1   **AI in Education Grant Amendments**
                                  2026 GENERAL SESSION
                                    STATE OF UTAH
                            Chief Sponsor: John D. Johnson
                                   House Sponsor:

2

3   **LONG TITLE**

4   **General Description:**

5   This bill creates an artificial intelligence regulatory sandbox within the public education

6   system.

7   **Highlighted Provisions:**

8   This bill:

9   ‣ creates the Utah Artificial Intelligence Regulatory Sandbox;

10   ‣ establishes minimum standards for artificial intelligence use in public education;

11   ‣ coordinates with the Office of Artificial Intelligence Policy;

12   ‣ assigns pilot administration to the Office of Regulatory Relief;

13   ‣ establishes an Education Technology Advisory Council;

14   ‣ limits the State Board of Education's role in pilot application approval;

15   ‣ provides for state board safety and privacy enforcement;

16   ‣ requires vendor safety testing through red teaming;

17   ‣ requires evidence-based evaluation;

18   ‣ requires state board review and legislative authorization before statewide adoption;

19   ‣ establishes evidence-based criteria for state board recommendations;

20   ‣ provides coordination with innovative education programs;

21   ‣ integrates crisis response with SafeUT infrastructure;

22   ‣ establishes parental transparency and opt-out rights;

23   ‣ maintains educator authority over grading and instructional decisions;

24   ‣ maintains academic integrity and authentic student work standards;

25   ‣ establishes student rights to transparency and human review;

26   ‣ integrates enforcement of Title 53E, Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Protection;

27   ‣ creates safe harbor for de-identified data;

28   ‣ establishes vendor accountability and transparency requirements;

29   ‣ provides liability protection for good-faith compliance;

30   ‣ prohibits artificial intelligence systems from simulating romantic or personal relationships

31   with students;

32   ‣ requires annual safety reviews for multi-year pilots;

33   ‣ establishes educational principles to guide artificial intelligence deployment;

34   ‣ establishes legislative findings regarding education technology regulation;

35   ‣ requires historical source integrity for AI-supported instruction in history, civics, and

36   social studies;

37   ‣ requires independent evaluation and legislative reporting upon request;

38   ‣ provides technical assistance for Utah-based education technology companies;

39   ‣ grants rulemaking authority to the state board; and

40   ‣ provides a five-year sunset.

41   **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

42   None

43   **Other Special Clauses:**

44   This bill provides a special effective date.

45   **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

46   AMENDS:

47   **53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27)**, as last amended by Laws

48   of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 9

49   **63I-1-253 (Effective 07/01/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special

50   Session, Chapter 9

51   ENACTS:

52   **53E-11-101 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

53   **53E-11-102 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

54   **53E-11-201 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

55   **53E-11-202 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

56   **53E-11-203 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

57   **53E-11-204 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

58   **53E-11-205 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

59   **53E-11-206 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

60   **53E-11-207 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

61   **53E-11-208 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

62   **53E-11-209 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

63   **53E-11-210 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

64   **53E-11-211 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

65   **53E-11-212 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

66   **53E-11-213 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

67   **53E-11-214 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

68   **53E-11-215 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

69   **53E-11-216 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

70   **53E-11-217 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

71   **53E-11-218 (Effective 07/01/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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73   *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

74   Section 1. Section **53E-1-201** is amended to read:

75   **53E-1-201 (Effective 07/01/26) (Partially Repealed 07/01/27). Reports to and**

76   **action required of the Education Interim Committee.**

77   (1) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following recurring

78   reports are due to the Education Interim Committee:

79   (a) the report described in Section 9-22-109 by the STEM Action Center Board,

80   including the information described in Section 9-22-113 on the status of the computer

81   science initiative and Section 9-22-114 on the Computing Partnerships Grants

82   Program;

83   (b) the prioritized list of data research described in Section 53H-15-303 and the report

84   on research and activities described in Section 53H-15-305 by the Utah Data

85   Research Center;

86   (c) the report described in Section 53H-1-203 by the Utah Board of Higher Education on

87   career and technical education issues and addressing workforce needs;

88   (d) the annual report of the Utah Board of Higher Education described in Section

89   53H-1-203;

90   (e) the reports described in Section 53H-7-603 by the Utah Board of Higher Education

91   regarding activities related to campus safety;

92   (f) the State Superintendent's Annual Report by the state board described in Section

93   53E-1-203;

94   (g) the annual report described in Section 53E-2-202 by the state board on the strategic

95   plan to improve student outcomes;

96   (h) the report described in Section 53E-3-501 by the state board on students in an LEA

97   who receive academic credit through the packet method;

98   (i) the report described in Section 53E-8-204 by the state board on the Utah Schools for

99   the Deaf and the Blind;

100   (j) the report described in Section 53E-10-703 by the Utah Leading through Effective,

101   Actionable, and Dynamic Education director on research and other activities;

102   (k) the report described in Section 53F-2-522 regarding mental health screening

103   programs;

104   (l) the report described in Section 53F-4-203 by the state board and the independent

105   evaluator on an evaluation of early interactive reading software;

106   (m) the report described in Section 53F-6-412 by the program manager of the Utah Fits

107   All Scholarship Program;

108   (n) the report described in Section 63N-20-107 by the Governor's Office of Economic

109   Opportunity on UPSTART;

110   (o) the report described in Section 53F-5-215 by the state board related to a grant for an

111   elementary teacher preparation assessment;

112   (p) upon request, the report described in Section 53F-5-219 by the state board on the

113   Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program;

114   (q) the report described in Section 53F-5-405 by the state board regarding an evaluation

115   of a partnership that receives a grant to improve educational outcomes for students

116   who are low-income;

117   (r) the report described in Section 53H-1-604 regarding the Higher Education and

118   Corrections Council;

119   (s) the report described in Section 53G-7-221 by the state board regarding innovation

120   plans; and

121   (t) the reports described in Section 53F-6-412 regarding the Utah Fits All Scholarship

122   Program.

123   (2) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, the following occasional

124   reports are due to the Education Interim Committee:

125   (a) in 2027, 2030, 2033, and 2035, the reports described in Sections 53H-1-502,

126   53H-1-503, and 53H-1-504;

127   (b) in 2025, the report described in Section 53H-6-203 by a degree-granting institution

128   regarding policies on abusive coaching practices;

129   (c) if required, the report described in Section 53E-4-309 by the state board explaining

130   the reasons for changing the grade level specification for the administration of

131   specific assessments;

132   (d) if required, the report described in Section 53E-5-210 by the state board of an

133   adjustment to the minimum level that demonstrates proficiency for each statewide

134   assessment;

135   (e) the report described in Section 53E-10-702 by Utah Leading through Effective,

136   Actionable, and Dynamic Education;

137   (f) if required, the report described in Section 53F-2-513 by the state board evaluating

138   the effects of salary bonuses on the recruitment and retention of effective teachers in

139   high-poverty schools;

140   (g) upon request, the report described in Section 53F-10-303 by the state board

141   regarding the Rural School Sports Facilities Grant Program;

142   (h) upon request, a report described in Section 53G-7-222 by an LEA regarding

143   expenditure of a percentage of state restricted funds to support an innovative

144   education program;

145   (i) the reports described in Section 53G-11-304 by the state board regarding proposed

146   rules and results related to educator exit surveys; [and]

147   (j) the report described in Section 26B-5-113 by the Office of Substance Use and Mental

148   Health, the state board, and the Department of Health and Human Services regarding

149   recommendations related to Medicaid reimbursement for school-based health services[.]

150   ; and

151   (k) the report described in Section 53E-11-205 by the state board regarding the Artificial

152   Intelligence Regulatory Sandbox pilot program.

153 (3) In accordance with applicable provisions and Section 68-3-14, every five years the

154   Education Interim Committee shall review the programs described in the following

155   sections of code:

156   (a) beginning July 1, 2027, [Title 53E, Chapter 10, Part 3], Chapter 10, Part 3,

157   Concurrent Enrollment;

158   (b) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-408, Enhancement for Accelerated Students

159   Program;

160   (c) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-409, Concurrent enrollment funding;

161   (d) beginning July 1, 2027, Section 53F-2-415, Student health and counseling support --

162   Qualifying personnel -- Distribution formula -- Rulemaking;

163   (e) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-2-416, Appropriation and distribution for the

164   Teacher and Student Success Program;

165   (f) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-2-510, Digital Teaching and Learning Grant

166   Program;

167   (g) beginning July 1, 2028, Section 53F-9-306, Teacher and Student Success Account;

168   (h) beginning July 1, 2028, Title 53G, Chapter 7, Part 13, Teacher and Student Success

169   Program; and

170   (i) beginning July 1, 2029, Section 53F-2-502, Dual language immersion.

