Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

August 20, 2020

The Honorable Russell Vought
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Vought:

We write in strong support of the Office of Management and Budget's pending draft "Guidance on the Regulation of Artificial Intelligence Applications." As you are aware, this Guidance encompasses a complete government approach that will ensure the AI systems are built and deployed in a responsible and trustworthy manner, which will subsequently be used as a benchmark for federal agencies when considering future regulatory actions related to AI. The completion and the following implementation of the Guidance are vital in ensuring the U.S. continues to stay at the leading edge of global competitiveness in emerging technologies fields such as artificial intelligence (AI).

While the United States is a global leader in the research, development, and usage of AI, many other countries also look to establish their leadership and dominant position within the field. The People's Republic of China is currently developing its national standards and looking to use its influence on shaping global data policy. Furthermore, the European Commission is expected to release its own AI legislation in early 2021. As other countries look to set their own standards, it's imperative that the United States is prepared and well-positioned to continue to lead internationally.

Domestically, the OMB Guidance is important in addressing the opportunities and risks posed by AI implementation and ensuring that a consistent framework exist. Agency implementation plans will empower each agency to review and self-identify AI use cases, active collections of AI-related materials, and planned regulatory actions pertaining to AI applications. This comprehensive overview will provide both agencies and policymakers with needed insight on current issues surrounding AI. Internationally, these documents will be critical in preparing and supporting the United States' efforts to discuss AI governance issues abroad.

Therefore, timely finalization followed by full implementation by federal agencies of the pending draft guidance is paramount in maintaining U.S. leadership. With the understanding that those around the world continue to quickly move towards their own standards, regulations, and governance frameworks, we urge OMB and the agencies to complete and finalize the language by December 31st, 2020.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and we look forward to collaborating with you on the responsible development and implementation of AI applications as things continue to progress.

Sincerely,

_____
Pete Olson
Member of Congress

_____
Will Hurd
Member of Congress

_____
Ed Case
Member of Congress

_____
Anthony Gonzalez
Member of Congress

_____
Rodney Davis
Member of Congress

_____
Bill Foster
Member of Congress

_____
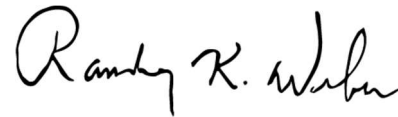Elise Stefanik
Member of Congress
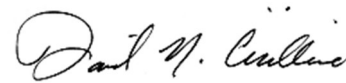
/S/ Brenda Lawrence

_____
Brenda Lawrence
Member of Congress

_____
Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress

_____
John Katko
Member of Congress

_____
Randy Weber
Member of Congress

_____
David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

_____
Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress

_____
Kim Schrier, M.D.
Member of Congress

/S/ Seth Moulton

_____
South Moulton
Member of Congress

/S/ Yvette D. Clarke

_____
Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

cc: Paul Ray, Administrator, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Michael Kratsios, Chief Technology Officer, Office of Science and Technology Policy
Lynne Parker, Deputy Chief Technology Officer, Office of Science and Technology Policy