

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 24, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 940**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Wicks**

February 19, 2025

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~~An act to amend Section 22581 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to privacy. An act to add Chapter 37 (commencing with Section 7599.300) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, relating to local government.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 940, as amended, Wicks. ~~Privacy; minors.~~ *Quantum Innovation Zones.*

*Existing law establishes procedures for the formation of infrastructure financing districts, enhanced infrastructure financing districts, infrastructure and revitalization financing districts, and community revitalization and investment authorities, as specified, to undertake various economic development projects, including financing public facilities and infrastructure, affordable housing, and economic revitalization.*

*This bill would authorize the establishment of a Quantum Innovation Zone by two or more cities and counties upon the adoption of a resolution by the legislative body of each city and county that states the intent of the city or county to participate in the Quantum Innovation Zone. The bill would require a Quantum Innovation Zone to be governed by a board of directors with a specified membership. The bill would task a Quantum Innovation Zone with various duties, including, among other things, identification of projects and programs that will best utilize public dollars and improve the economic vitality of the Quantum*

*Innovation Zone in a coordinated effort to support the development of the quantum computing economy.*

*The bill would require a Quantum Innovation Zone to create and maintain an internet website that is managed and updated by an entity designated by the board of directors, would require the board of directors to appoint a steering committee to produce a report each year gauging the progress of the zone, and would require the report to be posted on the zone's internet website, as specified.*

~~Existing law requires an operator of an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application (website) directed to minors or an operator of a website that has actual knowledge that a minor is using its website to take certain actions, including permitting a minor who is a registered user of the operator's website to remove or, if the operator prefers, to request and obtain removal of, content or information posted on the operator's website by the user.~~

~~This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to those provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     *SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of*  
2     *the following:*

3     *(a) Earth is at a pivotal juncture in human history prompted by*  
4     *a scientific paradigm shift. Quantum entanglement is a nonintuitive*  
5     *but powerful property of the natural world, at the atomic and*  
6     *subatomic level, where two or more quantum systems become so*  
7     *connected that they affect each other even when separated by large*  
8     *distances. The essentials of this phenomenon have been known for*  
9     *over 100 years, but we now understand that quantum physics has*  
10    *the potential to fundamentally change the world of computing. The*  
11    *implications for society are astounding.*

12    *(b) The theory of quantum mechanics was developed early in*  
13    *the 20th century to explain the counterintuitive wavelike and*  
14    *particulate behavior of atomic and subatomic matter. In the 21st*  
15    *century, humanity has begun to harness quantum mechanics to*  
16    *develop an array of diverse technologies that can make quantum*  
17    *computing a reality. California research institutions are at the*  
18    *forefront of pioneering these techniques.*

(c) Computers are designed to complete mechanical tasks rapidly and repeatedly. Yet storing data as binary bits with values of 0 and 1 has inherent limitations. The size of the computer grows linearly with the size of the problem. We are also reaching the physical limits of silicon semiconductor technology, with growth in speed and capacity described by Moore's Law coming close to its end point.

(d) If society does not shift its computing strategy, by 2050, as much as 40 percent of global energy consumption could come from maintaining and cooling computers. This would be untenable for the planet.

(e) Quantum bits (qubits) do not have precise values of 0 or 1. They simultaneously sample both values with probabilities intimately tied to the values of other qubits through entanglement. As a result, the size of the calculations they perform grows exponentially with the number of qubits. Quantum computers require orders of magnitude less energy and can tackle problems that would never be possible with conventional computers.

(f) As economic competition grows and businesses choose to go where there is investment, California has limited time to leverage its unmatched technological and scientific assets to lead the next generation and drive new economic growth.

SEC. 2. Chapter 37 (commencing with Section 7599.300) is added to Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code, to read:

#### CHAPTER 37. QUANTUM INNOVATION ZONES

7599.300. A Quantum Innovation Zone may be established by two or more cities and counties upon the adoption of a resolution by the legislative body of each city and county that states the intent of the city or county to participate in the Quantum Innovation Zone.

7599.301. The purpose of a Quantum Innovation Zone is to build upon California's comparative advantage provided by its concentration of academic, scientific, and technological assets, coupled with a highly skilled workforce, thereby prioritizing access to tax incentives, grants, loan programs, workforce training programs, and private sector investment in the quantum computing sector.

1     7599.302. (a) A Quantum Innovation Zone shall be governed  
2     by a board of directors.

3     (b) The board of directors of a Quantum Innovation Zone shall  
4     be comprised of representatives from seven stakeholder groups  
5     who shall serve as voting directors, as follows:

6     (1) Local government directors, one from each of the cities and  
7     counties that have adopted a resolution expressing its intent to  
8     participate in the Quantum Innovation Zone. Each city and county  
9     shall select one representative who shall serve a two-year term.

10    (2) Five large employer directors, located within one or more  
11    of the cities and counties that have adopted a resolution. Each of  
12    the five largest private employers in the fields of quantum  
13    computing within the area of the Quantum Innovation Zone shall  
14    select a representative who will serve a two-year term. Employer  
15    size shall be based upon data from the local workforce board.

