



8 October 2018

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

Dear Senators Johnson and McCaskill,

IEEE-USA fully supports S.3502 – *The AI in Government Act* – bipartisan legislation aimed at bolstering the use of artificial intelligence (AI) technology across the federal government. We believe that taking full advantage of the extraordinary technological advancements in AI that our engineers and scientists are making will not only further and strengthen our national priorities and our security but will enhance US government efficiency. We especially believe it is important that, as federal agencies deploy AI across the government, they have access to skilled technical expertise and forward-looking, original research.

AI's benefits and strengths will be not only critical to supporting future effective government decision making, but to maintaining our global competitive edge. The accelerated pace of advancements in AI technologies makes this legislation timely and focuses USG efforts on using currently capable AI systems to maximize societal benefits. For example: AI will enable smart cities; allow highly effective delivery of government healthcare and social services; improve criminal justice systems; and revolutionize automobile transportation systems, reducing traffic fatalities and energy consumption.

AI technology will increasingly have a profound impact on all segments of American society, but it most assuredly will promote U.S. competitiveness through agency and industry cooperation. Therefore IEEE-USA applauds this legislation and supports adoption of S.3502 to ensure that the agencies responsible for delivering government services can take full advantage of AI technological advancements.

IEEE-USA represents more than 180,000 engineers, scientists and allied professionals across the United States, many of whom are actively conducting research and development in the area of artificial intelligence. We are the American component of the IEEE – the largest organization of technology professionals in the world. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Robinson
2018 President, IEEE-USA

CC:

Senator Brian Schatz, Senator Kamala Harris, Senator Cory Gardner, Senator Robert Portman

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