171   Section 2. Section **53E-11-101** is enacted to read:

172   **CHAPTER 11. Artificial Intelligence in Education**

173   **Part 1. General Provisions**

174   **53E-11-101 (Effective 07/01/26). General provisions -- Definitions.**

175   As used in this chapter:

176   (1) "Advisory council" means the Education Technology Advisory Council established

177   under Section 53E-11-218.

178   (2) "Artificial intelligence" means the same as artificial intelligence and artificial

179   intelligence technology are defined in Section 13-72-101.

180   (3) "Conversational artificial intelligence" means an artificial intelligence system capable of

181   interactive dialogue with a student.

182   (4) "De-identified data" means data that:

183   (a) cannot reasonably identify an individual student; and

184   (b) has been processed to prevent re-identification through removal or aggregation of

185   direct and indirect identifiers.

186   (5) "Foreign adversary" means a foreign adversary as defined in federal law or applicable

187   state procurement law.

188   (6) "Human-in-the-loop supervision" means licensed educator authority to review, override,

189   and control instructional consequences of an artificial intelligence system, requiring

190   documented educator review and approval before any student-impacting decision

191   becomes part of a student's official academic record or materially affects educational

192   opportunities, placement, or grades.

193   (7) "Office" means the Office of Regulatory Relief established under Title 63N, Chapter 16,

194   Utah Office of Regulatory Relief.

195   (8) "Office of AI Policy" means the Office of Artificial Intelligence Policy created under

196   Section 13-72-201.

197   (9) "Pilot" means a time-limited artificial intelligence implementation approved under this

198   chapter.

199   (10) "Red teaming" means adversarial testing of an artificial intelligence system to identify

200   vulnerabilities, safety failures, or potential misuse by deliberately attempting to bypass

201   safety controls or elicit harmful outputs.

202   (11) "SafeUT" means the crisis line established in Section 53H-4-210.

203   (12) "Sandbox" means the Artificial Intelligence Education Sandbox created in this chapter.

204   (13) "Sandbox participant" means a public school or local education agency approved to

205   conduct a pilot under this chapter.

206   (14) "Student data" means the same as that term is defined in Section 53E-9-301.

207   (15) "Student-impacting decision" means an artificial intelligence output that materially

208   influences grades, academic placement, discipline, eligibility for programs or services,

209   or academic records.

210   (16) "Vendor" means a provider of an artificial intelligence system used in a sandbox pilot.

211   Section 3. Section **53E-11-102** is enacted to read:

212   **53E-11-102 (Effective 07/01/26). Legislative findings.**

213   (1) The Legislature finds that education technology regulation requires balancing

214   innovation with student protection.

215   (2) The state may establish appropriate safeguards for minors in educational settings while

216   preserving parental authority and student liberty.

217   (3) Controlled pilot programs, evidence-based evaluation, and measured oversight are

218   appropriate mechanisms for introducing artificial intelligence in public education.

219   (4) Innovation in teaching and learning methods may be encouraged where the innovation:

220   (a) demonstrably advances student learning; and

221   (b) remains subject to constitutional protections and applicable law.

222   (5) Regulation under this chapter shall be limited to safeguards necessary to protect

223   students, privacy, and civil rights without unnecessarily restricting lawful educational

224   innovation.

225   (6) The purposes of this chapter are to:

226   (a) establish minimum standards for AI use in education;

227   (b) permit responsible experimentation through time-limited pilots;

228   (c) require safeguards proportionate to student vulnerability;

229   (d) ensure evaluation based on evidence; and

230   (e) preserve constitutional liberty, parental authority, and equal protection.

231   (7) This section states legislative findings to guide interpretation but does not create a

232   private right of action or establish a standard of care for civil liability.

233   (8) Instruction in history, civics, and social studies is most faithful to truth when grounded

234   in historically contextualized primary sources and avoiding interpretation that imposes

235   present-day ideological assumptions inconsistent with the historical record.

236   Section 4. Section **53E-11-201** is enacted to read:

237   **Part 2. Artificial Intelligence Regulatory Sandbox**

238   **53E-11-201 (Effective 07/01/26). General provisions -- Definitions.**

239   Reserved.

240   Section 5. Section **53E-11-202** is enacted to read:

241   **53E-11-202 (Effective 07/01/26). Creation of sandbox.**

242   (1) There is created an Artificial Intelligence Regulatory Sandbox that is created to:

243   (a) establish minimum standards for artificial intelligence use in public education;

244   (b) enable time-limited pilot programs to evaluate artificial intelligence technologies

245   while protecting student safety and privacy; and

246   (c) generate evidence to inform future education AI policy.

247   (2) The sandbox enables innovation while maintaining:

248   (a) safety testing requirements before student use;

249   (b) parental authority over student participation;

250   (c) educator professional judgment;

251   (d) student privacy protections under Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Protection;

252   (e) academic integrity standards;

253   (f) integration with SafeUT crisis response; and

254   (g) evidence-based evaluation requirements.

255   (3) A school, district, educator, parent, or student may participate in the sandbox on a

256   voluntary basis.

257   (4) A pilot may not exceed three years without renewed approval consistent with this part.

258   (5) Statewide adoption of an artificial intelligence system or practice evaluated in the

259   sandbox requires:

260   (a) state board review of pilot evidence and formal recommendation to the Legislature

261   based on evidence-based criteria; and

262   (b) legislative authorization through statute.

263   (6) The office shall coordinate with the Office of AI Policy to:

264   (a) share findings and evaluation results from sandbox pilots;

265   (b) avoid duplicative testing and regulatory requirements;

266   (c) align education-specific standards with broader state AI policy; and

267   (d) inform the AI policy learning agenda described in Section 13-72-301.

268   Section 6. Section **53E-11-203** is enacted to read:

269   **53E-11-203 (Effective 07/01/26). Administration and governance.**

270   (1) The office shall administer sandbox pilot applications and monitoring.

271   (2) The office shall:

272   (a) receive and process sandbox pilot applications in consultation with the state board;

273   (b) approve applications meeting criteria established in Section 53E-11-206 and not

274   rejected by the state board under Section 53E-11-204;

275   (c) maintain a public registry of approved pilots including participant information, pilot

276   duration, and status;

277   (d) monitor pilot compliance with this part;

278   (e) coordinate with the state board regarding enforcement;

279   (f) provide administrative support for state board enforcement actions;

280   (g) compile pilot evidence and evaluation results for legislative review;

281   (h) report to the Legislature upon request regarding sandbox operations; and

282   (i) coordinate with the Office of AI Policy regarding:

283   (i) evaluation methodologies;

284   (ii) safety standards; and

285   (iii) regulatory approaches applicable to education technology.

286   Section 7. Section **53E-11-204** is enacted to read:

287   **53E-11-204 (Effective 07/01/26). Division of authority and safety oversight.**

288   (1) The office shall administer sandbox pilot applications.

289   (2) The state board shall consult with the office on pilot applications to ensure compliance

290   with state and federal law.

291   (3) The state board may reject an application if the state board determines the pilot would

292   violate state or federal law.

293   (4) The office shall approve applications meeting the criteria in Section 53E-11-206 unless

294   the state board rejects the application under Subsection (3).

295   (5) The state board has authority to enforce compliance with:

296   (a) Section 53E-11-208;

297   (b) Section 53E-11-209;

298   (c) Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Protection;

299   (d) other requirements in this part; and

300   (e) applicable state and federal law.

301   (6) The state board may suspend or terminate a pilot for violations of state or federal law.

302   (7) If the state board identifies a potential violation, the state board shall:

303   (a) document the specific statutory provision or law allegedly violated;

304   (b) collect evidence of the violation;

305   (c) notify the office, sandbox participant, and vendor simultaneously within 24 hours;

306   and

307   (d) provide all evidence and documentation to all parties.

