

(518) 785-1900 (800) 342-4306 Fax (518) 785-1814

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Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor Executive Chamber, State Capitol Albany, NY 12224

RE: A.8295-D/S.7599-A

Dear Governor Hochul,

On behalf of the 54,000 Professional, Scientific, and Technical workers of New York State, represented by the Public Employees Federation, I encourage you to sign this bill into law.

This bill would amend the state technology law, in relation to automated decision-making by state agencies. It is known as the Legislative Oversight of Automated Decision-making in Government Act (LOADinG Act). It is similar to legislation passed last year (A.9430-B/S.7543-B of 2024), but now includes local governments, school districts and SUNY/CUNY.

It is critical that New York closely monitors the acquisition and implementation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems and it is equally important to undertake periodic reviews of those applications. There are already examples of significant errors in existing AI applications.

While AI will likely prove to be a powerful tool to increase productivity, it comes with great responsibility and the need for human oversight. Concerns over AI generated discrimination and bias will continue, especially without the public knowing what programs are being used and how they are being utilized.

This legislation would allow for the public to be aware of the extent of the use of AI by agencies. In addition, the bill would protect and preserve the labor rights of public employees by prohibiting any displacement of workers or reduction in their normal hours.

Once again, the Public Employees Federation urges you to sign this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Patrick Lyons Legislative Director

