Curate
PART OF **FiscalNote**

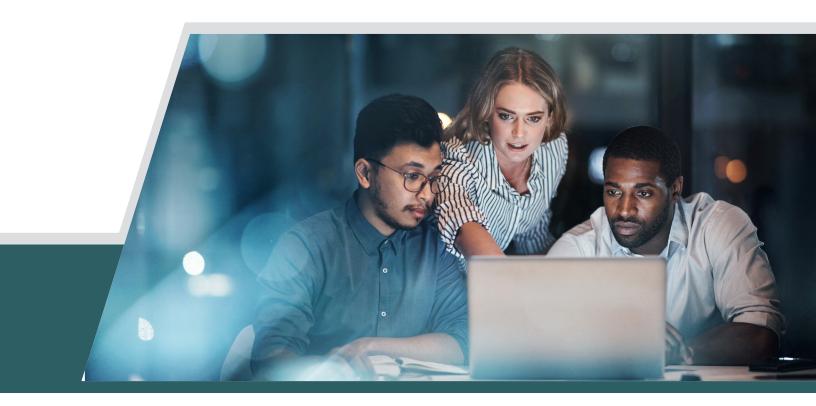# Why the Technology Powering Your Local Government Tracking Software Matters

Technology Plays a Key Role in Successful Local Government Affairs

Manually tracking policy at the local level is an impossible task and the risk of missing something important is incredibly high. There are many solutions out there that can automatically collect a vast amount of minutes, agendas, planning, and other documents from local government entities but how they do it is key.

Curate's proprietary, powerful machine-learning technology helps you cut through the noise to automatically identify relevant mentions of the topics you need to track across the broadest set of locations in the market: 12,000 local governments and 4,000 school districts in locations with populations down to 2,000.

Read on to learn how!

Matching Policy Topics to Relevant Mentions

The primary power of any local policy monitoring software lies in its ability to automatically extract relevant mentions of the policy topics you want to track and have the word-for-word insights put directly in front of you. How software handle this is where solutions diverge and show you very different results.

Curate does this through a form of artificial intelligence (AI) called Natural Language Processing (NLP), which differentiates it from how other local policy tracking software that typically use a less sophisticated logic called Boolean search.

Because local governments differ vastly from one another, Curate uses a Deep Learning NLP technique to find more matches relevant to what you need to monitor as Curate doesn't just search keywords. This is especially important as language and terms in one region of the country differ from what's used in another. The advanced techniques of Deep Learning NLP can correlate all different words or phrases that have the same meaning without having to explicitly define them or fit them into an existing dictionary framework.

This also allows us to create new topics, refine existing topics, and process a larger volume of data a lot faster, which is unfeasible with other approaches.

Why Boolean Search Doesn't Cut it for Local Government Tracking

Boolean search is limited in catching relevant mentions of your issue because it relies solely on keyword(s) and requires them to appear within the document text. This means you're likely to get more "junk" results — documents that contain your keywords but are not contextually relevant to your policy topic — or miss items that didn't have words that matched the search logic but were still relevant. It's also labor-intensive to create new Boolean searches that include all keywords and variations, and refine them to filter out noise. This means a slower process and a longer wait time before you're able to start tracking a new issue.

How Curate Uses AI

Instead of having to craft a complicated taxonomy for a specific policy topic (which requires an incredible amount of manual engineering), Curate's machine learning uses sophisticated algorithms that learn to understand the difference between a relevant and irrelevant term to a particular issue.

The Advantages of Natural Language Processing for Local Government Tracking

Just because a keyword shows up in a meeting minute, it doesn't necessarily mean it's relevant to your issue. Curate's Natural Language Processing (NLP) takes the context of the full document into account to match it to the policy topic you need to track. The result is a more accurate and refined list of relevant mentions displayed in your interactive Curate dashboard and your email alerts.

Curate automatically finds the golden nuggets buried in hundreds of thousands of local agenda and meeting minutes documents and surfaces them for you, without having to waste time going through "fool's gold."

Continued Refinement

Our data analysts continuously go through a vigorous review and quality assurance process to improve the results.

Evolving Intelligence

Where Boolean searches are limited to matching and excluding keywords, automation through AI continually evolves, adding new data to improve matches found in local government documents.

Versatility

Curate's expansive database of local policy documents is not constrained by keywords. This means you can request almost any topic, trend, or other queries that don't fit the framework of matching keywords and Curate will deliver on it in a dashboard.

See What AI-Powered Local Tracking Can Do for Your Government Affairs Strategy

Unleash the power of deep learning NLP. With Curate's AI technology, you can turn the database of meeting minutes and agenda documents into the intelligence your organization needs.

Experience the Power of Curate

Schedule a Demo

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