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The Honorable James Maroney
Deputy Majority Leader
Connecticut State Senate
Legislative Office Building, Room 3500
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Senator Maroney:

Thank you for your commitment to making Connecticut a leader in technology. Artificial intelligence (AI) is critical to our economic competitiveness, national security, and even public health. We all want the United States to lead on AI while putting clear guardrails in place to protect consumers and provide certainty for entrepreneurs. In that spirit, we ask you to consider amending SB 5 as it moves through the House to align with emerging national standards, narrow and clarify its scope, and avoid creating a fragmented state-by-state AI regime that could slow innovation and investment in both Connecticut and the United States.

We share your goal of advancing the safe and beneficial development of AI. Connecticut residents already use AI to grow small businesses, improve healthcare, and simplify daily life. This legislation should preserve and expand those benefits. We are concerned that, despite the best intentions, parts of the bill could unintentionally constrain them.

SB 5 addresses a wide range of issues, from catastrophic risk in foundation models to employment-related uses of AI. Many of these issues require a national framework. CTA is actively working with Congress to advance clear, risk-based federal rules that protect consumers while enabling innovation. California and New York have already enacted model-level AI laws. We respectfully ask Connecticut lawmakers to evaluate how those frameworks perform before adding another state layer. A patchwork of state laws raises compliance costs, hurts start-ups and smaller companies, creates legal uncertainty, and weakens U.S. leadership in AI.

SB 5 would also benefit from additional drafting clarity. The bill defines “artificial intelligence system” differently across sections and introduces terms that diverge from widely used standards. We encourage Connecticut to align its definitions with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) AI Risk Management Framework, as other states have done.

Creating new definitions outside that framework risks confusion for regulators and businesses and could discourage companies from offering new AI services in Connecticut.

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The proposed legislation also does not clearly assign responsibility across the AI value chain. Companies that build foundational technologies often lack visibility into downstream uses. Without clear, role-based obligations tied to actual control, the bill risks placing responsibility on entities that cannot realistically meet those requirements.

We appreciate your commitment to making Connecticut a leader in technology and respectfully encourage continued engagement with the Governor, local businesses, and national AI leaders to develop targeted, effective policy. We are eager to help and stand ready to work with you on these efforts.

Sincerely,



Gary Shapiro
CEO and Executive Chair
Consumer Technology Association



Kinsey Fabrizio
President
Consumer Technology Association