)**- Growth and advancement in generative AI technologies has made synthetic imagery difficult to distinguish from reality. This capability can make these systems powerful tools in the creation of misinformation, enabling manipulation, and reducing trust in digital media. This bill would require that providers of synthetic content creation tools attach metadata to synthetic created content that complies with the standards set by the Coalition for Content Provenance and Authenticity.
- **RAISE Act (S6953)**- In recent years, experts and practitioners in AI have been acknowledging the potential for serious risks as AI matures, including crippling cyberattacks, production of bioweapons, and circumventing developer controls. This bill would require developers of frontier AI models to: have a safety plan to prevent severe AI risks, conspicuously publish a redacted version of their safety plan, and disclose major security incidents.
- **Automated Decision-Making in Government (S7599C)**- According to a recent report by the Office of the State Comptroller, state agencies lack consistency and coherence in identifying and managing the uses of AI. This bill builds on the progress of the enacted Legislative Oversight of Automated Decision-Making in Government Act, or LOADinG Act. This bill would require state agencies to conduct an inventory of their automated decision-making systems and conduct impact assessments to ensure that the tools are accurate and applied fairly. The bill would expand the labor protections won for state agency employees under the LOADinG Act to SUNY, CUNY, community college, and local government employees, including K-12 workers, statewide.
- **Restricting the Use of Automatic License Plate Readers (S7713)**- Automatic license plate readers capture all license plates in view, which can give individuals with access a real-time view of any driver's approximate location at any time. Once collected, this information can be used for any law enforcement purpose and is often shared with other agencies, including out-of-state law enforcement. This bill would restrict the sharing of automatic license plate reader data with out-of-state law enforcement under certain circumstances.
- **Notifications of Data Breaches (S8169)**- Governmental data breaches can expose the personal information of those whose information is included in compromised systems, including employees and residents. Recent government cyber incidents have resulted in delayed notices to affected individuals, leaving them less time to address the breach and obtain identity theft protection. This bill would broaden the types of governmental cybersecurity incidents that would require notification to affected New Yorkers.

TWO HOUSE BILLS

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Act
S04505	Gouardes	Requires warning labels on social media platforms which provide an addictive feed, autoplay, infinite scroll, like counts, and/or push notifications; directs the commissioner of mental health to design the warning label.	Chaptered 689
S07599C	Gonzalez	Regulates automated decision-making by government agencies; requires agencies to conduct impact assessments; requires disclosure of automated decision-making tools utilized by governmental agencies.	Chaptered 711

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action
S00933	Gonzalez	Establishes the position of chief artificial intelligence officer and such person's functions, powers and duties; including, but not limited to, developing statewide artificial intelligence policies and governance, coordinating the activities of any and all state departments, boards, commissions, agencies and authorities performing any functions using artificial intelligence tools; makes related provisions.	Passed the Senate
S00934A	Gonzalez	Requires the owner, licensee or operator of a generative artificial intelligence system to conspicuously display a notice on the system's user interface that is reasonably calculated to consistently apprise the user that the outputs of the generative artificial intelligence system may be inaccurate.	Passed the Senate
S00936	Gonzalez	Directs state agencies to submit reports detailing their telework policies; permits input from employees anonymously; directs the department of civil service to compile reports and submit a single report to the legislature.	Passed the Senate
S00955	Kavanagh	Relates to limitations on the use of smart access systems; restricts information that may be gathered on lessees, tenants, owners or guests.	Passed the Senate
S01139	Gonzalez	Requires governmental entities to, whenever possible and feasible, consider implementing multifactor authentication for local and remote network access; requires public websites to encrypt all exchanges and to comply with privacy standards.	Passed the Senate
S01338	Parker	Relates to emerging technology industrial classifications for clean environment and energy technologies.	Senate Rules
S01341	Parker	Relates to the maintenance of a database on intellectual property generated by state employees or developed through state-funded research which shall include, at a minimum, a brief description of the intellectual property and up-to-date contact information for each item.	Reported to Senate Finance
S01961	Gonzalez	Establishes the "secure our data act"; relates to cybersecurity protection by state entities; requires the office of information technology services to develop standards for data protection of state entity-maintained information.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action
S02152	Comrie	Requires certain businesses to offer identity theft prevention and mitigation services in the case of a security breach; exempts businesses under financial hardship.	Reported to Senate Consumer Protection
S03044	Gonzalez	Enacts the New York privacy act to require companies to disclose their methods of de-identifying personal information, to place special safeguards around data sharing and to allow consumers to obtain the names of all entities with whom their information is shared.	Reported to Senate Finance
S03591	Ashby	Requires age verification for internet pornography websites; imposes a \$50,000 penalty per day for violations; provides exemptions for news organizations.	Reported to Senate Internet and Technology
S03699	Sanders	Enacts the "facial recognition technology study act" to study privacy concerns and potential regulatory approaches to the development of facial recognition technology.	Passed the Senate
S03827A	Hoylman-Sigal	Prohibits the use of biometric identifying technology in schools for any reason other than certain specified purposes; adds fingerprint identification of teachers, administrators and students for the purpose of securely logging into a digital device for academic and administrative purpose to allowable purposes.	Passed the Senate
S03889	Gonzalez	Relates to the publication of information on public meetings; requires the office of information technology services to develop a mobile application and website to publish information on every public meeting held by a state or local public body; requires public bodies to report such meetings to the office of information technology services.	Senate Rules
S04505	Gounardes	Requires warning labels on social media platforms which provide an addictive feed, autoplay, infinite scroll, like counts, and/or push notifications; directs the commissioner of mental health to design the warning label.	Chaptered 689
S05500	Hoylman-Sigal	Directs every peer-to-peer mobile service to require users to create a personal identification code associated with the user's account that is required to be used when certain actions are taken and to require users to set a monetary amount for intended transfers above which the use of a personal identification number will be required to authenticate the user's identity.	Passed the Senate

Bill No.	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action
S05609	Salazar	Prohibits the use of biometric surveillance technology by law enforcement; establishes the biometric surveillance regulation task force; provides for the expiration and repeal of certain provisions.	Reported to Senate Codes
S05668	Gonzalez	Imposes liability for misleading, incorrect, contradictory or harmful information to a user by a chatbot that results in financial loss or other demonstrable harm.	Senate Rules
S06954A	Gounardes	Requires synthetic content creations system providers to include provenance data on synthetic content produced or modified by a synthetic content creations system that such provider makes available.	On Calendar 900 Opposite House
S07263	Gonzalez	Imposes liability for damages caused by a chatbot impersonating certain licensed professionals.	Senate Rules
S07599C	Gonzalez	Regulates automated decision-making by government agencies; requires agencies to conduct impact assessments; requires disclosure of automated decision-making tools utilized by governmental agencies.	Chaptered 711
S07713	Krueger	Prohibits automatic license plate reader users from selling, sharing, allowing access to, or transferring automatic license plate reader information to any state or local jurisdiction for the purpose of investigating or enforcing a law that denies or interferes with a person's right to choose or obtain reproductive health care services or any lawful health care services.	Passed the Senate
S07974	Gonzalez	Requires that businesses that provide consumers with online accounts to access services accounts for mobile telephones using proper identification if the business has a physical presence in this state.	Passed the Senate
S08169	Bynoe	Requires all state entities, including local governments, to notify affected individuals in the event of a data breach where information is compromised; defines "cybersecurity incident".	Passed the Senate

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