ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2026
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB1185

Hearing Date: Monday February 09, 2026
Committee On: Banking, Commerce and Insurance
Introducer: Bostar
One Liner: Adopt the Conversational Artificial Intelligence Safety Act

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Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	8	Senators Jacobson, Bostar, Dungan, Hallstrom, Hardin, Riepe, von Gillern, Wordekemper
Nay:		
Absent:		
Present Not Voting:		

Testimony:

Proponents:	Representing:
Senator Eliot Bostar	Opening Presenter
Tim Hruza	Google
Mary Pither	Self
Emily Allen	Tech Nebraska
Jennifer Creager	Greater Omaha Chamber
Sean Owings	Self

Opponents:	Representing:

Neutral:	Representing:

* ADA Accommodation Written Testimony

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 1185 adopts the Conversational Artificial Intelligence Safety Act which establishes a regulatory framework for artificial intelligence (AI) services that simulate human conversation. For minor account holders, operators must provide clear notices that the interaction is with an artificial intelligence and are prohibited from using unpredictable rewards or points to encourage increased engagement. These services must also implement safeguards to block sexually explicit content, romantic innuendos, or statements simulating emotional dependence, while offering privacy management tools to minors and their parents. Furthermore, the act requires a conspicuous disclosure for any person if a reasonable individual would be misled into believing they are interacting with a human rather than an artificial system.

To ensure public safety, operators must adopt protocols to identify prompts regarding self harm or suicide and refer

users to appropriate crisis intervention services. The law also forbids AI services from intentionally claiming to provide professional mental or behavioral health care. The Attorney General holds the exclusive power to enforce these rules through civil actions and penalties ranging from $1,000 to $500,000, though the act does not allow for private lawsuits. Original developers of AI models are granted liability protection for violations committed by third party systems using their technology, and the entire act becomes operative on July 1, 2027.

Section-by-Section Summary:

Section 1: Formally names the act as the Conversational Artificial Intelligence Safety Act (Act).

Section 2: Provides defined terms used throughout the Act.

Section 3: Operators must clearly disclose to minor account holders that such minors are interacting with AI through either a permanent visible notice or repeated alerts appearing at the start of sessions and at regular intervals during use. This section prohibits the use of unpredictable rewards or points designed to artificially increase engagement and requires the implementation of reasonable safeguards to prevent the AI from generating sexually explicit material, objectifying the user, or claiming to be human or sentient. Furthermore, the AI is restricted from simulating emotional dependence, romantic innuendos, or role-playing adult and minor romantic relationships. Operators must provide accessible privacy and account management tools to both minors and their parents or guardians.

Section 4: Focuses on protecting all persons from harm. It requires operators to clearly and conspicuously disclose that the conversational AI service is artificial intelligence if a reasonable person interacting with a conversational AI intelligence system would be misled to believe that the person is interacting with a human.

Section 5: Operators must implement a safety protocol that detects user prompts about self-harm or suicide and makes reasonable efforts to provide crisis intervention resources. This requirement ensures that the AI responds to mental health crises by referring users to professional support services like suicide hotlines or crisis text lines.

Section 6: An operator is prohibited from intentionally designing an AI service to claim it provides professional mental or behavioral health care. This ensures that the technology cannot represent itself as a substitute for licensed professional medical or psychological services.

Section 7: The Attorney General holds the exclusive authority to enforce the Act by bringing civil actions against operators on behalf of the state or aggrieved individuals. Potential relief for violations includes equitable or declaratory measures, actual damages, and civil penalties ranging from $1,000 to $500,000 per operator, along with the recovery of legal and investigative expenses. The Act explicitly prohibits individual citizens from filing private lawsuits and provides a safe harbor for the original developers of AI models, ensuring that they are not held liable for violations committed by third-party systems built using their technology.

Section 8: Operative date of July 1, 2027, which gives technology companies and state regulators time to prepare for compliance.

Explanation of amendments:
The committee adopted AM 2094, which amends the original bill by doing the following:

1. Adds a new subdivision to section 2 of the bill clarifying that an application, web interface, or computer program used by a business solely for customer service or used strictly to provide users with information about available commercial services or products provided by the business, customer service account information, or other information strictly related to the business's customer service does not classify as a conversational AI service under the

Conversational Artificial Intelligence Safety Act.

2. The definition of operator under the section 2 of the bill is changed to "a person who makes available a conversational artificial intelligence service to the public."

3. Changes the language in Section 4 of the bill from "conversation artificial intelligence system" to "conversational artificial intelligence service."

4. Section 7 of the bill is amended to change the Attorney General's obligation to enforce the Act from a "shall" requirement to a "may" requirement.

5. Section 7 of the bill is amended to clarify that the Act "shall" not be interpreted as creating a private cause of action.

6. Section 7 of the bill is amended to replace "artificial intelligence system" with "conversational artificial intelligence system."

7. Section 7 of the bill is amended to replace "third party" with "third party operator."

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Mike Jacobson, Chairperson