

State of Tennessee

Charter

for

The Tennessee Artificial Intelligence (AI) Advisory Council



2-24-2026



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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this charter is to outline the roles, responsibilities, and governance structure of the Tennessee Artificial Intelligence (AI) Advisory Council. Throughout the remainder of this document the Tennessee AI Advisory Council shall be referred to as the Council. The Council is co-chaired by the Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration and the State Chief Information Officer. The Council will establish subcommittees and working groups as it deems necessary.

MISSION

During 2026, the Tennessee Artificial Intelligence (AI) Advisory Council will develop and advance recommendations designed to ensure that Tennessee thrives during the rapid expansion of artificial intelligence technologies and emerges as a national leader in responsible use, effective governance, and broad-based economic impact of artificial intelligence.

SCOPE

The collective responsibilities of the Council are to develop recommendations to the Governor, the Governor's Cabinet, and the Legislature regarding the organizational structure, governance, policies, and responsibilities for the coordinated use of Artificial Intelligence within the State of Tennessee.

The Council has six primary areas of focus. By the end of calendar year 2026, the Council should be able to credibly demonstrate that:

1. Tennessee understands where artificial intelligence presents the greatest economic risks and opportunities to the state.
2. State leadership has clear policy and investment options related to artificial intelligence.
3. State and local government entities have practical guidance for adopting and using artificial intelligence safely, securely, efficiently, and ethically.
4. Workforce strategies related to artificial intelligence are targeted, sector-specific, and actionable.
5. Tennessee is viewed externally as a state that is welcoming to artificial intelligence innovation while maintaining strong standards for responsibility, transparency, and public accountability.
6. Tennessee moves from ad hoc artificial intelligence guidance to a coherent, age-appropriate, and practical artificial intelligence education strategy across K–12 education, postsecondary institutions, and workforce-aligned learning programs.

COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Council will establish artificial intelligence priorities for the State of Tennessee, recommend best practices, and review and advise on the State of Tennessee AI Action Plan.

Description: Executive leadership for the State of Tennessee AI Advisory Council.

Responsibilities:

- Establish AI priorities for the State and the Council
- Recommend AI best practices for the State
- Review and advise on State of Tennessee AI Roadmap

Council Chair: The Council shall be co-chaired by the Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration(F&A) and the State Chief Information Officer, Strategic Technology Solutions(STS). The co-chairs shall have full voting privileges within the Council.

Voting Members*:

- Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration, or designee
- State Chief Information Officer, or designee
- Governor’s Chief Operating Officer, or designee
- Commissioner of the Department of Commerce and Insurance, or designee
- Commissioner of the Department of Economic and Community Development, or designee
- Commissioner of the Department of Education, or designee
- Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources, or designee
- Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development, or designee
- Commissioner of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, or designee
- State Attorney General & Reporter, or designee
- Chairs of House Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, or designee
- Chair of Senate Finance, Ways, and Means Committee, or designee
- Chairs of House Commerce and Labor Committee, or designee
- Chair of Senate Commerce and Labor Committee, or designee
- Director of the Office of Legislative Information Systems, or designee
- Legislative Member – House Representatives (appointed by the Speaker of the House)

- Legislative Member – Senate Representatives (appointed by the Lieutenant Governor)
- Seven members (appointed by the Governor) who may have an interest in or be experienced in,
 - Local Government
 - Higher Education
 - Workforce Development
 - A business in the state likely to be impacted by AI
 - An AI developer or expert
 - An academic expert with a concentration in Technology Policy
 - A representative from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI)
- * *Members may appoint one designated voting member, but designees must be of appropriate level of authorization within their respective organization, such as a Department Head. All designees must be approved by the Co-Chairs in writing.*

Advisory Members: The Council has several advisory members on staff who provide ongoing support to the Council. Additional advisory members may be added as needed at the request of the Chairs or at the request of a member for a specific subcommittee based on their subject matter expertise and are expected to uphold this Charter.

