

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1184

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARLSON

PUBLIC CONTRACTS: Prohibits public contracts with entities owned or controlled by foreign adversaries for the provision of artificial intelligence technology

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 39:199.1 and to enact R.S. 17:351.1(F), Subpart A of Part I of
3 Chapter 4 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of
4 R.S. 17:1421, and 3393(A)(2)(d)(iii), R.S. 24:38.1, R.S. 38:2216.2, and R.S.
5 39:200.1 and 1602.3 relative to public contracts; to prohibit contracts by certain
6 public entities for certain technology services or products unless certain conditions
7 are met; to provide for definitions; to provide for exceptions; to provide for an
8 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:351.1(F), Subpart A of Part I of Chapter 4 of Title 17 of the
11 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 17:1421, and 3393(A)(2)(d)(iii) are
12 hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §351.1. Textbooks and other instructional materials; review; adoption; procurement;
14 distribution

15 * * *

16 F.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, on and after July
17 1, 2027, no contract that procures artificial intelligence technology, software, or
18 products or includes products or services utilizing artificial intelligence technology,
19 software, or products shall be executed unless the vendor provides an affidavit

1 signed by an authorized representative attesting that the vendor meets all of the
2 following criteria:

3 (a) The vendor is not owned by a foreign country of concern.

4 (b) No foreign country of concern has a controlling interest in the vendor.

5 (c) The vendor is not organized under the laws of a foreign country of
6 concern.

7 (d) The vendor does not have its principal place of business in a foreign
8 country of concern.

9 (2) For the purposes of this Subsection, the following terms shall have the
10 following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

11 (a) "Artificial intelligence" means a machine-based system that can, for a
12 given set of human-defined objectives, make predictions, recommendations, or
13 decisions influencing real or virtual environments.

14 (b) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's Republic of China, the
15 Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic
16 of Korea, or the Republic of Cuba. The term shall include any agency of one of
17 these countries and any entity under the control of one of these countries.

18 * * *

19 SUBPART A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

20 §1421. Higher Education Procurement Code; prohibitions

21 A. As used in this Section, the following terms shall have the following
22 meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

23 (1) "Artificial intelligence" means a machine-based system that can, for a
24 given set of human-defined objectives, make predictions, recommendations, or
25 decisions influencing real or virtual environments.

26 (2) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's Republic of China, the
27 Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic
28 of Korea, or the Republic of Cuba. The term shall include any agency of one of
29 these countries and any entity under the control of one of these countries.

1 technology, software, or products unless the vendor provides an affidavit signed by
2 an authorized representative attesting that the vendor meets all of the following
3 criteria:

- 4 (1) The vendor is not owned by a foreign country of concern.
- 5 (2) No foreign country of concern has a controlling interest in the vendor.
- 6 (3) The vendor is not organized under the laws of a foreign country of
7 concern.
- 8 (4) The vendor does not have its principal place of business in a foreign
9 country of concern.

10 Section 3. R.S. 38:2216.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §2216.2. Artificial intelligence; prohibited contracts with foreign countries of
12 concern

13 A. As used in this Section, the following terms shall have the following
14 meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 (1) "Artificial intelligence" means a machine-based system that can, for a
16 given set of human-defined objectives, make predictions, recommendations, or
17 decisions influencing real or virtual environments.

18 (2) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's Republic of China, the
19 Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic
20 of Korea, or the Republic of Cuba. The term shall include any agency of one of
21 these countries and any entity under the control of one of these countries.

22 B. On and after July 1, 2027, a public entity shall not enter into or extend a
23 contract for artificial intelligence technology, software, or products or includes
24 products or services utilizing artificial intelligence technology, software, or products
25 unless the contractor provides an affidavit signed by an authorized representative
26 attesting that the contractor meets all of the following criteria:

- 27 (1) The contractor is not owned by a foreign country of concern.
- 28 (2) No foreign country of concern has a controlling interest in the contractor.

1 (2) "Foreign country of concern" means the People's Republic of China, the
2 Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic
3 of Korea, or the Republic of Cuba. The term shall include any agency of one of
4 these countries and any entity under the control of one of these countries.

