



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 499

February Session, 2026

Senate Bill No. 417

Senate, April 8, 2026

The Committee on Commerce reported through SEN. HARTLEY of the 15th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO ESTABLISH AN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) As used in this section, "artificial
2 intelligence" means a machine-based system that makes predictions,
3 recommendations or decisions influencing real or virtual environments
4 and "artificial intelligence technology" means a computer system,
5 application or other product that uses or incorporates one or more forms
6 of artificial intelligence.

7 (b) The Department of Economic and Community Development shall
8 develop a plan to establish an artificial intelligence small business
9 program for the purpose of (1) incentivizing small businesses to adopt
10 and deploy artificial intelligence for purposes of achieving
11 improvements in productivity and the quality of any products or
12 services offered by such small businesses, and (2) establishing a
13 competitive small business environment for the development and

14 deployment of artificial intelligence technologies.

15 (c) Not later than January 1, 2027, the Department of Economic and
16 Community Development shall report on such plan, including any
17 recommendations for legislative action required to implement such
18 plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
19 statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly
20 having cognizance of matters relating to commerce.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

CE *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Department of Economic & Community Development	GF - Cost	Up to 150,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in a one-time cost of up to \$150,000 in FY 27 only by requiring the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to develop a plan to establish an artificial intelligence small business program. In order to complete this plan by January 1, 2027, DECD will require consulting services which are anticipated to cost up to \$150,000.

The Out Years

The fiscal impact noted above occurs in FY 27 only.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 417

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SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Commerce Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/24/2026)