

Vermont | AI Policy Overview

Updated January 15, 2024.

AI Policy Overview

Vermont lawmakers have yet to prioritize artificial intelligence policies broadly. One area where Vermont lawmakers have made progress is in regulating facial recognition. Lawmakers placed a moratorium on law enforcement use of facial recognition technology in 2019. However, lawmakers enacted an exception in 2021 that allows police to use facial recognition technology when investigating child sexual exploitation.

Facial Recognition

In 2019, lawmakers in Vermont enacted a law ([VT SB 124](#)) that issued a moratorium on the use of facial recognition technology by law enforcement officers. However, lawmakers made an exception to that moratorium when legislators enacted a law ([VT HB 195](#)) in 2019 allowing police to use facial recognition technology during a criminal investigation into the sexual exploitation of children. The law states that facial recognition technology can only be used where police are in possession of an image they believe to show a victim or suspect of child sexual exploitation and the search is limited to locating images, including videos, of that individual within electronic media legally seized by law enforcement in relation to the specific investigation.

Legislative & Regulatory History

- **2021** - Vermont enacted [VT HB 195](#), which adds an exception to the 2019 moratorium that allows police to use facial recognition technology when investigating child sexual exploitation.
- **2019** - Vermont enacted [VT SB 124](#), which prohibited law enforcement officers from using facial recognition technology.