



Senator Scott Jiu Wo Kawasaki

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Sponsor Statement

SB 262

“An Act relating to the state Artificial Intelligence Task Force; and providing for an effective date.”

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a booming industry. With advancements becoming more rapid and accessible, it is important that the State of Alaska keeps up.

In December of 2023, 17 states had enacted 29 bills focusing on the development and use of AI since 2019. As of February 2024, that number had grown to 32 states, some with numerous bills on regulating and monitoring AI.

Texas passed HB 2060 during their 88th Legislative Session. This bill, like many others, ensures the design, development and use of AI is informed by collaborative dialogue with stakeholders from a variety of disciplines. To accomplish this goal, Texas created an AI Advisory Council consisting of public and elected officials, academics and technological experts. The council was tasked with studying and monitoring AI systems developed or deployed by states agencies as well as issuing policy recommendations regarding data privacy and preventing algorithmic discrimination.

SB 262 aims to create a Task Force that investigates the field of Artificial Intelligence. This Task Force is a way to ensure that the State of Alaska is on top of this developing technology and can recommend changes to law. An annual report will be presented to both bodies of the legislature with a summary of developments within the state, risks and benefits of AI and recommendations on how the state should regulate this ever-evolving technology.

By passing SB 262, the State of Alaska will be more in tune and able to deal with this new and evolving technology. I look forward to discussing this issue with the committee.