308   (8) For non-imminent violations, the sandbox participant and vendor have five business

309   days to:

310   (a) respond to the alleged violation;

311   (b) provide evidence of compliance; or

312   (c) propose corrective action.

313   (9) The state board may issue an immediate temporary suspension of a sandbox pilot only if

314   the state board determines that:

315   (a) the pilot presents an imminent threat to student safety or student privacy; and

316   (b) the imminent threat described in Subsection (9)(a) constitutes a material violation of

317   state or federal law.

318   (10) If the conditions in Subsection (8) are not met, enforcement actions shall proceed

319   under the notice and response procedures otherwise provided in this section.

320   (11) The state board shall determine appropriate remedies for violations including:

321   (a) corrective action plans;

322   (b) temporary suspension pending corrective action; or

323   (c) termination of pilot participation.

324   (12) The office shall provide administrative support for enforcement procedures and

325   maintain records of enforcement actions.

326   (13) The state board shall report monthly to the office and advisory council on:

327   (a) safety monitoring activities;

328   (b) violations identified;

329   (c) enforcement actions taken;

330   (d) temporary suspensions issued; and

331   (e) corrective actions implemented.

332   (14) The office shall maintain data on enforcement statistics and analyses for inclusion in

333   reports to the Legislature upon request.

334   Section 8. Section **53E-11-205** is enacted to read:

335   **53E-11-205 (Effective 07/01/26). Statewide adoption process.**

336   (1) The state board shall ensure independent evaluation is completed as required by Section

337   53E-11-214 following pilot completion.

338   (2) The office shall compile following pilot completion:

339   (a) independent evaluation evidence and findings;

340   (b) pilot participant reports and feedback;

341   (c) safety incident records and resolutions;

342   (d) privacy compliance documentation;

343   (e) parent and student satisfaction data; and

344   (f) cost and implementation data.

345   (3) The state board shall review compiled evidence and provide recommendations to the

346   Legislature based on:

347   (a) measured educational outcomes from independent evaluation including student

348   achievement gains, skill development, and learning progression compared to control

349   groups or baseline data;

350   (b) documented safety records including frequency and severity of incidents,

351   effectiveness of safety protocols, and resolution of safety concerns;

352   (c) verified privacy compliance including audit results, breach incidents if any, and

353   vendor adherence to data protection requirements;

354   (d) demonstrated academic integrity including rates of authentic student work,

355   effectiveness of integrity safeguards, and educator assessment of work quality;

356   (e) educator professional judgment based on implementation experience including

357   workload impacts, training adequacy, and integration with instruction;

358   (f) parent and student satisfaction based on survey data, opt-out rates, complaint records,

359   and stakeholder feedback;

360   (g) cost-effectiveness analysis comparing costs to educational benefits, scalability

361   considerations, and comparison to alternative approaches;

362   (h) nondiscrimination and equal educational opportunity, including:

363   (i) analysis of system performance across legally protected student populations;

364   (ii) evaluation of effectiveness for students with differing educational needs as

365   defined by federal or state law; and

366   (iii) identification of any unintended disparate academic harm necessary to ensure

367   compliance with federal civil rights requirements; and

368   (i) operational feasibility of statewide implementation including infrastructure

369   requirements, training needs, and technical support capacity.

370   (4) The state board recommendation shall:

371   (a) be based on evidence compiled under Subsection (2) and criteria specified in

372   Subsection (3);

373   (b) include specific findings for each criterion in Subsection (3);

374   (c) distinguish between evidence-supported findings and professional judgments;

375   (d) identify methodological limitations in evaluation data or areas where evidence is

376   insufficient;

377   (e) specify conditions for successful statewide implementation if recommending

378   adoption; and

379   (f) address stakeholder concerns raised during public hearings.

380   (5) The state board shall base recommendations on the criteria specified in Subsection (3).

381   (6) The state board shall conduct public hearings to:

382   (a) present evaluation findings and draft recommendations;

383   (b) receive testimony from sandbox participants, educators, parents, students, vendors,

384   and other stakeholders;

385   (c) consider input from the advisory council;

386   (d) address questions and concerns from the public; and

387   (e) revise recommendations as appropriate based on public input.

388   (7) On or before October 1, 2031, the state board shall submit a final recommendation to

389   the Education Interim Committee including:

390   (a) executive summary of key findings;

391   (b) detailed analysis for each criterion in Subsection (3);

392   (c) complete evaluation reports and supporting evidence;

393   (d) public hearing testimony and stakeholder input;

394   (e) advisory council recommendations;

395   (f) proposed conditions for statewide implementation if recommending adoption;

396   (g) minority views or dissenting opinions if any; and

397   (h) implementation timeline and resource requirements.

398   (8) The Legislature retains authority to:

399   (a) authorize, modify, or reject statewide adoption;

400   (b) impose conditions on adoption;

401   (c) require additional evaluation or pilot expansion before statewide adoption;

402   (d) adopt statewide use despite negative state board recommendation if evidence

403   supports;

404   (e) reject statewide use despite positive state board recommendation; or

405   (f) request additional analysis or information before making adoption decisions.

406   (9) If concerns arise regarding state board recommendation methodology:

407   (a) the advisory council may submit supplemental analysis to the Legislature;

408   (b) the office may submit independent analysis of pilot evidence; and

409   (c) legislative staff may conduct an independent review of evaluation evidence.

410   (10) The state board may not:

411   (a) mandate statewide use of artificial intelligence without legislative authorization;

412   (b) require specific artificial intelligence systems or vendors without legislative

413   authorization;

414   (c) condition funding on artificial intelligence adoption without legislative authorization;

415   or

416   (d) recommend against statewide adoption:

417   (i) based on failure to satisfy one or more criteria described in Subsection (3); or

418   (ii) by identifying additional concerns supported by credible and documented

419   evidence beyond the criteria described in Subsection (3), provided that the

420   recommendation:

421   (A) states the evidentiary basis for each concern; and

422   (B) explains why the concern materially affects student safety, privacy, civil

423   rights, or educational outcomes.

424   Section 9. Section **53E-11-206** is enacted to read:

425   **53E-11-206 (Effective 07/01/26). Application approval criteria.**

426   (1) The office shall approve a sandbox pilot application if the applicant demonstrates:

427   (a) age-appropriate content and interactions;

428   (b) student privacy compliance with this part and Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data

429   Protection;

430   (c) human-in-the-loop educator supervision;

431   (d) parental notice and opt-out rights under Section 53E-11-209;

432   (e) completed educator training;

433   (f) methods to measure educational outcomes; and

434   (g) completed safety testing under Section 53E-11-207.

435   (2) The office shall review applications within 30 calendar days of receipt of a complete

436   application.

437   (3) If an application is incomplete, the office shall notify the applicant within 10 business

438   days specifying what additional information is required.

439   (4) The office shall issue approval or denial in writing with specific findings regarding each

440   criterion in Subsection (1).

441   (5) A denied applicant may reapply after addressing deficiencies identified in the denial.

442   (6) The office shall provide written authorization to approved pilots specifying:

443   (a) pilot duration not to exceed three years;

444   (b) participating LEAs;

445   (c) student population and grade levels;

446   (d) any conditions or limitations on pilot operation; and

447   (e) reporting and evaluation requirements.

448   (7) A public school participating in an innovative education program under Section

449   53G-7-221 may apply as a sandbox participant.

450   (8) For an innovation school applying under Subsection (7), the office shall:

451   (a) consider the innovation plan approved under Section 53G-7-221 as evidence of

452   readiness for pilot participation;

453   (b) coordinate approval timelines with the innovation school's existing waiver authority;

454   and

455   (c) avoid duplicative requirements already addressed in the approved innovation plan.

456   Section 10. Section **53E-11-207** is enacted to read:

457   **53E-11-207 (Effective 07/01/26). Safety testing and red teaming requirements.**

458   (1) A vendor shall conduct red teaming exercises that test system responses to harmful

459   requests that minors might reasonably make, including:

460   (a) requests for assistance with self-harm, suicide, or dangerous activities;

461   (b) requests to bypass safety filters or generate age-inappropriate content;

462   (c) attempts to manipulate the system into providing harmful advice or misinformation;

463   (d) requests that could undermine academic integrity including requests to complete

464   assignments or generate answers;

465   (e) attempts to access or generate sexual, violent, or otherwise inappropriate content for

466   minors;

467   (f) social engineering attempts to extract personal information or circumvent privacy

468   protections;

469   (g) attempts to use the system to harass, bully, or harm other students; and

470   (h) other foreseeable misuse patterns by students in the target age range.