16    (3) Four state government directors.

17    (4) Five small business and economic development directors  
18    who shall represent existing economic and business development  
19    organizations that serve the cities and counties that have adopted  
20    a resolution. These small business and economic development  
21    representatives shall be nominated by the regional planning  
22    agencies encompassing the geography of the Quantum Innovation  
23    Zone and confirmed by the board to serve two-year terms.

24    (5) Five directors from universities, laboratories, and  
25    foundations with specialized expertise and knowledge of quantum  
26    computing, who shall, upon agreement by the regents, be  
27    nominated by the Office of the President of the University of  
28    California and confirmed by the board. These university,  
29    laboratory, and foundation representatives shall serve two-year  
30    terms.

31    (6) Five directors representing the five largest private sector  
32    organized labor organizations whose membership works in the  
33    cities and counties that have adopted a resolution to establish a  
34    Quantum Innovation Zone. Each union shall select its own  
35    representative to the Quantum Innovation Zone board who shall  
36    each serve a two-year term.

37    (7) Five directors representing workforce development and  
38    public and private educational entities that serve the cities and  
39    counties that have adopted a resolution to establish a Quantum  
40    Innovation Zone, at least one of whom shall be a representative

1 *from the California State University and at least one of whom shall*  
 2 *be a representative from the California Community Colleges. These*  
 3 *workforce development and education representatives shall be*  
 4 *nominated by the regional planning agencies encompassing the*  
 5 *geography of the Quantum Innovation Zone and confirmed by the*  
 6 *board to serve two-year terms.*

7 *(8) Confirmation of a nominee for membership on the board of*  
 8 *directors shall be by majority vote of the sitting members of the*  
 9 *board.*

10 *(c) Every member of the Legislature and of the United States*  
 11 *Congress who represents the cities and counties that have adopted*  
 12 *a resolution to establish a Quantum Innovation Zone shall be ex*  
 13 *officio voting members of the board of directors.*

14 *(d) A board chair and two deputy chairs shall be selected by a*  
 15 *majority vote of the board. The chair and deputy chairs shall serve*  
 16 *two-year terms. An individual may serve as chair or deputy chair*  
 17 *more than once, however, they shall not serve consecutive terms.*  
 18 *The chair and deputy chairs shall be chosen from among the*  
 19 *following:*

20 *(1) One member shall be a Member of the Legislature who*  
 21 *represents one or more of the cities and counties that have adopted*  
 22 *a resolution to establish a Quantum Innovation Zone.*

23 *(2) One member shall be a representative from a local agency*  
 24 *in a city or county that has adopted a resolution to establish a*  
 25 *Quantum Innovation Zone.*

26 *(3) One member shall be a representative whose residence and*  
 27 *place of employment is within one or more of the cities and counties*  
 28 *that have adopted a resolution to establish a Quantum Innovation*  
 29 *Zone.*

30 *(e) A Quantum Innovation Zone shall also have an executive*  
 31 *board comprised of the chair, deputy chairs, and up to seven*  
 32 *members of the board of directors selected by a majority vote of*  
 33 *the board of directors.*

34 *(f) The members of the board of directors shall serve without*  
 35 *compensation.*

36 *(g) A member of the board of directors, including the chair,*  
 37 *shall, upon identifying a conflict of interest, or a potential conflict*  
 38 *of interest, regarding a matter before the board of directors of the*  
 39 *Quantum Innovation Zone, immediately and before consideration*  
 40 *of the matter, do all of the following:*

1     (1) *Provide written notice to the chair regarding the interest*  
2     *that gives rise to the conflict of interest or potential conflict of*  
3     *interest. In the case of the chair, written notice shall be given to*  
4     *one of the deputy chairs.*

5     (2) *Recuse themselves from discussing or voting on the matter.*

6     (3) *Leave the meeting room until after discussion, vote, and any*  
7     *other consideration of disposition of the matter is concluded.*

8     (h) *A member of the board of directors shall not use the name*  
9     *of the Quantum Innovation Zone on any letterhead, business code,*  
10    *or identification badge unless the person has been authorized to*  
11    *do so by the board of directors.*

12    7599.303. *A Quantum Innovation Zone shall have all of the*  
13    *following duties:*

14    (a) *Identification of projects and programs that will best utilize*  
15    *public dollars and most quickly improve the economic vitality of*  
16    *the Quantum Innovation Zone, especially those that leverage*  
17    *federal, state, local, and private sector resources in a coordinated*  
18    *effort to support the development of the quantum computing*  
19    *economy.*

20    (b) *Work with members of the state's congressional delegation*  
21    *and federal officials, including any relevant federal interagency*  
22    *task force, to gain federal support for projects identified by the*  
23    *zone as critical to the region's quantum computing economy.*

24    (c) *Partner with the University of California, the California*  
25    *State University, community colleges, and the state's other research*  
26    *and educational institutions, as well as private foundations, to*  
27    *provide guidance, advice, and encouragement in support of studies*  
28    *of particular interest and importance to quantum computing and*  
29    *related industries.*

