

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on Delivery of Government Efficiency
For HB 149

Compiled on: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 8:25 PM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

Hearing Date: March 26, 2025 10:30 AM - or upon final adjourn./recess or bill referral if permission granted

Melanie Courtright
Insights Association
McKinney, TX

My name is Melanie Courtright, a resident of McKinney, TX, and CEO of the Insights Association (IA), the leading nonprofit trade association for the market research and analytics industry (also known as the “insights” industry). I submit this testimony on behalf of our 370+ members in Texas to share our support for legislation before your committee today: the Texas Responsible Artificial Intelligence Governance Act (H.B. 149).

The Act would prohibit intentionally using artificial intelligence (AI) systems for intentional deception or manipulation, unlawful discrimination, or political viewpoint discrimination. The Act would also restrict various AI uses by state government entities, launch a regulatory sandbox program, and set up a Texas AI Council.

Our more than 9,600 overall members are the world’s leading producers of intelligence, analytics and insights defining the needs, attitudes and behaviors of consumers, organizations and their employees, students and citizens. With that essential understanding, leaders can make intelligent decisions and deploy strategies and tactics to build trust, inspire innovation, realize the full potential of individuals and teams, and successfully create and promote products, services and ideas.

While we would prefer regulation of AI to happen at the federal level, H.B. 149 represents a sensible, measured approach at the state level, aimed at prohibiting knowingly criminal or abusive behavior. The regulatory sandbox program would provide flexibility while AI developers and deployers, and regulators, get up to speed, and allow the development of this technology and know-how without undue constraints or European-style Precautionary Principle regulation, which would stifle competition and AI’s ultimate benefits to the marketplace and consumers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Melanie Courtright
CEO
Insights Association

PDF of this testimony: <https://www.insightsassociation.org/Portals/INSIGHTS/xBlog/uploads/2025/3/26/IA-testimony-TX-HB149-artificial-intelligence--3-26-25.pdf>

Chris Donofrio
Self
The Woodlands, TX

I SUPPORT HB 149.

Respectfully, Chris J Donofrio

Nora Cox, CEO
Texas e-Health Alliance
Austin, TX

The Texas e-Health Alliance is grateful for the opportunity to provide written comments on HB 149. Our position on the bill as it currently appears is neutral and we understand there is a committee substitute being developed that we look forward to reviewing. We appreciate the hard work that Chairman Capriglione and his staff have put into this legislation and believe that the legislation is evolving in a positive direction. We offer these comments in the spirit of that positive direction, and we are available to the Chairman and his staff to discuss further as needed.

Our first comment relates to the status of public hospitals under the bill. As currently written, it is unclear as to whether or not local governments are included as “government agencies”. We recommend amending Sec. 551.001 to add a definition of “government agency”:

In this chapter, “government agency” means:

(a) a department, commission, board, office, or other agency that is in the executive branch of state government and that was created by the constitution or a statute of this state;

(b) a university system or institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code; or

(c) the supreme court, the court of criminal appeals, a court of appeals, or the Texas Judicial Council.

Our second concern relates to the language in Sec. 551.004(f). The current language does not allow for personal representatives, which may be required in the case of a minor receiving health care services, and does not include any provision for emergency services. It appears that the language about “entry waiver forms” may not align with the author’s intent for this section to apply to healthcare since that is not a commonly used healthcare term.

We recommend the following language:

(f) Any disclosure required by this chapter related to a health care service or treatment must be given to the consumer or their personal representative either separately or in combination with the required notice of state and federal privacy practices no later than the date of first service delivery, except that it may be provided as soon thereafter as practicable in the event of treatment provided in the event of an emergency.

Our third concern relates to the language in Sec. 552.102(a) regarding quarterly reports by sandbox participants. We would like to better understand the need for this reporting to be quarterly, particularly since sandbox participant could be in the sandbox for up to 36 months.

On behalf of the Texas e-Health Alliance Board of Directors, I would like to thank the Chairman and his staff again for all their hard work.

Holly Deshields
The Business Software Alliance
Austin, TX

The Business Software Alliance appreciates the opportunity to share insights from the enterprise software sector on artificial intelligence (AI) and the Texas Responsible Artificial Intelligence Governance Act (HB 149). BSA is the leading advocate for the global software industry. We encourage you to consider how HB 149’s section on prohibited uses will affect enterprise companies along the AI value chain and will follow up in writing with more details on how to ensure the bill’s requirements are workable in practice. Thank you for your consideration of our views.