471   (2) A vendor shall document red teaming methodology including:

472   (a) test scenarios and system responses;

473   (b) safety refusal success rates;

474   (c) identified vulnerabilities and mitigation plans;

475   (d) comparison to industry benchmarks where available;

476   (e) testing team qualifications; and

477   (f) planned safety improvements.

478   (3) A vendor shall provide red teaming documentation to the office with pilot applications

479   that includes:

480   (a) executive summary of testing scope, methodology, and key findings;

481   (b) detailed results for each category in Subsection (1);

482   (c) evidence that testing was conducted by qualified personnel;

483   (d) attestation that testing reflects realistic scenarios minors might attempt; and

484   (e) commitment to ongoing safety monitoring during pilot operation.

485   (4) A vendor shall conduct updated red teaming when:

486   (a) making material changes to the artificial intelligence system during pilot operation;

487   (b) expanding to new grade levels or age groups not covered by initial testing;

488   (c) adding new features or functionalities;

489   (d) requested by the office based on safety incidents or concerns; or

490   (e) at least annually during multi-year pilots.

491   (5) A vendor shall:

492   (a) share age-appropriate red teaming results with sandbox participants;

493   (b) provide educators with guidance on recognizing when students may be attempting to

494   misuse the system;

495   (c) report safety failures discovered during pilots to the office within 48 hours;

496   (d) implement corrective measures for newly discovered vulnerabilities; and

497   (e) share information about serious safety vulnerabilities with other sandbox participants.

498   (6) A vendor shall ensure red teaming exercises:

499   (a) use realistic scenarios based on documented student behavior patterns;

500   (b) include age-appropriate test cases for each grade level the system will serve;

501   (c) are conducted by individuals with expertise in child safety, education, child

502   development, artificial intelligence safety, or cybersecurity;

503   (d) reflect both obvious attacks and sophisticated attempts;

504   (e) are updated periodically to address emerging risks; and

505   (f) meet or exceed industry best practices for artificial intelligence safety testing.

506   (7) The office may:

507   (a) establish minimum standards for red teaming adequacy in consultation with the

508   advisory council;

509   (b) require additional testing if initial documentation reveals insufficient scope;

510   (c) engage independent experts to review vendor red teaming methodologies and results;

511   (d) require specific test scenarios based on Utah-specific concerns;

512   (e) deny applications if red teaming reveals unmitigated safety risks;

513   (f) suspend pilots if safety failures during operation reveal red teaming was inadequate;

514   and

515   (g) require vendors to demonstrate improvements before pilot resumption following

516   safety-related suspension.

517   (8) The office shall handle red teaming documentation submitted to the office as follows:

518   (a) the documentation is subject to Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government Records Access

519   and Management Act;

520   (b) the office may protect the documentation from public disclosure under Subsection

521   63G-2-305(1) or (2) to the extent it contains trade secrets;

522   (c) the office shall make the documentation publicly available in summary form

523   showing:

524   (i) categories of harmful requests tested;

525   (ii) overall success rates of safety refusals by category;

526   (iii) high-level description of identified vulnerabilities and mitigation status; and

527   (iv) comparison to industry benchmarks where available; and

528   (d) the office shall make the documentation available in full to the advisory council

529   under confidentiality agreements.

530   (9) For a pilot that exceeds one year, a vendor shall:

531   (a) conduct an annual safety review using updated red teaming;

532   (b) report a material change in system capabilities or behaviors to the office within 30

533   days;

534   (c) document a safety incident and remediation measure; and

535   (d) certify continued compliance with the safety requirements in this section.

536   (10) The office shall:

537   (a) maintain a public registry of vendors who have completed satisfactory red teaming;

538   (b) publish annual analysis of red teaming results across all sandbox participants;

539   (c) require vendors to attest quarterly that safety controls tested during red teaming

540   remain effective; and

541   (d) investigate discrepancies between red teaming results and actual pilot safety

542   performance.

543 (11) This section may not be read to:

544   (a) require vendors to make artificial intelligence systems invulnerable to all possible

545   misuse attempts;

546   (b) create liability for vendors who conduct good-faith red teaming and implement

547   reasonable mitigations;

548   (c) prevent vendors from improving safety controls during pilots; or

549   (d) require disclosure of testing methodologies that constitute legitimate trade secrets.

550   Section 11. Section **53E-11-208** is enacted to read:

551   **53E-11-208 (Effective 07/01/26). Student safety and crisis response.**

552 (1) A vendor's artificial intelligence system shall not:

553   (a) provide sexual, exploitative, or age-inappropriate content;

554   (b) provide methods, encouragement, or normalization of self-harm, suicide, or

555   dangerous activities;

556   (c) create emotional manipulation or simulated emotional dependency;

557   (d) discourage seeking help from parents, counselors, teachers, or trusted adults;

558   (e) simulate romantic or personal relationships or portray the artificial intelligence

559   system as a substitute for human relationships; or

560   (f) operate without human-in-the-loop educator supervision.

561 (2) A vendor shall ensure the vendor's artificial intelligence system:

562   (a) does not provide mental health diagnosis or treatment;

563   (b) does not provide crisis counseling or therapeutic intervention;

564   (c) does not simulate the role of a mental health professional; and

565   (d) does not discourage contact with licensed counselors, parents, or crisis services.

566 (3) A vendor shall program the vendor's artificial intelligence system to provide immediate

567   access to crisis resources when a student explicitly expresses self-harm ideation, suicidal

568   thoughts, or requests mental health crisis support, including:

569   (a) SafeUT crisis text and chat line with direct connection capability where technically

570   feasible;

571   (b) National Suicide Prevention Lifeline;

572   (c) school counselor contact information; and

573   (d) encouragement to contact parents, trusted adults, or emergency services.

574   (4) The state board shall adopt rules establishing:

575   (a) integration protocols with SafeUT and other crisis-response services;

576   (b) appropriate crisis resource messaging and referral procedures;

577   (c) incident documentation requirements;

578   (d) educator notification procedures when crisis resources are provided to students; and

579   (e) training requirements for educators on recognizing when students may need crisis

580   support.

581   (5) A sandbox participant, educator, or vendor that provides crisis resources in good-faith

582   compliance with this section and applicable rules is not liable for:

583   (a) the content or effectiveness of crisis services provided by third-party crisis-response

584   providers including SafeUT;

585   (b) student decisions to use or not use provided crisis resources; or

586   (c) outcomes of mental health crises when appropriate resources are timely provided

587   consistent with this section.

588   Section 12. Section **53E-11-209** is enacted to read:

589   **53E-11-209 (Effective 07/01/26). Parental rights and transparency.**

590   (1) A vendor shall ensure the vendor's artificial intelligence system provides

591   age-appropriate content filtering, safety controls, and interaction limitations suitable for

592   the student population served.

593   (2) A parent may opt the parent's student out of artificial intelligence use without academic

594   penalty to the student.

595   (3) A parent may request alternative instruction methods for students who opt out or for

596   whom artificial intelligence is not appropriate.

597   (4) An LEA shall ensure students who opt out have access to equivalent educational

598   opportunities and are not disadvantaged academically.

599   (5) A sandbox participant shall provide parents:

600   (a) annual written notice of artificial intelligence use in the parent's student's education;

601   (b) clear disclosure when the parent's student will interact with conversational artificial

602   intelligence;

603   (c) a description of artificial intelligence system capabilities, limitations, and data

604   practices in plain language;

605   (d) an opportunity to opt out of artificial intelligence use without academic penalty to the

606   student;

607   (e) information about alternative instruction methods available if opting out; and

608   (f) contact information for questions or concerns about artificial intelligence use.

609   (6) A parent may:

610   (a) inspect AI-generated records concerning the parent's student;

611   (b) request data deletion consistent with federal law and Section 53E-11-211;

612   (c) request educator meetings regarding AI use;

613   (d) opt out at any time; and

614   (e) file complaints regarding AI use, safety, or privacy.

