



June 23, 2025

The Honorable John Thune

Majority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Chuck Schumer

Minority Leader
United States Senate

The Honorable Mike Johnson

Speaker
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries

Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives

Leader Thune, Speaker Johnson, Leaders Schumer and Jeffries,

As members of the Logos & Sofia coalition—a working group of faith leaders committed to ethical technology policy—we write with deep concern regarding, and in opposition to, the proposed federal moratorium on state regulation of artificial intelligence (AI), included in the current reconciliation package or any other legislative vehicle.

We believe this is a pivotal moment not only for our nation’s technological future but for our moral imagination. The development of AI is not simply a question of markets and machines—it is both a human and moral question: What are the impacts, benefits, and dangers on the dignity of work, human intellect, the nature of truth, the boundaries of consent, and the social compact we share as neighbors and citizens?

At its best, democratic governance holds sacred the principle that those closest to a community are often best positioned to discern its needs. Our Founders wanted the federal government to share power with state governments, not subjugate them. Throughout our history, states and localities have played a vital role in protecting the American public and piloting innovations in commerce, education, the general welfare, and the common good. From consumer protections to educational reform, states have often led the way in shaping responsible policy, working alongside the federal government to pilot solutions, refine approaches, and uphold the values of their communities. These experiments in state-level policy innovation may one day provide a foundation for national policies. The proposed moratorium on state regulation of AI would undermine that foundational principle.

Such a prohibition would not create order. It would create silence—locking out communities of faith and conscience, local lawmakers, and civil society voices from shaping how AI impacts our schools, courts, hospitals, and homes. This approach risks not only leaving the governance of AI to be determined primarily by the interests of large, tech actors but also removing the power of

the American people, through their elected representatives, to pursue morally sound policy decisions.

This concern becomes even more acute in light of efforts to tie the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program to this moratorium. States would be blocked from receiving funds unless they agree to relinquish their authority to regulate AI. That is not policy—it is coercion. If we believe broadband access is a public good – critical to education, opportunity, and rural prosperity – then it must remain accessible to all communities, not used as leverage to extract conformity.

If we truly value competition, innovation, and American leadership in technology, then we must resist the temptation to centralize power in the hands of a few. Logos & Sofia supports a strong federal framework that protects the American public—especially children, families, and the workforce—from the worst abuses of AI. But such a framework must be rooted in wisdom and designed to strengthen—not supplant—the ability of states to lead with integrity and care.

This means:

- Safeguarding children from predatory digital environments;
- Protecting individuals from the use of AI to produce non-consensual intimate/pornographic imagery;
- Defending workers from opaque, exploitative algorithmic decision-making;
- And upholding the rights of states to explore and pilot thoughtful, values-rooted policies that serve their people.

We do not fear AI, but neither do we worship it. Like fire, language, or law, AI is a tool to be stewarded wisely. The call before Congress is neither to halt progress nor unleash chaos—it is to ensure that the digital age reflects our deepest values, not just our fastest capabilities.

We urge you to remove the federal moratorium on state AI regulation from the reconciliation bill and reject any attempts to condition broadband access on states' silence and to oppose future efforts to tie state's hands. This is a moment for wisdom —not control. The future of ethical innovation depends on it.

In faith and in hope,

Logos & Sofia Coalition

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