

Second Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-0109.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

HOUSE BILL 24-1058

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Kipp and Soper,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Baisley and Priola,

House Committees
Judiciary

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING PROTECTING THE PRIVACY OF INDIVIDUALS' BIOLOGICAL
102 DATA, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, PROTECTING THE
103 PRIVACY OF NEURAL DATA AND EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE
104 "COLORADO PRIVACY ACT" ACCORDINGLY.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

In 2021, the general assembly enacted Senate Bill 21-190, which established the "Colorado Privacy Act" (privacy act) as part of the "Colorado Consumer Protection Act". The privacy act protects the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

privacy of individuals' personal data by establishing certain requirements for entities that process personal data. The privacy act also describes certain rights that consumers may exercise regarding the processing of their personal data. The privacy act includes additional protections for sensitive data.

For the purposes of the privacy act, the bill expands the definition of "sensitive data" to include biological data, which is data that provides a characterization of the biological, genetic, biochemical, or physiological properties, compositions, or activities of an individual's body or bodily functions. Biological data includes neural data, which is information that concerns the activity of an individual's central nervous system or peripheral nervous systems, including the brain and spinal cord, and that can be processed by or with the assistance of a device.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
3 finds and declares that:

4 (a) The people of Colorado regard their privacy as a fundamental
5 right and an essential element of individual freedom; and

6 (b) Section 7 of article II of the state constitution protects
7 individuals' privacy, and fundamental privacy rights have long been, and
8 continue to be, integral to protecting Coloradans.

9 (2) The general assembly further finds that:

10 (a) Ongoing advances in technology have produced exponential
11 growth in the volume and variety of personal data being generated,
12 collected, stored, and analyzed, and these advances present both great
13 promise and potential risks;

14 (b) Technology that collects data about the user's bodily and
15 mental functions are transforming the volume and sensitivity of personal
16 data collected from individuals and stored by companies;

17 (c) Neurotechnologies, including devices capable of recording,
18 interpreting, or altering the response of an individual's central or

1 peripheral nervous system to its internal or external environment, raise
2 particularly pressing privacy concerns given their ability to monitor,
3 decode, and manipulate brain activity;

4 (d) Data concerning the activity of the human brain and wider
5 nervous systems, or "neural data", is extremely sensitive and can reveal
6 intimate information about individuals, including information about
7 health, mental states, emotions, and cognitive functioning;

8 (e) Every human brain is unique, meaning that neural data is
9 specific to the individual from whom it was collected. Because neural
10 data contains distinctive information about the structure and functioning
11 of individual brains and nervous systems, it always contains sensitive
12 information that may link the data to an identified or identifiable
13 individual.

14 (f) The collection of neural data always involves involuntary
15 disclosure of information. Even if individuals consent to the collection
16 and processing of their data for a narrow use, they are unlikely to be fully
17 aware of the content or quantity of information they are sharing.

18 (g) Neurotechnology users cannot decide what specific neural
19 information they would like to disclose, and they are unlikely to
20 understand the extent to which their neural data can be decoded, currently
21 or in the future. Neurotechnologies can even collect and process
22 information about an individual that the individual did not even know
23 existed.

24 (h) Neurotechnologies are no longer confined to the realms of
25 research and rehabilitation. Devices that were once used only in labs and
26 hospitals are increasingly available to consumers around the world,
27 including in Colorado. This development brings both exciting promises

1 of innovation and economic growth as well as new risks regarding the
2 collection, storage, and disclosure of highly sensitive data.

3 (i) Neurotechnologies that are deployed in medical settings or
4 otherwise utilize the surgical implantation of invasive devices are
5 typically regulated as medical tools that produce health information. Both
6 invasive and noninvasive wearable neurotechnologies used in medical
7 settings are also regulated by health data privacy laws. However, when
8 noninvasive neurotechnologies are used outside of medical settings, they
9 are generally considered consumer products and operate without
10 regulation or data protection standards.

11 (3) The general assembly further finds that:

12 (a) In 2021, the general assembly enacted Senate Bill 21-190,
13 which established the "Colorado Privacy Act" as part of the "Colorado
14 Consumer Protection Act"; and

15 (b) The "Colorado Privacy Act" protects the privacy of consumers
16 by establishing specific requirements for entities that process consumers'
17 personal data. The "Colorado Privacy Act" also describes certain rights
18 that consumers may exercise regarding the processing of their personal
19 data and includes heightened protections for collected data about bodily
20 or mental functions.

21 (4) Therefore, the general assembly determines that it is necessary
22 and appropriate to expand the definition in the "Colorado Privacy Act" of
23 "sensitive data" to include:

24 (a) "Biological data", which is data that provides a
25 characterization of the biological, genetic, biochemical, physiological, or
26 neural properties, compositions, or activities of an individual's body or
27 bodily functions; and

1 (b) "Neural data", which is data that concerns the activity of an
2 individual's central or peripheral nervous systems, including the brain and
3 spinal cord, and that can be processed by or with the assistance of a
4 device.

5 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-1-1303, **amend**
6 (24)(b) and (24)(c); and **add** (2.5), (16.7), and (24)(d) as follows:

7 **6-1-1303. Definitions.** As used in this part 13, unless the context
8 otherwise requires:

9 (2.5) "BIOLOGICAL DATA" MEANS DATA THAT PROVIDES A
10 CHARACTERIZATION OF THE BIOLOGICAL, GENETIC, BIOCHEMICAL,
11 PHYSIOLOGICAL, OR NEURAL PROPERTIES, COMPOSITIONS, OR ACTIVITIES
12 OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S BODY OR BODILY FUNCTIONS. "BIOLOGICAL DATA"
13 INCLUDES NEURAL DATA.

14 (16.7) "NEURAL DATA" MEANS INFORMATION THAT CONCERNS THE
15 ACTIVITY OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM OR PERIPHERAL
16 NERVOUS SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THE BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD, AND THAT
17 CAN BE PROCESSED BY OR WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A DEVICE.

18 (24) "Sensitive data" means:

19 (b) Genetic or biometric data that may be processed for the
20 purpose of uniquely identifying an individual; ~~or~~

21 (c) Personal data from a known child; OR

22 (d) BIOLOGICAL DATA.

23 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date -**
24 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following
25 the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the
26 general assembly; except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant
27 to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an

1 item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item,
2 section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
3 general election to be held in November 2024 and, in such case, will take
4 effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the
5 governor.

6 (2) This act applies to the processing of a consumer's sensitive
7 data on or after the effective date of this act.