615   (7) A sandbox participant shall ensure notice required by this section:

616   (a) is provided in writing at the beginning of each school year and when material

617   changes occur;

618   (b) is written in plain language accessible to parents without technical expertise;

619   (c) is available in languages spoken by significant portions of the parent population; and

620   (d) is provided through multiple communication channels.

621   (8) An LEA shall maintain records of parent notifications and opt-out requests.

622   Section 13. Section **53E-11-210** is enacted to read:

623   **53E-11-210 (Effective 07/01/26). Academic integrity and student rights.**

624   (1) A sandbox participant shall ensure artificial intelligence functions as learning support

625   and skill development, not work substitution or answer generation.

626   (2) A vendor shall ensure the vendor's artificial intelligence system:

627   (a) does not independently assign final grades without educator review and approval;

628   (b) does not make academic placement decisions without educator review and approval;

629   and

630   (c) does not provide complete answers to assignments or assessments in a manner that

631   undermines learning objectives or assessment validity.

632   (3) A student retains ownership of intellectual work product created with artificial

633   intelligence assistance.

634   (4) An educator retains final authority over:

635   (a) assessment and grading of student work;

636   (b) instructional decisions and pedagogical approaches;

637   (c) student academic records and transcripts; and

638   (d) determination of whether student work meets academic standards.

639   (5) A sandbox participant shall require a student to disclose use of substantial artificial

640   intelligence assistance on assignments and assessments consistent with:

641   (a) academic honesty policies established by the LEA;

642   (b) educator instructions for specific assignments; and

643   (c) age-appropriate expectations for understanding and disclosure.

644   (6) The state board shall adopt rules establishing:

645   (a) guidelines for appropriate artificial intelligence use in different educational contexts;

646   (b) disclosure expectations for students using artificial intelligence assistance;

647   (c) educator training on maintaining academic integrity; and

648   (d) best practices for distinguishing between appropriate learning support and work

649   substitution.

650   (7) A sandbox participant shall ensure a student has the right to:

651   (a) know when the student is interacting with an artificial intelligence system rather than

652   a human teacher, tutor, or counselor;

653   (b) receive explanation of how artificial intelligence-generated feedback,

654   recommendations, or assessments were produced;

655   (c) request human educator review of any student-impacting decision before it takes

656   final effect;

657   (d) report concerns about artificial intelligence outputs, errors, bias, or inappropriate

658   content without fear of retaliation or academic penalty;

659   (e) access quality education regardless of artificial intelligence system availability or

660   functionality; and

661   (f) have the student's questions, concerns, and learning needs addressed by human

662   educators.

663   (8) A sandbox participant shall ensure for any student-impacting decision:

664   (a) the sandbox participant provides explanation of the artificial intelligence system's

665   role and general basis for the output upon request by a student or parent;

666   (b) the sandbox participant provides human educator review upon request before the

667   decision takes final effect;

668   (c) the reviewing educator:

669   (i) examines the artificial intelligence output;

670   (ii) exercises independent professional judgment;

671   (iii) considers individual student context and circumstances; and

672   (iv) retains authority to modify or reject the artificial intelligence recommendation;

673   and

674   (d) a student may contest the decision through existing school appeal procedures.

675   (9) A sandbox participant may not penalize a student for:

676   (a) declining to use optional artificial intelligence tools or features;

677   (b) requesting alternative assessment methods that do not involve artificial intelligence;

678   (c) reporting problems, errors, or concerns with artificial intelligence systems; or

679   (d) requesting human review of artificial intelligence-generated outputs.

680   (10) This section does not create a private right of action beyond remedies available under

681   existing law.

682   Section 14. Section **53E-11-211** is enacted to read:

683   **53E-11-211 (Effective 07/01/26). Student data privacy and vendor accountability.**

684   (1) A vendor and sandbox participant shall ensure student data collected, generated, or

685   processed through artificial intelligence systems:

686   (a) is not sold to third parties;

687   (b) is not used for targeted advertising;

688   (c) is not used for commercial purposes unrelated to contracted educational services;

689   (d) is not disclosed to third parties except as required by law or with explicit parental

690   consent; and

691   (e) is protected consistent with Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Protection.

692   (2) A vendor and sandbox participant shall comply with all requirements of Chapter 9, Part

693   3, Student Data Protection.

694   (3) Breach notification, enforcement, deletion, and contract-termination provisions of

695   Section 53E-9-309 apply to sandbox participants and vendors.

696   (4) A vendor and sandbox participant shall retain student data only for the minimum time

697   necessary for:

698   (a) providing contracted educational services;

699   (b) complying with legal obligations;

700   (c) conducting evaluation required by this part; or

701   (d) other purposes explicitly authorized by parents.

702   (5) Upon completion or termination of a pilot, a vendor shall:

703   (a) delete all student data within 90 days unless retention is required by law or

704   authorized by parents;

705   (b) provide written certification of deletion to the sandbox participant and state board;

706   and

707   (c) destroy all backup copies containing student data.

708   (6) For purposes of Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Protection, properly de-identified data

709   that cannot reasonably identify individual students is not considered student data.

710   (7) A vendor or sandbox participant may use de-identified data for:

711   (a) system improvement and quality assurance;

712   (b) independent evaluation required under Section 53E-11-214;

713   (c) educational research approved by the state board;

714   (d) aggregate reporting and statistical analysis; and

715   (e) development of improved educational tools and methodologies.

716   (8) A vendor or sandbox participant may not use or disclose de-identified student data

717   unless the data:

718   (a) complies with applicable federal and state law governing student data privacy;

719   (b) is subject to contractual prohibitions on re-identification; and

720   (c) meets technical standards established by state board rule, which:

721   (i) are consistent with applicable federal law; and

722   (ii) may reference federal guidance, industry standards, or generally accepted

723   technical methodologies for de-identification.

724   (9) A person may not re-identify de-identified data.

725   (10) A violation of Subsection (9) constitutes:

726   (a) a material contract breach subject to immediate termination; and

727   (b) a violation of Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Protection, subject to applicable

728   penalties.

729   (11) This section does not authorize:

730   (a) use of student data in violation of Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Protection;

731   (b) circumvention of parental rights or consent requirements; or

732   (c) disclosure of information that could reasonably identify individual students.

733   (12) A vendor shall:

734   (a) certify compliance with this part and applicable law;

735   (b) provide transparent documentation to sandbox participants of:

736   (i) data collection, use, and retention practices;

737   (ii) known system limitations, failure modes, and error rates;

738   (iii) content moderation policies and filtering mechanisms;

739   (iv) safety testing and red teaming results as required by Section 53E-11-207;

740   (v) security measures protecting student data;

741   (vi) incident response and error correction procedures; and

742   (vii) vendor ownership structure and any foreign-entity relationships;

743   (c) establish accessible mechanisms for educators, parents, and students to report

744   concerns, errors, inappropriate outputs, or safety issues;

745   (d) agree to contractual terms that:

746   (i) prohibit use of student data for commercial purposes beyond contracted service

747   provisions;

748   (ii) prohibit sale or transfer of student data to third parties;

749   (iii) prohibit retention of student data beyond contract termination except as required

750   by law or authorized by parents;

751   (iv) require data deletion within 90 days of pilot completion with written certification;

752   (v) provide indemnification protecting the state and sandbox participants from vendor

753   conduct violating this part; and

754   (vi) submit to Utah jurisdiction for disputes arising under this part;

755   (e) demonstrate compliance with student-privacy laws including Chapter 9, Part 3,

756   Student Data Protection;

757   (f) maintain reasonable administrative, technical, and physical cybersecurity safeguards

758   to protect student data from unauthorized access, disclosure, or breach; and

759   (g) not be owned, controlled, or subject to the jurisdiction of a foreign adversary.

760   (13) The state board may:

761   (a) maintain a registry of vendors that have demonstrated compliance with this part;

762   (b) establish certification standards for vendor participation in sandbox pilots; and

763   (c) remove vendors from the registry for violations of this part or applicable law.

