



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

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

June 26, 2025

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

We write to urge you to strike the Budget Reconciliation provision that would put a moratorium on the enforcement of state artificial intelligence (AI) legislation for the next ten years. The provision, which has faced widespread backlash from state legislatures and Attorneys General, civil society, and the public, was greenlit by the parliamentarian after being rewritten to be tied to broadband funding. As it stands, this provision would wipe out virtually all existing and future state AI laws, giving AI companies 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 and enforcing any AI-specific protections, including measures addressing hyper-sexualized AI companions, social media recommendation algorithms, protections for whistleblowers, and more. The exceptions written into the draft only cover laws that are “generally applicable” or “narrowly tailored” to streamlining AI development, a combination that would enable only a small fraction, if any, of proposed and enacted state laws to survive and continue to block any AI-specific safety measures. 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.

Proponents of the provision argue the moratorium only applies to the \$500 million funding stream, however, as written, this provision gives NTIA authority to extend these new

requirements to the full \$42.5 billion of the BEAD program. This would effectively force states to choose between enforcing AI safeguards or long-needed infrastructure investments to close the digital divide. For a decade the vague definitions of what technologies are covered could create a chilling effect as states seek to remain in compliance with the provision, discouraging action on broader technology issues out of fear that it would lead to a de-obligation of existing BEAD funds.

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 would upend well-established principles of federalism. States are well-positioned to adapt to the rapid speed of AI development with protections that their consumers need while allowing for innovation to flourish.

In just the last few years we have seen AI drive an explosion of deep fake pornography 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, deep fakes 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 vote to strike 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,

Encode

Fairplay

Common Sense Media

Young People's Alliance

35 Mile Foundation

3Strands Global Foundation

AASA, The School Superintendents Association

AFT
ANEW Life International
Accountable Tech
Alexander Neville Foundation
All Girls Allowed, Inc.
Alliance to End Human Trafficking
Alternative Solutions
American Association for Justice
American Psychological Association Services, Inc.
Becca Schmill Foundation
Better Tech Project
Brave Movement
Breaking Generational Cycles (JDPB4LIFE)
Buckets Over Bullying
Carly Ryan Foundation
Center for Arizona Policy
Center for Digital Democracy
Center for Family and Human Rights (C-Fam)Lisa Correnti
Center for Humane Technology
Chains Interrupted
Check My Ads Institute
Child Safety Advocate
ChildFund International
Children's Advocacy Institute at the University of San Diego School of Law
Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW)
Consumer Action
Consumer Federation of America
David's Legacy Foundation
Dear Christian Parent Substack
Defend Young Minds
Design It For Us
Devin J Norring Foundation
Digital Childhood Alliance
EdTech Law Center
Emmy's Champions
Engage Together
Enough Is Enough
Esperanza Events & Consulting LLC
FDOH
Four Norms

General Federation of Women's Clubs
Global Hope 365
Grace McComas Memorial
Guided Purposes LLC
Hach Rose Schirripa & Cheverie LLP
Heat Initiative
Help Now of Osceola
Institute for Family Studies
Interparliamentary Taskforce on Human Trafficking
Issue One
Joint Family
Just Love Worldwide
Link Oregon (Oregon Fiber Partnership)
LiveMore ScreenLess
Love Never Fails
Lynn's Warriors
MAMA (Mothers Against Media Addiction)
Marsh law firm
Mathew E. Minor Awareness Foundation
Mental Health America
Mentari
NAACP
NC Stop Human Trafficking
NH Traffick Free Coalition
NTEN
Nathan Project
National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE)
National Criminal Justice Training Center (NCJTC)
National center for victims of crime
New Friends New Life
Northeastern University
Oakland Privacy
On our Own 2 Feet
Organization for Social Media Safety
Paradigm Shift Training and Consulting
Parent Coalition for Student Privacy
Parents Who Fight
ParentsSOS
ParentsTogether Action
Paving the Way Foundation

Porn Free Colorado
Project Liberty
Project STAND
Prostitution Research & Education
Protect Young Eyes
Public Citizen
Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN)
Raven
ReHope
Resiliency Foundation
Rights4Girls
Schools Beyond Screens
Scrolling 2 Death
Seventh Planet
Shared Hope International
Shield North Carolina
Sierra Cares Foundation
Smartphone Free Childhood US
Social Psychologist and Author
Southwest FL Coalition Against Human Trafficking
Speaking of Social
Street Grace
Survivor Leader Network of San Diego
TJP Advocacy
Tech Justice Law Project
Tech Oversight California
Tech-Safe Learning Coalition (TLC)
The American Youth Association
The Anxious Generation Movement
The Darling Princess
The Haba Law Firm, P.A.
The National Digital Inclusion Alliance
The Soaring Center
The Social Media Victims Law Center
The Stop Trafficking Project
The Tech Oversight Project
Thorn
Together for Girls
Traffick Refuge
Transparency Coalition

Turning Life On
United Abolitionists, Inc.
Walk Her Home
Watchmen Action
Women Graduates-USA Inc.
World Without Exploitation
Yellowstone Human Trafficking Task Force Penny Ronning
Youth Power Project
Zoe Ministries of Delaware
socialmediaharms.org