

Session 126 - (2025-2026)

S 0788 General Bill, By Blackmon, Stubbs and Leber

Summary: Artificial Intelligence and Therapy or Psychotherapy

A BILL TO AMEND THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS BY ADDING ARTICLE 5 TO CHAPTER 1, TITLE 40, SO AS TO PROVIDE DEFINITIONS RELATED TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THERAPY OR PSYCHOTHERAPY; TO PROVIDE THAT A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL SHALL NOT BE PERMITTED TO USE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPORT IN THERAPY OR PSYCHOTHERAPY WHERE THE CLIENT'S THERAPEUTIC SESSION IS RECORDED UNLESS THE PATIENT IS INFORMED THAT ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WILL BE USED AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE AND THE PATIENT CONSENTS TO THIS USE; TO PROVIDE THAT AN INDIVIDUAL, CORPORATION, OR ENTITY MAY NOT OFFER THERAPY OR PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES, INCLUDING THROUGH THE USE OF INTERNET-BASED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, UNLESS THE THERAPY OR PSYCHOTHERAPY SERVICES ARE CONDUCTED BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL; TO PROVIDE THAT A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL MAY NOT ALLOW ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TO MAKE INDEPENDENT THERAPEUTIC DECISIONS; TO REQUIRE THAT ALL RECORDS KEPT BY A LICENSED PROFESSIONAL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL; TO PROVIDE EXCEPTIONS; AND TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.

01/13/26 Senate Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 53)

01/13/26 Senate Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry (Senate Journal-page 53)

03/31/26 Senate Committee report: Favorable with amendment Labor, Commerce and Industry (Senate Journal-page 17)

04/28/26 Senate Committee Amendment Adopted (Senate Journal-page 34)

04/28/26 Senate Read second time (Senate Journal-page 34)

04/28/26 Senate Roll call Ayes-44 Nays-0 (Senate Journal-page 34)

04/29/26 Senate Read third time and sent to House (Senate Journal-page 30)

04/30/26 House Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 155)

04/30/26 House Referred to Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs (House Journal-page 155)