

Who’s Really at Risk in the AI Wearables Boom?

It’s not the company. It’s the user.

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THE DATA

Massachusetts, New Hampshire

States with broad wiretap laws

These states define interception to include devices that process speech meaning without storing audio.

New AI wearables like Apple Watch Siri Recap and Meta Glasses continuously interpret speech and generate summaries without saving audio—yet they may still trigger state wiretap laws. In Massachusetts and New Hampshire, such devices could legally qualify as interception tools, even without recording.

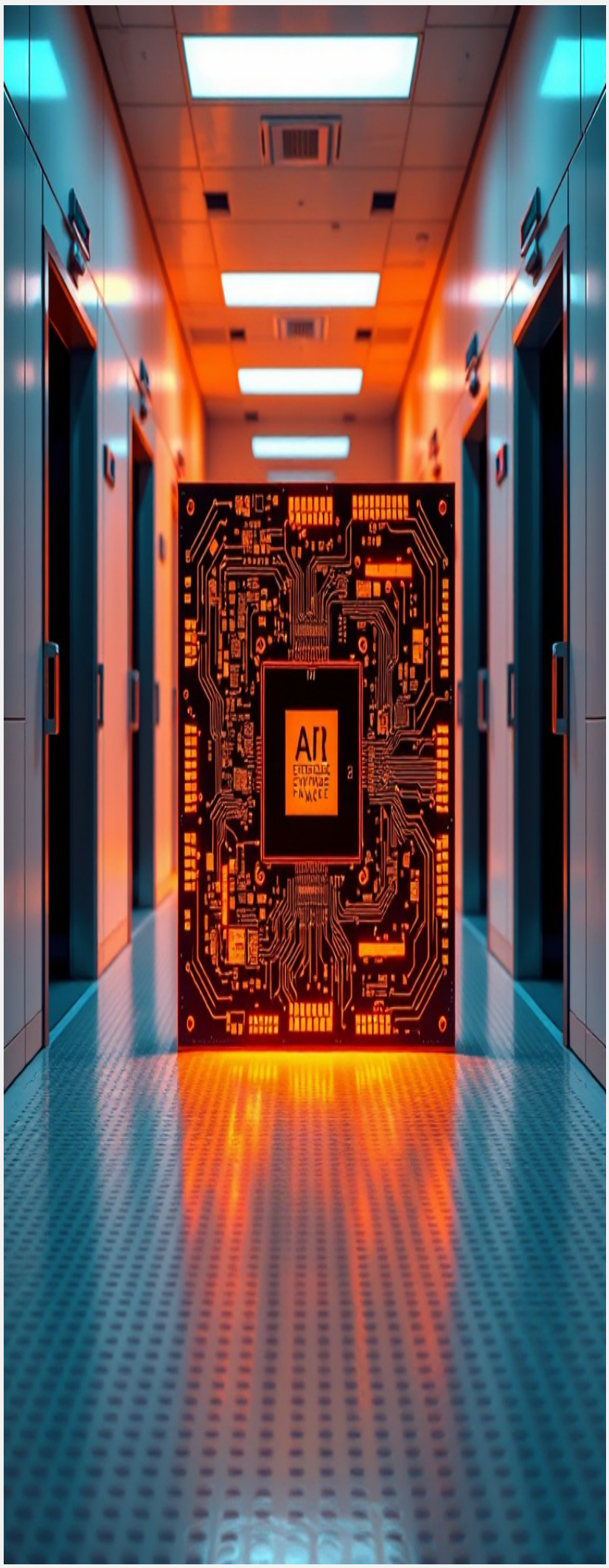


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https://www.cnbc.com/2026/10/18/ai-wearables-privacy-wiretap-laws.html

01

Privacy law is lagging behind AI interpretation

This gap exposes everyday users to liability—even when they've enabled the feature intentionally and the company claims no data retention. The law doesn't distinguish between storage and processing, making compliance nearly impossible to verify.



02

The bystander problem is now systemic

Michael Stokes, former CIA officer, notes that AI dramatically lowers the cost of making sense of incidental data. A conversation overheard by a smartwatch is no longer just a recording—it’s a structured, analyzable dataset, turning any public space into a potential surveillance zone.

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