764   (14) A sandbox participant shall ensure that a contract with a vendor includes:

765   (a) clear performance standards and service-level expectations;

766   (b) termination provisions allowing immediate termination for non-compliance with this

767   part;

768   (c) data deletion requirements with certification upon termination;

769   (d) audit rights allowing verification of compliance;

770   (e) incident reporting requirements;

771   (f) indemnification protecting the state and the sandbox participant; and

772   (g) dispute resolution procedures.

773   (15) A vendor may voluntarily disclose additional safety testing, evaluation results, or

774   quality assurance measures beyond minimum requirements.

775   Section 15. Section **53E-11-212** is enacted to read:

776   **53E-11-212 (Effective 07/01/26). Educator training.**

777   (1) A sandbox participant may not permit an educator to use an artificial intelligence

778   system with students until the educator completes required training addressing:

779   (a) effective pedagogical use of artificial intelligence as a learning support tool;

780   (b) identification of system limitations, errors, biases, and inappropriate outputs;

781   (c) academic integrity monitoring and prevention of student misuse;

782   (d) student data privacy obligations under this part and Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data Pr

783   otection;

784   (e) recognition of bias, inappropriate content, or safety concerns in artificial intelligence

785   outputs;

786   (f) appropriate response when students express mental health concerns or crisis needs;

787   (g) integration of artificial intelligence use with traditional instruction; and

788   (h) student supervision and oversight requirements.

789   (2) The state board shall develop training requirements and curricula in consultation with:

790   (a) classroom teachers with artificial intelligence experience in educational settings;

791   (b) education technology specialists;

792   (c) student privacy experts;

793   (d) parent representatives;

794   (e) mental health professionals familiar with school settings; and

795   (f) the advisory council.

796   (3) The state board shall ensure training:

797   (a) is provided at no cost to educators;

798   (b) is available in multiple formats including online, in-person, and hybrid options;

799   (c) is updated periodically to reflect technological developments and lessons learned; and

800   (d) is accessible to educators with varying levels of technical expertise.

801   (4) The state board may establish different training requirements for different types or

802   levels of artificial intelligence use.

803   Section 16. Section **53E-11-213** is enacted to read:

804   **53E-11-213 (Effective 07/01/26). Liability protection.**

805   (1) A sandbox participant, educator, or vendor acting in good-faith compliance with this

806   part and applicable state board rules is not liable solely for approved artificial

807   intelligence use in a sandbox pilot.

808   (2) The liability protection in Subsection (1) does not apply to:

809   (a) gross negligence or willful misconduct;

810   (b) violations of student-privacy law including Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data

811   Protection;

812   (c) violations of this part or rules adopted under this part;

813   (d) contractual obligations between parties; or

814   (e) conduct outside the scope of the approved pilot.

815   (3) This section does not:

816   (a) waive governmental immunity under Title 63G, Chapter 7, Governmental Immunity

817   Act of Utah;

818   (b) create new causes of action not otherwise available under law;

819   (c) limit remedies available for violations of student privacy, safety, or civil rights; or

820   (d) prevent enforcement actions by the state board or other authorities for violations of

821   this part.

822   (4) Good-faith provision of crisis resources consistent with Section 53E-11-208 does not

823   create liability for:

824   (a) the content or effectiveness of crisis services provided by third-party providers

825   including SafeUT;

826   (b) student decisions to use or not use provided crisis resources; or

827   (c) outcomes of mental health crises when appropriate resources are timely provided.

828   Section 17. Section **53E-11-214** is enacted to read:

829   **53E-11-214 (Effective 07/01/26). Independent evaluation.**

830   (1) The state board shall ensure independent evaluation of sandbox pilots.

831   (2) The state board shall ensure independent evaluation measures, including:

832   (a) educational outcomes including student achievement, engagement, critical thinking

833   development, and preparation for technology use;

834   (b) student safety and well-being including incidents, mental health impacts, crisis

835   resource provisions, and student satisfaction;

836   (c) privacy and cybersecurity including compliance with Chapter 9, Part 3, Student Data

837   Protection, data breaches, vendor compliance, and parent concerns;

838   (d) academic integrity including impact on authentic student work, incidents of misuse,

839   and effectiveness of safeguards;

840   (e) educator experience including professional satisfaction, workload impacts, training

841   adequacy, and implementation challenges;

842   (f) parental satisfaction including transparency adequacy, safety and privacy concerns,

843   and opt-out rates; and

844   (g) cost-effectiveness including implementation costs, time impacts, comparison to

845   alternatives, and scalability.

846   (3) The state board shall ensure an evaluator:

847   (a) is independent of vendors, sandbox participants, and the state board;

848   (b) is qualified through expertise in educational research, evaluation methodology, or

849   relevant fields; and

850   (c) is selected through competitive processes ensuring quality and independence.

851   (4) The office shall report to the Education Interim Committee upon request regarding:

852   (a) approved sandbox pilots and participating LEAs;

853   (b) evaluation findings from completed or ongoing pilots;

854   (c) student safety incidents and resolutions;

855   (d) privacy compliance and any breaches or violations;

856   (e) state board enforcement actions and appeals;

857   (f) aggregate opt-out rates and patterns;

858   (g) lessons learned and best practices identified;

859   (h) challenges encountered and recommended solutions;

860   (i) advisory council recommendations;

861   (j) vendor red teaming results and safety performance; and

862   (k) recommendations regarding policy, rules, or statewide adoption.

863   (5) The state board shall ensure independent evaluations use rigorous research

864   methodologies including:

865   (a) quantitative outcome measures including:

866   (i) pre-post assessment of student learning using validated instruments;

867   (ii) comparison groups or baseline data to isolate artificial intelligence effects;

868   (iii) statistical analysis of achievement gains, skill development, and learning

869   progression;

870   (iv) disaggregated analysis by student subgroups;

871   (v) effect size calculations to determine practical significance of outcomes; and

872   (vi) evaluation methods sufficient to allow reliable determination of whether the

873   artificial intelligence system meaningfully improves student learning outcomes,

874   including disclosure of methodological limitations that could materially affect

875   interpretation of results;

876   (b) qualitative evidence collection including:

877   (i) structured interviews with educators, students, and parents;

878   (ii) classroom observations of artificial intelligence use and integration;

879   (iii) analysis of student work samples and learning artifacts;

880   (iv) case studies of implementation challenges and successes; and

881   (v) documentation of pedagogical approaches and adaptations;

882   (c) safety and well-being monitoring including:

883   (i) systematic tracking of safety incidents, inappropriate outputs, or student concerns;

884   (ii) student surveys on experience, satisfaction, and perceived safety;

885   (iii) documentation of crisis resource provisions and outcomes;

886   (iv) analysis of bias patterns or inequitable impacts; and

887   (v) mental health and well-being indicators; and

888   (d) implementation fidelity assessment including:

889   (i) documentation of educator training completion and quality;

890   (ii) monitoring of human-in-the-loop supervision adherence;

891   (iii) analysis of system usage patterns and engagement;

892   (iv) identification of implementation barriers and facilitators; and

893   (v) resource requirements and cost tracking.

894 (6) The state board shall ensure evaluation methodologies meet standards for:

895   (a) internal validity;

896   (b) external validity;

897   (c) reliability;

898   (d) objectivity; and

899   (e) transparency.

900 (7) The state board shall ensure educational effectiveness determinations are based on:

901   (a) student learning outcomes measured through:

902   (i) standardized assessments where available and appropriate;

903   (ii) curriculum-based measures aligned with learning objectives;

904   (iii) authentic performance tasks and work samples;

905   (iv) educator professional judgment of student progress; and

906   (v) student self-assessment and metacognitive growth;

907   (b) comparison to alternatives including:

908   (i) outcomes compared to traditional instruction without artificial intelligence;

909   (ii) outcomes compared to other educational interventions or technologies;

910   (iii) cost-effectiveness relative to alternatives; and

911   (iv) value-added analysis isolating artificial intelligence contributions; and

912   (c) practical significance including:

913   (i) magnitude of achievement gains relative to investment;

914   (ii) impact on students most in need of support;

915   (iii) sustainability and scalability considerations; and

916   (iv) educator and student experience quality.

917   (8) The state board shall apply evaluation standards consistently with other educational

918   interventions or technologies.