30    (d) *Review state policies and regulations to ensure they are fair*  
31    *and appropriate for the state's diverse geographic regions,*  
32    *including the Quantum Innovation Zone, and determine whether*  
33    *alternative approaches can accomplish goals in less costly ways.*

34    (e) *Make recommendations to the Governor that would improve*  
35    *the economic well-being of the region encompassing the Quantum*  
36    *Innovation Zone and the quality of life of its residents.*

37    (f) *Create and maintain an internet website that is managed*  
38    *and updated by an entity designated by the board of directors.*

39    7599.304. (a) *The board of directors of a Quantum Innovation*  
40    *Zone shall appoint a steering committee that, on or before one*

1 year after the establishment of a Quantum Innovation Zone, shall  
2 develop metrics that shall be reported to the Legislature and state  
3 departments and agencies gauging the progress of the zone that  
4 shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

5 (1) The number of jobs that were gained and lost in the quantum  
6 computing sector and related industries.

7 (2) The average wage of the jobs gained in the quantum  
8 computing sector and related industries.

9 (3) The number and types of grants solicited and received by,  
10 or on behalf of, the zone.

11 (4) The type and amount of workforce training conducted in the  
12 zone, by whom it was provided, and the amount of capital  
13 investment attached to provision of that training.

14 (b) The Quantum Innovation Zone shall annually post the report  
15 described in subdivision (a) on its internet website and submit a  
16 letter to the Legislature informing the Legislature that the report  
17 has been posted.

18 **SECTION 1.** ~~Section 22581 of the Business and Professions~~  
19 ~~Code is amended to read:~~

20 ~~22581. (a) An operator of an internet website, online service,~~  
21 ~~online application, or mobile application directed to minors or an~~  
22 ~~operator of an internet website, online service, online application,~~  
23 ~~or mobile application that has actual knowledge that a minor is~~  
24 ~~using its internet website, online service, online application, or~~  
25 ~~mobile application shall do all of the following:~~

26 ~~(1) Permit a minor who is a registered user of the operator's~~  
27 ~~internet website, online service, online application, or mobile~~  
28 ~~application to remove or, if the operator prefers, to request and~~  
29 ~~obtain removal of, content or information posted on the operator's~~  
30 ~~internet website, online service, online application, or mobile~~  
31 ~~application by the user.~~

32 ~~(2) Provide notice to a minor who is a registered user of the~~  
33 ~~operator's internet website, online service, online application, or~~  
34 ~~mobile application that the minor may remove or, if the operator~~  
35 ~~prefers, request and obtain removal of, content or information~~  
36 ~~posted on the operator's internet website, online service, online~~  
37 ~~application, or mobile application by the registered user.~~

38 ~~(3) Provide clear instructions to a minor who is a registered user~~  
39 ~~of the operator's internet website, online service, online application,~~  
40 ~~or mobile application on how the user may remove or, if the~~

~~operator prefers, request and obtain the removal of content or information posted on the operator's internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application.~~

~~(4) Provide notice to a minor who is a registered user of the operator's internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application that the removal described under paragraph (1) does not ensure complete or comprehensive removal of the content or information posted on the operator's internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application by the registered user.~~

~~(b) An operator or a third party is not required to erase or otherwise eliminate, or to enable erasure or elimination of, content or information in any of the following circumstances:~~

~~(1) Any other provision of federal or state law requires the operator or third party to maintain the content or information.~~

~~(2) The content or information was stored on or posted to the operator's internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application by a third party other than the minor, who is a registered user, including any content or information posted by the registered user that was stored, republished, or reposted by the third party.~~

~~(3) The operator anonymizes the content or information posted by the minor who is a registered user, so that the minor who is a registered user cannot be individually identified.~~

~~(4) The minor does not follow the instructions provided to the minor pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) on how the registered user may request and obtain the removal of content or information posted on the operator's internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application by the registered user.~~

~~(5) The minor has received compensation or other consideration for providing the content.~~

~~(c) This section shall not be construed to limit the authority of a law enforcement agency to obtain any content or information from an operator as authorized by law or pursuant to an order of a court of competent jurisdiction.~~

~~(d) An operator shall be deemed compliant with this section if:~~

~~(1) It renders the content or information posted by the minor user no longer visible to other users of the service and the public~~



1 even if the content or information remains on the operator's servers  
2 in some form.

3 (2) ~~Despite making the original posting by the minor user~~  
4 ~~invisible, it remains visible because a third party has copied the~~  
5 ~~posting or reposted the content or information posted by the minor.~~

6 (e) ~~This section shall not be construed to require an operator of~~  
7 ~~an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile~~  
8 ~~application to collect age information about users.~~

9 (f) ~~"Posted" means content or information that can be accessed~~  
10 ~~by a user in addition to the minor who posted the content or~~  
11 ~~information, whether the user is a registered user or not, of the~~  
12 ~~internet website, online service, online application, or mobile~~  
13 ~~application where the content or information is posted.~~