- Department of Finance and Administration (F&A), Communications Director
- Strategic Technology Solutions (STS), General Counsel
- Strategic Technology Solutions (STS), Chief Technology Officer
- Strategic Technology Solutions (STS), Director of Artificial Intelligence

Staff: The State’s central IT organization, STS, will serve as staff to the Council. All state departments and agencies shall cooperate with the advisory council in carrying out its duties and shall provide support or other assistance as reasonably requested. External Members shall provide support deemed necessary as it relates to their area of expertise.

MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

Within this section and unless otherwise denoted, the term Member shall refer to members of the Council.

Membership Requirements:

- Council to meet at least quarterly.
- Members are designated by role, and they retain their membership as long as they are in good standing as employees or representatives of their respective organizations.
- Successors and delegates must be approved by the chair(s).
- Voting Members may be added with formal vote and approval by existing members.
- Members serve at the pleasure of the chair(s) and may be dismissed at any time at the discretion of the chair(s) and with the Council's approval.
- Members may receive sensitive security briefings and must maintain a strict need to know approach when communicating information with non-Members.
- As appropriate, Members are responsible for notifying and seeking approval from their employer to participate within the Council.
- All Members shall attend 2/3 of all scheduled meetings in order to remain in good standing. Members failing to meet this requirement will be reviewed by the chair(s) and may be removed by the appointing authority.
- Members who wish to withdraw their membership may do so at any time by submitting a written request to the chair(s).
- The Council must have a quorum of greater than 50% of members to conduct voting.
- Votes may be cast during meetings or by official electronic request from a Co-Chair; Members who cannot attend meetings may have a pre-approved proxy vote on their behalf.
- The vote of a majority of the Members present (or represented by a designee) at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Council.
- Each Voting Member may provide in writing up to two (2) designees with full voting rights to represent them in a meeting upon their absence. These designees are subject to the review and approval of the chair(s).
- Votes will take place to approve any and all action taken by the council, including but not limited to approval of resource requirements, subcommittees, recommendations, status reports, and the final report.

FOUR YEAR ROADMAP OF COUNCIL

This section provides the high-level goals for the first four years of the Council.

Council Activities
This section provides the high-level goals for the first four years of the Council. • Council ○ Review and approve charter and governance of council activities; ○ Develop subcommittees for each focus area; ○ Develop information sharing strategy and channel(s); ○ Provide guidance to the Governor, executive branch, and legislature about ongoing development and emerging trends in artificial intelligence; ○ Provide regular updates and transparency on the work performed by the Council; ○ Review and approve State of Tennessee AI Action Plan; ○ Develop status reports and final report. • Subcommittees: ○ Infrastructure and Governance Subcommittee Mission: Assess and advise on infrastructure governance capabilities required for the responsible development, deployment, and oversight of artificial intelligence across state and local governments. • Establish secure, scalable, and interoperable AI infrastructure and governance standards. • Establish best practices and use cases for responsible AI adoption across state and local governments. • Recommend risk, compliance, and transparency guidelines. ○ Labor and Workforce Subcommittee Mission: Evaluate the current and projected impacts of artificial intelligence on Tennessee’s workforce, labor markets, and key industries and inform strategies to support workers and employers. • Identify key workforce sectors where job loss is threatened by AI and develop strategies for helping those Tennesseans impacted.

- Identify key workforce sectors where AI will become a part of the job description and develop strategies for upskilling these workers to meet the challenge.
- Identify key workforce sectors that will emerge because of AI and develop strategies to train Tennessee workers to excel in these jobs.
- Develop and implement a statewide AI transition scenario testing framework to assess potential high-impact workforce displacement, increased demand for social services, and revenue volatility resulting from large-scale AI adoption.

○ **Education Subcommittee**

Mission: Examine how artificial intelligence affects learning, instruction, and talent development across K–12, postsecondary, and workforce-aligned training programs.

- Compile and make recommendations associated with k-12 and higher education instruction in artificial intelligence.
- Provide guidance to school systems on AI use in a classroom setting.
- Create professional development pathways to equip teachers and faculty with practical AI tools while aligning postsecondary programs with emerging AI-driven workforce needs.
- Develop clear standards for evaluating AI tools used in educational settings, including student data protection, vendor transparency, accessibility, and cybersecurity requirements.
- Establish statewide guidelines for student and faculty AI use, including academic integrity policies, assessment redesign strategies, and ethical AI use expectations.
- Develop age-appropriate AI literacy standards for K-12 and guidance for responsible AI integration in higher education curricula, including educator training frameworks.

