

Illinois' AI Safety Measures Act reflects the growing patchwork of state-level AI regulations

Digital Health

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Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker signed the [Artificial Intelligence Safety Measures Act](#) into law on July 6, 2026. The legislation requires developers of frontier AI models to develop and publish a transparency framework describing how they apply recognized industry standards, evaluate model capabilities, and assess and mitigate risks of catastrophic harm to individuals and the public.

The Illinois measure builds on transparency and accountability requirements included in California's [the Transparency in Frontier Artificial Intelligence Act](#) and New York's [the Responsible AI Safety and Education \(RAISE\) Act](#), both enacted in late 2025. Like those laws, the Illinois framework imposes a range of obligations on developers of frontier models, including the publication of transparency reports and AI safety frameworks, incident reporting requirements, implementation of cybersecurity safeguards, and processes for identifying and responding to critical safety incidents.

The new law also includes, for the first time, a requirement that large frontier model developers undergo annual independent third-party audits evaluating model risks, safety controls, and mitigation measures. These audits must be conducted in accordance with accepted auditing standards and recognized industry best practices, signaling a shift from voluntary commitments toward more formal oversight and accountability mechanisms.

As transparency and accountability continue to emerge as central pillars of AI governance, particularly in healthcare, these disclosure and audit requirements may provide healthcare organizations with valuable information to support the assessment, procurement, monitoring, and governance of AI-enabled tools that incorporate frontier models. More broadly, the enactment of this law underscores the increasingly complex compliance landscape facing AI developers and deployers as states continue to advance AI-specific regulatory frameworks while federal lawmakers debate the appropriate scope and structure of national AI regulation. The result is a growing patchwork of state requirements that may create additional compliance, governance, and operational challenges for organizations deploying AI systems.