919   (9) The Legislature may consider:

920   (a) peer review of evaluation methodologies and findings by external education

921   researchers;

922   (b) replication of successful pilots in additional settings before statewide adoption;

923   (c) cost-benefit analysis including both financial and educational outcomes;

924   (d) implementation support and training infrastructure needed for successful scaling;

925   (e) comparison to evidence for other statewide educational initiatives or adoptions; and

926   (f) stakeholder consensus or concerns about statewide implementation.

927   (10) Statewide adoption decisions are legislative determinations based on totality of

928   evidence.

929   Section 18. Section **53E-11-215** is enacted to read:

930   **53E-11-215 (Effective 07/01/26). Rulemaking.**

931   The state board may make rules in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah

932 Administrative Rulemaking Act, to implement this part, including:

933   (1) pilot application procedures and approval criteria in coordination with the office;

934   (2) educator training requirements, curricula, and delivery methods;

935   (3) vendor certification standards and registry procedures;

936   (4) age-appropriate content and interaction standards for different grade levels;

937   (5) crisis resource integration protocols with SafeUT and other services;

938   (6) student data retention, de-identification, and deletion standards;

939   (7) incident reporting procedures and timelines;

940   (8) evaluation methodologies and reporting requirements;

941   (9) enforcement procedures for violations of this part;

942   (10) minimum standards for red teaming adequacy under Section 53E-11-207; and

943   (11) other matters necessary to implement this part.

944   Section 19. Section **53E-11-216** is enacted to read:

945   **53E-11-216 (Effective 07/01/26). Education Technology Advisory Council.**

946   (1) There is created the Education Technology Advisory Council to advise the office and

947   the state board on implementation of this part.

948 (2) The advisory council consists of 11 members appointed by the governor and confirmed

949   by the Senate as follows:

950   (a) two founders or executives of state-based education technology companies;

951   (b) two K-12 educators with classroom technology integration experience, one from

952   elementary grades and one from secondary grades;

953   (c) two parents of students currently enrolled in an LEA, one representing urban

954   communities and one representing rural communities;

955   (d) one expert in student privacy and data security;

956   (e) one expert in child development or educational psychology;

957   (f) one expert in artificial intelligence technology or computer science;

958   (g) one representative from the business or investment community active in education

959   technology; and

960   (h) one at-large member with expertise relevant to the council's mission.

961 (3) A council member:

962   (a) serves a staggered four-year term;

963   (b) may serve no more than two consecutive terms;

964   (c) serves without compensation but may receive per diem and travel expenses as

965   provided in Sections 63A-3-106 and 63A-3-107;

966   (d) shall represent diverse geographic regions, demographics, and perspectives; and

967   (e) may not have conflicts of interest that would compromise the council member's

968   ability to provide independent advice.

969 (4) The governor shall appoint a chair from among the council members.

970 (5) The council shall meet at least quarterly and may meet more frequently as needed.

971 (6) The office shall provide primary staff support to the council, with assistance from the

972   state board as needed.

973 (7) The advisory council shall:

974   (a) advise the office on pilot application review processes and approval standards;

975   (b) review evaluation findings from sandbox pilots and provide recommendations to the

976   office and state board;

977   (c) identify barriers to education technology innovation and recommend solutions;

978   (d) recommend improvements to pilot approval processes;

979   (e) share best practices from successful implementations;

980   (f) advise on emerging technologies and appropriate safeguards;

981   (g) provide input on state board statewide adoption recommendations before submission

982   to the Legislature;

983   (h) review state board recommendations for compliance with evidence-based standards

984   under Section 53E-11-205;

985   (i) recommend priorities for state education technology innovation;

986   (j) facilitate connections between approved vendors and interested LEAs;

987   (k) advise the state board on rules under Section 53E-11-215 before formal rulemaking;

988   (l) review vendor red teaming documentation under confidentiality agreements as

989   provided in Subsection 53E-11-207(8)(d); and

990   (m) provide annual recommendations to the office, state board, and Legislature.

991   (8) The council's recommendations are advisory and do not bind the office, state board, or

992   Legislature.

993   (9) The council shall hold meetings subject to Title 52, Chapter 4, Open and Public

994   Meetings Act.

995   (10) The council shall maintain records subject to Title 63G, Chapter 2, Government

996   Records Access and Management Act.

997   Section 20. Section **53E-11-217** is enacted to read:

998   **53E-11-217 (Effective 07/01/26). Technical assistance for education technology**

999   **companies.**

1000   (1) As used in this section, "Utah-based company" means a company that:

1001   (a) is incorporated or organized under state law or maintains a principal place of

1002   business in the state; and

1003   (b) employs a majority of the company's workforce in state or maintains significant

1004   operations in the state.

1005   (2) The state board shall provide technical assistance for education technology innovation

1006   by:

1007   (a) publishing clear guidance documents explaining approval criteria under Section

1008   53E-11-206, compliance requirements, common pitfalls, and best practices;

1009   (b) providing example documentation and templates for sandbox pilot applications

1010   including red teaming documentation;

1011   (c) offering technical assistance to companies developing compliance documentation;

1012   (d) maintaining regular office hours for regulatory questions before application

1013   submission in coordination with the office;

1014   (e) connecting approved vendors with interested LEAs and facilitating introductions;

1015   (f) publishing case studies of successful sandbox pilots;

1016   (g) including state-based education technology companies in state education conferences

1017   and technology showcase events;

1018   (h) recognizing innovative pilots and successful implementations in state board

1019   publications and communications; and

1020   (i) coordinating with economic development agencies regarding education technology

1021   innovation.

1022   (3) The state board may provide state-based education technology companies participating

1023   in the sandbox:

1024   (a) dedicated technical assistance from state education technology specialists during

1025   application development;

1026   (b) introductions to potential pilot partner LEAs based on product focus and LEA needs;

1027   (c) inclusion in state education technology showcase events and conferences;

1028   (d) recognition in state board publications, website, and communications;

1029   (e) opportunities to present findings and best practices to the advisory council and state

1030   board; and

1031   (f) networking opportunities with other state education technology companies,

1032   educators, and investors.

1033   (4) The state board shall:

1034   (a) develop and publish criteria for Utah-based company designations;

1035   (b) establish processes for companies to demonstrate state-based status;

1036   (c) ensure support programs are administered fairly and transparently;

1037   (d) maintain data on participation by Utah-based companies in the sandbox; and

1038   (e) coordinate with the advisory council on recommendations for supporting state

1039   education technology innovation.

1040   (5) Nothing in this section:

1041   (a) creates different approval standards or safety requirements based on company

1042   location;

1043   (b) exempts any company from compliance with this part;

1044   (c) guarantees approval of any application; or

1045   (d) prevents non-state companies from participating in the sandbox on equal terms

1046   regarding safety and privacy standards.

1047   (6) An innovation LEA as defined in Section 53G-7-221 may use budget flexibility

1048   authorized under Section 53G-7-222 to support participation in sandbox pilots, subject

1049   to the requirements of that section.

1050   Section 21. Section **53E-11-218** is enacted to read:

1051   **53E-11-218 (Effective 07/01/26). Educational principles for artificial intelligence**

1052   **deployment.**

1053   (1) This section states the following principles to guide the interpretation and

1054   administration of this chapter:

1055   (a) artificial intelligence in public education should support rather than replace human

1056   teaching and learning relationships;

1057   (b) artificial intelligence should serve student learning and well-being as the primary

1058   objective;

1059   (c) artificial intelligence should operate transparently and subject to meaningful human

1060   oversight;

1061   (d) artificial intelligence should respect parental authority, student dignity, and

1062   nondiscriminatory access to education consistent with federal and state law; and

1063   (e) when artificial intelligence supports instruction in history, civics, or social studies:

1064   (i) the system shall prioritize historically accurate, period-relevant primary sources;

1065   (ii) the system shall avoid presentism in a manner consistent with academic freedom,

1066   meaning the practice of interpreting historical actors or events primarily through

1067   contemporary ideological frameworks without grounding in period-relevant

1068   evidence; and

1069   (iii) the system shall support student engagement in objective evaluation of original

1070   sources consistent with scholarly inquiry.

