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States Wrestle With AI-Driven Future.

While artificial intelligence and generative AI offer exciting applications for government, state IT leaders remain concerned about the technology, its ethical uses and potential impacts.

Two states, on two sides of the country, illustrate some of the uncertainty that state IT leaders feel over the role of artificial intelligence, machine learning and generative AI in government operations.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom called for the state to preserve its role as a “global hub” for generative AI and a leader in “shaping the future of ethical, transparent and trustworthy AI.” A recent executive order on the technology, requires agencies to draft a report by early November on potential use cases, risks and policies to guide the state government’s use of generative AI.

Meanwhile, Maine in June instituted a six-month moratorium on its state government’s use of the technology, saying the pause—that could be extended—is necessary to help keep the state ahead of a “rapidly evolving cyber threat landscape.”

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ROUTE FIFTY

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