



June 27, 2025

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader Thune and Speaker Johnson:

President Trump's One, Big, Beautiful Bill is a win for the American people, cutting taxes, moving welfare recipients off the path to dependency and onto the path to prosperity, growing the economy, and helping secure the border.

While the legislation overall is very strong, there is one small portion of it that threatens to undo all the work states have done to protect our citizens from the misuse of artificial intelligence. As Republican Governors, we are writing to encourage congressional leadership to strip this provision from the bill before it goes to President Trump's desk for his signature.

In just the past year, states have led on smart regulations of the AI industry that simultaneously protect consumers while also encouraging this ever-developing and critical sector. In Arkansas, for example, the Legislature created basic copyright guidelines for generative AI, protected Arkansans from the nonconsensual use of their likeness, and prohibited the creation of sexually explicit AI images of real people - especially children. Similarly, Utah law requires disclosure if someone is interacting with AI and creates other consumer protections. Other states have made or are in the process of creating similar reforms – commonsense changes that every state, and Congress, should get behind.

As it's currently drafted, though, this provision added by Congress would prohibit these commonsense protections from going into effect for ten years, instead waiting on some as-yet-unwritten regulations to come from Congress.

AI is already deeply entrenched in American industry and society; people will be at risk until basic rules ensuring safety and fairness can go into effect. Over the next decade, this novel technology will be used throughout our society, for harm and good. It will significantly alter our industries, jobs, and ways of life, and rebuild how we as a people function in profound and

fundamental ways. That Congress is burying a provision that will strip the right of any state to regulate this technology in any way – without a thoughtful public debate – is the antithesis of what our Founders envisioned.

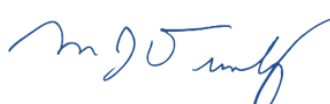
We fully recognize that AI dominance is the next front in industrial competition between the United States and adversaries like Communist China. States have led on anti-Communist Chinese action, banning Communist Chinese-affiliated companies from owning farmland and property around critical infrastructure and military bases. But America should not sacrifice the health, safety, and prosperity of its people in this fight. We must curb AI's worst excesses while also encouraging its growth, which is exactly what states have done through the creation of their own regulatory frameworks.

As Republican Governors, we support the One, Big, Beautiful Bill and President Trump's vision of American AI dominance, but we cannot support a provision that takes away states' powers to protect our citizens. Let states function as the laboratories of democracy they were intended to be and allow state leaders to protect our people.

Sincerely,



Governor Kay Ivey
State of Alabama



Governor Mike Dunleavy
State of Alaska



Governor Sarah Sanders
State of Arkansas



Governor Brian Kemp
State of Georgia



Governor Brad Little
State of Idaho



Governor Kim Reynolds
State of Iowa



Governor Jeff Landry
State of Louisiana



Governor Mike Kehoe
State of Missouri



Governor Greg Gianforte
State of Montana



Governor Jim Pillen
State of Nebraska



Governor Kelly Armstrong
State of North Dakota



Governor Kevin Stitt
State of Oklahoma

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Henry Dargan McMaster".

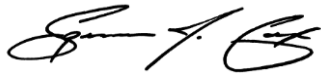
Governor Henry Dargan McMaster
State of South Carolina

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Larry Rhoden".

Governor Larry Rhoden
State of South Dakota

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Lee".

Governor Bill Lee
State of Tennessee

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Spencer Cox".

Governor Spencer Cox
State of Utah

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark Gordon".

Governor Mark Gordon
State of Wyoming