January 28, 2026

Re: Urging Federal Preemption of Certain State Laws and Regulations Specific to Artificial Intelligence

To the Members of Congress,

On behalf of our respective organizations, we write to express our strong support for a targeted federal approach that temporarily preempts certain state laws and regulations specific to artificial intelligence (AI). Federal preemption is a sensible and well-established legal tool that Congress has used across sectors to ensure a single, predictable standard for critical economic activity while a durable national framework is developed.

A limited period of federal preemption is particularly important today because the United States is facing growing regulatory fragmentation that threatens both our national security and our economic competitiveness. States have introduced hundreds of AI-related bills in an effort to respond quickly to a rapidly evolving technology. In the absence of federal coordination, a small number of states risk effectively setting de facto national standards, despite the fact that AI systems operate across state borders and throughout interstate commerce. This dynamic undermines democratic accountability and places the United States at a disadvantage relative to global competitors.

We wish to acknowledge President Trump and the current administration for their foresight in recognizing the critical importance of AI in securing America's global competitive edge. The President's steadfast commitment to ensuring the U.S. remains a leader in emerging technologies has played a pivotal role in shaping the national dialogue on regulation.

Beyond national security concerns, regulatory fragmentation has direct consequences for affordability and competition. A patchwork of state-by-state rules raises compliance costs, which are ultimately passed on to consumers in the form of higher prices and fewer choices. Uniform federal standards help lower these costs by providing clarity and predictability, enabling companies to invest more in innovation, efficiency, and responsible deployment rather than duplicative legal compliance.

This issue is especially acute for startups and small businesses. State-level AI regulations are often broad, vague, and inconsistent across jurisdictions. While large firms may be able to absorb these costs, smaller companies and new market entrants cannot. The result is higher barriers to entry, reduced competition, and fewer innovative challengers, precisely the opposite of what policymakers should want in a rapidly evolving and strategically important sector. Temporary federal preemption would help protect the ability of startups to compete, attract investment, and bring affordable, innovative products to market.

Importantly, this approach is not about leaving AI unregulated. Rather, it is about creating space for Congress to develop a thoughtful, balanced national framework while existing laws and federal agencies continue to apply. A time-limited preemption ensures that federal leadership is established without foreclosing future policymaking or locking in a permanent regulatory outcome before the technology and its uses are fully understood. This coalition welcomes and encourages congressional action that will ensure the U.S. remains on the vanguard of AI development.

Supporting a temporary federal preemption framework presents a meaningful opportunity to strengthen U.S. innovation, protect consumers, promote competition, and safeguard national security. We urge Congress to provide regulatory clarity and consistency while working toward a comprehensive, durable national approach to AI governance that reflects the interests of all Americans.

Sincerely,

Brent Gardner
Chief Government Affairs Officer
Americans for Prosperity

Neil Chilson
Head of AI Policy
Abundance Institute

Neil Siefring
Senior Fellow
Alliance for the Future

Saulius "Saul" Anuzis
President
American Association of Senior Citizens

Logan Kolas
Director of Technology Policy
American Consumer Institute

Grover Norquist
President
Americans for Tax Reform

Nathan Leamer
Executive Director
Build American AI

Ryan Ellis
President
Center for a Free Economy

Anthony J. Zagotta
President
Center for American Principles

Chuck Muth
President
Citizen Outreach

Ashley Baker
Executive Director
Committee for Justice

Jessica Melugin
Director, Center for Technology and Innovation
Competitive Enterprise Institute

Brian McMillan
Vice President, Federal Affairs
Computer & Communications Industry Association

John Vick
Executive Director
Concerned Veterans for America

James Czerniawski
Head of Emerging Technology Policy
Consumer Choice Center

Gary Shapiro
Executive Chair & CEO
Consumer Technology Association

Tom Schatz
President
Council for Citizens Against Government Waste

James Erwin
Executive Director
Digital Liberty

George Landrith
President
Frontiers of Freedom

Vance Ginn, Ph.D.
President
Ginn Economic Consulting

Patrice Onwuka
Director of the Center for Economic Opportunity
Independent Women

Howard Fienberg
Senior VP Advocacy
Insights Association

Charles Sauer
President
Market Institute

Dr. Steven J. Allen
Senior Fellow
National Legal and Policy Center

Amy Bos
Vice President of Government Affairs
NetChoice

Adam Thierer
Resident Senior Fellow, Technology and Innovation
R Street Institute

David Williams
President
Taxpayers Protection Alliance

Casey Given
Executive Director
Young Voices

Caleb O. Brown
CEO
Bluegrass Institute

Brian Norman
Director of State Affairs
Goldwater Institute

Cami M. Pendell
Vice President for Government Affairs
Mackinac Center for Public Policy

Stephen Stephanie
President
New Hampshire Pine Tree Public Policy

Mike Stenhouse
CEO
Rhode Island Center for Freedom & Prosperity

Dr. J. Robert McClure
President & CEO
The James Madison Institute

Jon Decker
Senior Fellow
Parkview Institute

Stacie Rumenap
CEO & Founder
Stop Child Predators

Sandra Benitez
Executive Director
The LIBRE Initiative

James L. Martin
Founder & Chairman
60 Plus Association

Annette Thompson Meeks
CEO
Freedom Foundation of Minnesota

Donald Bryson
CEO
John Locke Foundation

Chris Cargill
President & CEO
Mountain States Policy Center

Daniel J. Erspamer
CEO
Pelican Institute for Public Policy

Paul Gessing
President
Rio Grande Foundation