

HB 1124 - AS INTRODUCED

2026 SESSION

26-2382

06/07

HOUSE BILL **1124**

AN ACT relative to the right to compute.

SPONSORS: Rep. Ammon, Hills. 42; Rep. Corcoran, Hills. 28; Rep. Notter, Hills. 12; Rep. Peternel, Carr. 6; Rep. Sheehan, Hills. 43

COMMITTEE: Commerce and Consumer Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes the right to compute act.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough.]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Six

AN ACT relative to the right to compute.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 New Chapter; Right to Compute Act. Amend RSA by inserting after chapter 507-I the
2 following new chapter:

3 CHAPTER 507-J

4 RIGHT TO COMPUTE ACT

5 507-J:1 Short Title; Purpose.

6 I. This chapter may be cited as the "Right to Compute Act."

7 II. The general court finds that the rights to acquire, possess, and protect property under
8 part I, article 2 and article 12-a; the rights to free expression under part I, articles 22 and 30; and
9 the right to privacy under part I, article 2-b of the New Hampshire constitution, also embody a
10 fundamental right to own and make use of technological tools, including computational resources.
11 Any restriction placed by a government entity on the ability to privately own or make use of
12 computational resources for lawful purposes shall be limited to those demonstrably necessary and
13 narrowly tailored to fulfill a compelling government interest.

14 507-J:2 Right to Compute.

15 I. No government entity shall restrict the ability to privately own or make use of
16 computational resources for lawful purposes, or otherwise infringe upon a person's rights to
17 property, free expression, or privacy regarding such resources, except as demonstrably necessary and
18 narrowly tailored to fulfill a compelling government interest.

19 II. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to preempt applicable federal law.

20 507-J:3 Definitions. In this chapter:

21 I. "Compelling government interest" means a government interest of the highest order in
22 protecting the public that cannot be achieved through less restrictive means. Such interest includes,
23 but is not limited to:

24 (a) Ensuring that a critical infrastructure facility controlled by an artificial intelligence
25 system develops a risk management policy.

26 (b) Addressing conduct that deceives or defrauds the public.

27 (c) Protecting individuals, especially minors, from harm by a person who distributes
28 deepfakes or other harmful synthetic content with actual knowledge of the nature of that material.

29 (d) Taking actions to prevent or abate common law nuisances created by physical
30 datacenter infrastructure.

1 II. “Computational resources” means any tool, technology, system, or infrastructure,
2 whether digital, analog, existing, or otherwise, that facilitates computation, data processing, storage,
3 transmission, manipulation, control, creation, dissemination, or use of information and data. This
4 includes, but is not limited to, hardware, software, networks, protocols, platforms, services, systems,
5 cryptography, algorithms, sensors, machine learning, and quantum applications.

6 III. “Government action” means any law, ordinance, regulation, rule, policy, condition, test,
7 permit, or administrative practice enacted by a government entity that restricts the common or
8 intended use of computational resources by their owner or invitees.

9 IV. “Government entity” means the state or any county, city, town, political subdivision,
10 branch, department, division, office, or entity of state or local government.

11 507-J:4 Severability. If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or
12 circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this
13 chapter that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application. The provisions of this
14 chapter shall be severable.

15 507-J:5 Preservation of Intellectual Property. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to
16 alter, diminish, or interfere with the rights and remedies available under federal or state intellectual
17 property laws, including but not limited to patent, copyright, trademark, and trade secret laws.

18 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.