○ **Policy Subcommittee**

Mission: Provide guidance on legal, regulatory, and policy considerations related to artificial intelligence and advise on responsible and ethical use.

- Track both federal and state legislation, as well as regulations surrounding AI. This subcommittee will act as a policy advisor to both the executive branch and legislature.

○ **Emerging Trends Subcommittee**

Mission: Monitor and assess significant developments in artificial intelligence and serve as the Council’s rapid-response capability for vendor risk events, emergent model behaviors, and urgent changes in federal or state guidance on policy.

- This subcommittee will act as quick reaction subcommittee that meets regularly and can begin researching relevant emerging trends associated with AI and will report to the full Council on an ad hoc basis in coordination within the scope or outside of the scope of other subcommittees.
- **Action Plan**
This subcommittee will compile recommendations and reports from all subcommittees with the responsibility of developing updates and reporting to the General Assembly calendar years 2026 and 2027, as well as the final report and action plan due December 31, 2028.

Statutory Requirements

- Submit Status report to General Assembly on Council activities and progress by May 1st, 2025 (For first year only)
- Annual report each year by December 31st (2025 – 2027) on activities of the Council and how they are addressing, including but not limited to:
 - 1) The current state of AI and its likely impact on this state's labor market conditions;
 - 2) How the labor market impact might reshape this state's key industries, occupations, and foundational skill
 - 3) Ises;
 - 4) Initiatives to stimulate economic growth, create jobs, and enhance talent development in the face of AI-related changes;
 - 5) Recommend legal regulations or policy changes needed to ensure the responsible and ethical use of AI in this state, while protecting the rights of Tennessee citizens;
 - 6) Ways to encourage AI innovation and entrepreneurship and strategies to support workers displaced by AI; and
 - 7) Proposed policy changes related to workforce development, educational systems, and research opportunities for colleges and universities in this state.
- Final report and action plan by December 31st, 2028 containing, at a minimum, the following findings:
 - 1) Principles and values to guide AI use in state and local governments;
 - 2) Governance framework with policies, procedures, and processes for the development, deployment, and use of AI by state and local governments;
 - 3) Evaluation of potentially beneficial use cases for deployment of AI tools and strategies by the state to improve government services;
 - 4) Risk analysis of potential threats to this state's key infrastructure from artificial intelligence technologies; and
 - 5) Recommendations on how this state can support state and local government employees through the AI transition;
 - 6) Recommendations on how to position this state competitively to ensure its citizens capture the full economic benefit from AI opportunities; and
 - 7) Recommendations on how to responsibly leverage AI to improve the efficiency of state and local government services.
- Act repealed on December 31st, 2028



TN AI Advisory Council Activities Roadmap	
Meetings/Action	Date
Council Convenes – Q1 Meeting FY25	August 6, 2024
Q2 Meeting FY25	November 20, 2024
Q3 Meeting FY25	January 29, 2025
Q4 Meeting FY25	April 2, 2025
Status Report to General Assembly	May 1, 2025
Q1 Meeting FY26	August 11, 2025
Q2 Meeting FY26	November 17, 2025
Annual Report to General Assembly	December 31, 2025
Q3 Meeting FY26	February 24, 2026
Q4 Meeting FY26	April 14, 2026
Q1 Meeting FY 27	TBD
Q2 Meeting FY 27	TBD
Annual Report to General Assembly	December 31, 2026
Q3 Meeting FY27	TBD
Q4 Meeting FY27	TBD
Q1 Meeting FY28	TBD
Q2 Meeting FY28	TBD
Annual Report to General Assembly	December 31, 2027
Q3 Meeting FY28	TBD
Q4 Meeting FY28	TBD
Q1 Meeting FY29	TBD
Q2 Meeting FY29	TBD
Final Report to General Assembly	December 31, 2028
Act Repealed	December 31, 2028