HB 281 2026

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to the use of artificial intelligence 3 in psychological, clinical, counseling, and therapy services; creating ss. 490.016 and 491.019, F.S.; 4 defining the term "artificial intelligence"; 5 prohibiting the use of artificial intelligence in the 6 7 practice of psychology, clinical social work, marriage 8 and family therapy, and mental health counseling; 9 providing exceptions; providing an effective date. 10 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 12

Section 1. Section 490.016, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

490.016 Use of artificial intelligence.-

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- (1) As used in this section, the term "artificial intelligence" means any machine-based system that varies in level of autonomy and that, for any explicit or implicit objective, infers from the inputs the system receives how to generate outputs, including, but not limited to, content, decisions, predictions, or recommendations that can influence physical or virtual environments.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a licensee may not use artificial intelligence in the practice of psychology or school psychology. A licensee may use artificial

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26	<pre>intelligence to:</pre>
27	(a) Assist in administrative or supplementary support
28	services. Administrative and supplementary support services
29	include, but are not limited to, all of the following:
30	1. Managing appointment scheduling and reminders.
31	2. Drafting general communications related to therapy
32	logistics that do not involve therapeutic advice.
33	3. Processing billing and insurance claims.
34	4. Preparing and managing patient records.
35	5. Analyzing data for operational purposes.
36	(b) Record or transcribe a counseling or therapy session
37	if a licensee obtains written, informed consent at least 24
38	hours before the provision of services.
39	Section 2. Section 491.019, Florida Statutes, is created
10	to read:
11	491.019 Use of artificial intelligence
12	(1) As used in this section, the term "artificial
13	intelligence" means any machine-based system that varies in
14	level of autonomy and that, for any explicit or implicit
15	objective, infers from the inputs the system receives how to
16	generate outputs, including, but not limited to, content,
17	decisions, predictions, or recommendations that can influence
18	physical or virtual environments.
19	(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a

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51	artificial intelligence in the practice of clinical social work,
52	marriage and family therapy, or mental health counseling. A
53	licensee, registered intern, or certificateholder may use
54	artificial intelligence to:
55	(a) Assist in administrative or supplementary support
56	services. Administrative and supplementary support services
57	include, but are not limited to, all of the following:
58	1. Managing appointment scheduling and reminders.
59	2. Drafting general communications related to therapy
60	logistics that do not involve therapeutic advice.
61	3. Processing billing and insurance claims.
62	4. Preparing and managing patient records.
63	5. Analyzing data for operational purposes.
64	(b) Record or transcribe a counseling or therapy session

(b) Record or transcribe a counseling or therapy session if a licensee, registered intern, or certificateholder obtains written, informed consent at least 24 hours before the provision of services.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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