



ENCODE



fairplay
childhood beyond brands



**common
sense**



The Honorable Mike Johnson

Speaker of the House
568 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries

House Minority Leader
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Thune

Senate Majority Leader
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer

Senate Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

May 21, 2025

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Thune, and Minority Leader Schumer,

We write to urge you to oppose the provision in the House Energy and Commerce Committee's Budget Reconciliation text that would put a moratorium on the enforcement of state artificial intelligence (AI) legislation for the next ten years. By wiping out all existing and future state AI laws without putting new federal protections in place, AI companies would get exactly what they want: no rules, no accountability, and total control. As organizations working on the frontline of the consequences of AI development with no guardrails, we know what this would mean for our children.

As written, the provision is so broad it would block states from enacting any AI-related legislation, including bills addressing hyper-sexualized AI companions, social media recommendation algorithms, protections for whistleblowers, and more. It ties lawmakers' hands for a decade, sidelining policymakers and leaving families on their own as they face risks and harms that emerge with this fast-evolving technology in the years to come.

Historically, states have served as the laboratories of democracy, tailoring guardrails and protections to their residents' unique needs. A blanket moratorium on the enforcement of state legislation — especially in the absence of federal standards — would upend well-established principles of federalism. States are well-positioned to adapt to the rapid speed of AI development with protections that consumers need while allowing for innovation to flourish.

In just the last few years we have seen AI drive an explosion of deepfake porn in our communities, draw children into toxic relationships with AI companions, and super-charge the

recommendation algorithms driving a generational mental health crisis. Just last year [15%](#) of high school students — representing millions of kids — reported knowing a classmate who had been victimized by AI-generated image based sexual abuse. AI companion applications are [pushing sexual content](#) on children and [encouraging them to self-harm](#). Recent reports have found that industry efforts to protect children on [AI companion applications are easily circumvented](#). AI-driven content recommendation systems are [feeding videos](#) about eating disorders and self-harm to users.

AI offers great benefits for work, education, science, the economy and so much more, but it cannot be denied that we are already seeing an explosion of online harms - not just to kids, but for scammers targeting the elderly, deepfakes targeting creators, etc. The last decade of social media has shown us what happens when we wait to act on new technologies. We, the undersigned organizations, call on you to oppose the moratorium on the enforcement of AI regulation in the budget reconciliation text. It is irresponsible and short sighted to tie the hands of state legislators in the face of federal inaction.

Sincerely,

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Common Sense Media

Young People's Alliance

Accountable Tech

AFT

Alexander Neville Foundation

All Girls Allowed, Inc.

American Association for Justice

American Psychological Association Services, Inc.

Attorney

Becca Schmill Foundation

Better Tech Project

Brave Movement

Buckets Over Bullying

Carly Ryan Founded

Center for Humane Technology

Check My Ads Institute

ChildFund International

Consumer Action

Consumer Federation of America

David's Legacy Foundation
Dear Christian Parent Substack
Design It For Us
Devin J Norring Foundation
Digital Childhood Alliance
EdTech Law Center
Emmy's Champions
Enough Is Enough
Four Norms
Global Hope 365
Grace McComas Memorial
Hach Rose Schirripa & Cheverie LLP
Heat Initiative
Institute for Family Studies
Issue One
LiveMore ScreenLess
Lynn's Warriors
MAMA - Mothers Against Media Addiction
Marsh law firm
Mathew E. Minor Awareness Foundation
Mental Health America
NAACP
Nathan Project
National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE)
National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC)
National center for victims of crime
NH Traffick Free Coalition
Oakland Privacy
Organization for Social Media Safety
ParentsSOS
ParentsTogether Action
Protect Young Eyes
PTG group
Public Citizen
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network
Raven
Schools Beyond Screens
Scrolling 2 Death
Seventh Planet
Smartphone Free Childhood US

socialmediaharms.org
Social Psychologist and Author
Speaking of Social
Tech Justice Law Project
Tech Oversight California
Tech-Safe Learning Coalition (TLC)
The American Youth Association
The Anxious Generation Movement
The Darling Princess
The Soaring Center
The Social Media Victims Law Center
The Tech Oversight Project
Thorn
Together for Girls
Transparency Coalition
Turning Life On