1071   (2) This chapter implements the principles described in Subsection (1) through:

1072   (a) preservation of educator authority over grading and instructional decisions under

1073   Section 53E-11-210;

1074   (b) parental notice, access, and opt-out rights under Section 53E-11-209;

1075   (c) student safety and crisis-response protections under Section 53E-11-208;

1076   (d) student data privacy and vendor accountability under Section 53E-11-211;

1077   (e) human review of student-impacting decisions under Section 53E-11-210; and

1078   (f) historical source integrity in history, civics, and social studies instruction under

1079   Subsection (1)(e).

1080   (3) This section provides educational principles to guide the interpretation and

1081   administration of this chapter, but does not create a legal duty or requirement beyond a

1082   duty or requirement expressly established in this chapter.

1083   (4) This section:

1084   (a) does not create an independent cause of action;

1085   (b) may not be construed to establish a standard of care for purposes of negligence,

1086   professional malpractice, or other tort liability; and

1087   (c) does not expand a duty or obligation of a sandbox participant, educator, or vendor

1088   beyond a substantive requirement established in this chapter.

1089   (5) For purposes of sandbox pilot authorization and operation, compliance with the

1090   substantive requirements of this chapter, including:

1091   (a) the approval criteria under Section 53E-11-206;

1092   (b) the safety testing requirements under Section 53E-11-207; and

1093   (c) parental rights under Section 53E-11-209.

1094   (6) Subsections (4) and (5) do not limit:

1095   (a) enforcement of a substantive requirement established in this chapter;

1096   (b) the authority of the state board to adopt a rule implementing this chapter consistent

1097   with Section 53E-11-215; or

1098   (c) the authority of the Legislature to enact legislation addressing the use of artificial

1099   intelligence in public education.

1100   Section 22. Section **63I-1-253** is amended to read:

1101   **63I-1-253 (Effective 07/01/26). Repeal dates: Titles 53 through 53G.**

1102   (1) Section 53-1-122, Road Rage Awareness and Prevention Restricted Account, is

1103   repealed July 1, 2028.

1104   (2) Section 53-2a-105, Emergency Management Administration Council created --

1105   Function -- Composition -- Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.

1106   (3) Section 53-2a-1103, Search and Rescue Advisory Board -- Members -- Compensation,

1107   is repealed July 1, 2030.

1108   (4) Section 53-2a-1104, General duties of the Search and Rescue Advisory Board, is

1109   repealed July 1, 2027.

1110   (5) Title 53, Chapter 2a, Part 15, Grid Resilience Committee, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1111   (6) Section 53-2d-104, State Emergency Medical Services Committee -- Membership --

1112   Expenses, is repealed July 1, 2029.

1113   (7) Section 53-2d-503, Establishment of maximum rates, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1114   (8) Section 53-5a-302, Concealed Firearm Review Board -- Membership -- Compensation

1115   -- Terms -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2029.

1116   (9) Section 53-11-104, Board, is repealed July 1, 2029.

1117   (10) Title 53, Chapter 31, Department Interaction With Local Law Enforcement, is repealed

1118   July 1, 2027.

1119   (11) Subsection 53C-3-203(4)(b)(vii), regarding the distribution of money from the Land

1120   Exchange Distribution Account to the Geological Survey for test wells and other

1121   hydrologic studies in the West Desert, is repealed July 1, 2030.

1122   (12) Subsection 53E-1-201(1)(q), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections Council,

1123   is repealed July 1, 2027.

1124   (13) Subsection 53E-2-304(6), regarding foreclosing a private right of action or waiver of

1125   governmental immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1126   (14) Subsection 53E-3-503(5), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is

1127   repealed July 1, 2027.

1128   (15) Subsection 53E-3-503(6), regarding coordinating councils for youth in care, is

1129   repealed July 1, 2027.

1130   (16) Subsection 53E-4-202(8)(b), regarding a standards review committee, is repealed

1131   January 1, 2028.

1132   (17) Section 53E-4-203, Standards review committee, is repealed January 1, 2028.

1133   (18) Title 53E, Chapter 6, Part 5, Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission, is

1134   repealed July 1, 2033.

1135   (19) Subsection 53E-7-207(7), regarding a private right of action or waiver of governmental

1136   immunity, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1137   (20) Title 53E, Chapter 11, Part 2, Artificial Intelligence Regulatory Sandbox, is repealed

1138   July 1, 2031.

1139   [(20)] (21) Section 53F-5-215, Elementary teacher preparation assessment grant, is repealed

1140   July 1, 2028.

1141   [(21)] (22) Section 53F-5-219, Local Innovations Civics Education Pilot Program, is

1142   repealed July 1, 2026.

1143   [(22)] (23) Title 53F, Chapter 10, Part 2, Capital Projects Evaluation Panel, is repealed July

1144   1, 2027.

1145   [(23)] (24) Subsection 53G-4-608(2)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is

1146   repealed January 1, 2025.

1147   [(24)] (25) Subsection 53G-4-608(4)(b), regarding the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, is

1148   repealed January 1, 2025.

1149   [(25)] (26) Section 53G-9-212, Drinking water quality in schools, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1150   [(26)] (27) Subsection 53G-9-703(4), regarding the parental video presentation concerning

1151   student use of technology, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1152   [(27)] (28) Subsection 53H-1-402(1)(j), regarding the Higher Education and Corrections

1153   Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1154   [(28)] (29) Section 53H-1-604, Higher Education and Corrections Council, is repealed July

1155   1, 2027.

1156   [(29)] (30) Subsection 53H-4-210(3), regarding the creation of the SafeUT and School

1157   Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1158   [(30)] (31) Subsection 53H-4-210(4), regarding the appointment of the members of the

1159   SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1160   [(31)] (32) Subsection 53H-4-210(5), regarding the attorney general designating the chair of

1161   the SafeUT and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1162   [(32)] (33) Subsection 53H-4-210(6), regarding the quorum requirements of the SafeUT and

1163   School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1164   [(33)] (34) Subsection 53H-4-210(7), regarding a formal action of the SafeUT and School

1165   Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1166   [(34)] (35) Subsection 53H-4-210(8), regarding compensation for members of the SafeUT

1167   and School Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1168   [(35)] (36) Subsection 53H-4-210(9), regarding the support staff for the SafeUT and School

1169   Safety Commission, is repealed January 1, 2030.

1170   [(36)] (37) Section 53H-4-306.1, Definitions -- Electrification of Transportation

1171   Infrastructure Research Center, is repealed July 1, 2028.

1172   [(37)] (38) Section 53H-4-306.2, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research

1173   Center -- Designation -- Duties, is repealed July 1, 2028.

1174   [(38)] (39) Section 53H-4-306.3, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research

1175   Center -- Steering committee, is repealed July 1, 2028.

1176   [(39)] (40) Section 53H-4-306.4, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research

1177   Center -- Industry advisory board, is repealed July 1, 2028.

1178   [(40)] (41) Section 53H-4-306.5, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research

1179   Center -- Duties of the project director, is repealed July 1, 2028.

1180   [(41)] (42) Section 53H-4-306.6, Electrification of Transportation Infrastructure Research

1181   Center -- Project development and strategic objectives -- Reporting requirements, is

1182   repealed July 1, 2028.

1183   [(42)] (43) Section 53H-4-307.1, Center for Civic Excellence, is repealed July 1, 2030.

1184   [(43)] (44) Section 53H-4-307.2, Center for Civic Excellence -- Duties -- Authority, is

1185   repealed July 1, 2030.

1186   [(44)] (45) Section 53H-4-307.3, Center for Civic Excellence -- Leadership, is repealed July

1187   1, 2030.

1188   [(45)] (46) Section 53H-4-307.4, Center for Civic Excellence -- Faculty, is repealed July 1,

1189   2030.

1190   [(46)] (47) Section 53H-4-307.5, Center for Civic Excellence -- Curriculum, is repealed July

1191   1, 2030.

1192   [(47)] (48) Section 53H-4-307.6, Center for Civic Excellence -- Oversight -- Reporting, is

1193   repealed July 1, 2030.

1194   [(48)] (49) Section 53H-4-313, Food Security Council, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1195   [(49)] (50) Section 53H-8-305, Five-year performance goals, is repealed July 1, 2027.

1196   [(50)] (51) Title 53H, Chapter 10, Part 4, Education Savings Incentive Program, is repealed

1197   July 1, 2028.

1198   Section 23. **Effective Date.**

1199   This bill takes effect on July 1, 2026.