



## SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 19, 2026

**Contact:** Elizabeth Cronen, [elizabeth.cronen@oregonlegislature.gov](mailto:elizabeth.cronen@oregonlegislature.gov)

### **New Protections for Chat Bot Users Pass Oregon Senate**

*Senate Bill 1546 safeguards mental health against rapidly developing technology*

**SALEM, OR** – Oregon is one step closer to protecting people against the mental health risks of AI programs that mimic personal conversations.

“This measure improves the health and safety of all Oregonians—especially our youngest constituents—all at no cost to the state,” said **Senator Lisa Reynolds, M.D. (D – Portland)**.

Senate Bill 1546 requires that AI chatbot platforms develop and use safe responses—such as referral to crisis hotlines like 988—with chatbot users who express ideas of suicide or self-harm. The measure also requires the platforms to clearly notify users that its output is artificially generated.

The bill has additional protections for minors using the platforms. Those include preventing chatbots from generating age-inappropriate content, requiring regular reminders users should take breaks from chatbot interactions, and banning chatbot rewards or affirmations that maximize a user’s time using the programs.

The bill passed with wide bipartisan support in a vote of 26 to 1. Senate Bill 1546 now moves to the Oregon House of Representatives.

###