5 B. On and after July 1, 2027, no governmental body or governmental entity
6 shall procure artificial intelligence technology, software, or products or supplies or
7 services that utilize artificial intelligence technology, software, or products unless
8 the vendor provides an affidavit signed by an authorized representative attesting that
9 the vendor meets all of the following criteria:

10 (1) The vendor is not owned by a foreign country of concern.

11 (2) No foreign country of concern has a controlling interest in the vendor.

12 (3) The vendor is not organized under the laws of a foreign country of
13 concern.

14 (4) The vendor does not have its principal place of business in a foreign
15 country of concern.

16 Section 5. The provisions of this Section shall become effective July 1, 2027.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 1184 Original

2026 Regular Session

Carlson

Abstract: Prohibits state and local entities from entering into public contracts to obtain or utilize artificial intelligence ("AI") technology, software, or products from vendors headquartered in or controlled by foreign countries of concern.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Present law (R.S. 17:351.1) requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to establish a process for the review, adoption, procurement, and distribution of free textbooks and other instructional materials, which are supplied without charge to children at the elementary and secondary education levels. Such purchases are exempt from the La. Procurement Code (R.S. 39:1572). Present law further authorizes each public school and school district to purchase other instructional materials.

Proposed law restricts the authority of a public entity purchasing textbooks and other instructional materials to enter into or extend a contract on or after July 1, 2027, that provides AI technology, software, or products or includes products or services utilizing AI

technology, software, or products unless the contractor provides an affidavit signed by an authorized representative attesting that the contractor meets all of the following criteria:

- (1) The contractor is not owned by a foreign country of concern.
- (2) No foreign country of concern has a controlling interest in the contractor.
- (3) The contractor is not organized under the laws of a foreign country of concern.
- (4) The contractor does not have its principal place of business in a foreign country of concern.

Proposed law defines "foreign country of concern" as the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or the Republic of Cuba and includes any agency of one of these countries and any entity under the control of one of these countries.

HIGHER EDUCATION PROCUREMENT

Present law (R.S. 3195.5) establishes the higher education procurement code as established by La. State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College (LSU) and approved by the division of administration. Proposed law (R.S. 17:1421 and 3393) place the same restriction on procurement of AI technology, software, or products or supplies and services utilizing AI technology, software, or products pursuant under the higher education procurement code as placed on elementary and secondary instructional materials.

PUBLIC BID LAW

Present law (Title 38) establishes the Public Bid Law to govern generally the letting of contracts for:

- (1) The erection, construction, alteration, improvement, or repair of any public facility or land owned, used, or leased by a public entity.
- (2) Contracts for goods or services by political subdivisions.

Proposed law places the same restriction on procurement of AI technology, software, or products or supplies and services utilizing AI technology, software, or products as placed on elementary and secondary instructional materials.

STATE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) PROCUREMENT

Present law (Title 39) establishes special procurement mechanisms for all state agencies in the executive branch, except those of a statewide elected official, for the purchase, lease, and rental of IT equipment, related services, and software.

Proposed law requires application of La. Procurement Code restrictions on certain AI contracts to any procurement made pursuant to present law for IT equipment, related services, and software.

LA. PROCUREMENT CODE

Present law (Title 39) establishes the La. Procurement Code to govern buying, purchasing, renting, leasing, or otherwise obtaining supplies, services, or major repairs by any "governmental body" (an entity or official of the executive branch of state government) and any political subdivision that elects to utilize the La. Procurement Code.

Proposed law places the same restriction on procurement of AI technology, software, or products or supplies and services utilizing AI technology, software, or products as placed on elementary and secondary instructional materials.

LEGISLATIVE PROCUREMENT

Present law (Title 24) provides laws for the general operation and management of the entities that comprise the legislative branch of government (House, Senate, Legislative Auditor, Legislative Fiscal Office, La. Law Institute, etc.).

Proposed law places the same restriction on the legislature regarding procurement of AI technology, software, or products or supplies and services utilizing AI technology, software, or products as proposed law places on the executive branch and local governments.

(Amends R.S. 39:199.1; Adds R.S. 17:351.1(F), 1421, and 3393(A)(2)(d)(iii), R.S. 24:38.1, R.S. 38:2216.2, and R.S. 39:200.1 and 1602.3)