



Chairman Mike Rogers

House Armed Services Committee
469 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Chairman Roger Wicker

Senate Armed Services Committee
425 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Adam Smith

House Armed Services Committee
2264 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member Jack Reed

Senate Armed Services Committee
729 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rogers, Chairman Wicker, Ranking Member Smith, and Ranking Member Reed,

We write as the coalition of 150+ organizations that successfully opposed the 10-year AI state law moratorium in the budget reconciliation bill this summer. We were joined by an unprecedented coalition: 45 state attorneys general, a bipartisan group of 260 state legislators, 4 in 5 Americans (including 60,000+ petition signatures), 17 Republican governors, hundreds of civil society organizations, and members of Congress across the political spectrum. In a 99-1 vote, the Senate sided with that coalition and overwhelmingly rejected a federal moratorium on state AI law enforcement.

We are alarmed by reports that House Leadership is now considering inserting AI preemption language into the National Defense Authorization Act. Attempting a last minute push to revive this failed policy into the NDAA would represent another dangerous effort to circumvent the rights of the states to regulate and legislate on behalf of their residents and overturn the overwhelming bipartisan consensus that rejected the equivalent effort in the moratorium just months ago. Slipping in AI preemption language at the last minute into a must-pass national security bill is aimed only to advance a narrow special interest industry objective that has already been widely rejected by Congress and the public.

Proponents of AI preemption know that if they go through the proper legislative process the public backlash will be fierce and so they are now resorting to trying to sneak their priority into must pass legislation like the NDAA, even if it may come at the cost of throwing a wrench in legislation that is essential to American National Security.

The alarming risks and harms that have come to light in just the few months since the AI moratorium was resoundingly defeated remind us why all levels of government must retain their ability to respond to the risks of this technology. Chatbots have encouraged young children to commit suicide, aided a Chinese state-sponsored group in executing a multinational cyber espionage campaign, and driven a dramatic rise in AI-generated child sexual abuse material in our schools and communities.

This is not the first time the states have stepped in to protect their constituents where Congress has failed. Congress has failed to pass meaningful technology regulation in the three decades since the rise of the internet and social media, leaving young people to fend for themselves in an ever more dangerous digital landscape. Where Congress stalled the states stepped up, passing common sense guardrails that have protected our children without hampering innovation. Today the states are again leading on AI with thoughtful legislation that balances innovation and safety.

The job of the states is not just to stand in where Congress has failed, though. They have consistently played an essential role as the laboratories of our democracy throughout history, pioneering legislation that has laid the foundation for hundreds of successful industries today. States will always be the most responsive and flexible governing bodies, an essential attribute for a technology that evolves quickly. Federal preemption that fails to recognize the vital role of states would shut down the democratic exchange that fuels sound policy development.

Building AI with safety by design is essential to earning the public trust that is key to broad adoption and continued innovation. Smart regulations steer AI development in ways that benefit the public interest, national security, and global competitiveness. However, circumventing regular order to insert state AI preemption language at the last minute into must pass national security legislation, and failing to recognize the role that states must continue to play in the development of this immensely powerful and consequential technology, is as objectionable now as it was when we successfully opposed this effort earlier this year.

Thank you,

Encode AI
Common Sense Media
Fairplay
National Center on Sexual Exploitation
Young People's Alliance

5Rights Foundation
AASA, The School Superintendents Association
Alexander Neville Foundation
Allies Against Slavery
American Association for Justice
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Citizen
American Economic Liberties Project
American Federation of Musicians
American Psychological Association Services
Americans for Financial Reform
Americans for Responsible Innovation
Annalee's Hope
AWK Survivor Advocate Attorneys PLLC

Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Beauty from Ashes Ministry
Becca Schmill Foundation
Better Tech
BILATERAL SAFETY CORRIDOR COALITION
Buckets Over Bullying/The Bronstein Family Foundation
California Common Cause
California resident
Center for AI and Digital Policy (CAIDP)
Center for Countering Digital Hate
Center for Digital Democracy
Chains Interrupted
Change Agent AI
Child Safety Advocate
ChildFund International
Children and Screens: Institute of Digital Media and Child Development
Chorus America
Citizen
Color Of Change
Community Campaign against Human Trafficking
Consumer Federation of America
Dance/NYC
Dear Christian Parent Substack
Demand Progress
Design It For Us
Devin J Norring Foundation
Diamond Collective
Digital Childhood Alliance
Dr. Vivian Dorsett; Child Welfare Consultant
Duncan Properties
Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC)
Emily Harrison Consulting
Encode
Engage Together
Englynroberts.com
Enough Is Enough
Equal Rights Advocates
Erik's Cause
Euda
Fields of Hope
Five Rights Foundation
Four Norms
Fractured Atlas
Friends of the Earth US

Future of Life
Future of Music Coalition
General Federation of Women's Clubs
Grace McComas Memorial
Guided Purposes LLC
Healthy Screen Habits
Institute for Survivor Care
International Protection Alliance
Lady Freethinker
Law office of Theresa Napolitano
Less Than 3
Liberty Law
Link Oregon
Love Never Fails
Lynn's Warriors
MAMA
Matthew E. Minor Awareness Foundation
Mentari
Mindset Global
MN House of Representatives
Mothers Against Media Addiction (MAMA)
My Name My Voice
MyOwn Image
National Alliance for Musical Theatre
National Association of Voice Actors
National Coalition for Arts Preparedness and Emergency Response (NCAPER)
National Performance Network
NC Stop Human Trafficking
NCCAHT
NCOSE
New Music USA
North Carolina Demand Reduction Task Force
Not On Our Watch
Not On Our Watch TX
NTEN
Organization for Social Media Safety
Paradigm Shift Training and Consulting
ParentsTogether Action
Parents RISE!
Paving the Way Foundation
Pee Dee Republican Women
PIRG (Public Interest Research Group)
Predawn.ai
Present Age Ministries

Project Liberty
Project Protect Our Children
Project STAND
Protect All Children from Trafficking (PACT)
Protect Young Eyes
Public Knowledge
Reflective Spaces Ministry, Corp
Resolved Strategies LLC
Rights4Girls
Ruth's House, Inc.
Safelight Inc.
SAVE-Suicide Awareness Voices of Education
SC House Rep District 48
Scrolling 2 Death
Self
Set Free Marriage and Family Therapy, Inc.
Seventh Planet, Inc.
Sexual Violence Prevention Association (SVPA)
Shared Hope International
Shield North Carolina
Skull Games Solutions
Smartphone Free Childhood US
socialmediaharms.org
Sociedad Latina
Speaking of Social
Stand Against Trafficking USA
Street Gradce
SWFL Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Talk More. Tech Less.
Tech Justice Law Project
TexProtects
The Alliance for Secure AI
The Carson J. Bride Effect
The Institute for Family Studies
The McKenna Way
The Stop Trafficking Project®
The Tech Oversight Project
Thorn
TJP Advocacy
Traffick Refuge
Transformative Counseling
Transparency Coalition
Turning Life On
Unbound Now

United Abolitionists, Inc.

Unite for Safe Social Media

Walk Her Home

Women Graduates USA

World Freedom Network

Yellowstone Human Trafficking Task Force