



March 22, 2018

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Todd Young
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Delaney
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Pete Olson
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cantwell, Senator Young, Representative Delaney, and Representative Olson:

We write to express our support for your leadership in introducing S. 2217 and H.R. 4625, The Fundamentally Understanding the Usability and Realistic Evolution of Artificial Intelligence Act of 2017 (“FUTURE of Artificial Intelligence Act of 2017”), which would create a federal advisory committee to examine a range of issues that would help maximize the potential of artificial intelligence (AI). We look forward to working with you as the legislation advances.

BSA | The Software Alliance is the leading global advocate for the software industry, and our members are at the forefront of cutting-edge data-driven innovation, including the development of software solutions powered by AI technologies. BSA supports initiatives, such as the FUTURE of Artificial Intelligence Act of 2017, that encourage the development of a national strategy on AI aimed at enhancing US global competitiveness, spurring innovation, and instilling confidence in AI. We look forward to working with Congress on this bill, and other initiatives, as you continue to examine these important issues.

AI has the potential to improve virtually every industry sector—from agriculture to healthcare to manufacturing—providing substantial economic benefits across the economy. According to one estimate, by 2035, AI could almost double annual economic growth rates in the United States, resulting in an additional \$8.3 trillion.¹ AI is also providing tremendous societal benefits, including tailoring educational services for children and enabling more effective deployment of emergency services.

A national strategy that promotes widespread adoption of AI will become increasingly important as we seek to unlock the full potential of AI. As part of that strategy, we encourage the development of sound data innovation policies, such as promoting cross-border data flows and the use of government data, and increased investment in research, technological development, and education. A critical component of our ability to seize the benefits of AI will be ensuring that our current workforce and the next generation are prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

¹ See Mark Purdy and Paul Dougherty, *Artificial Intelligence Is the Future of Growth*, Accenture (2018), at 19, available at https://www.accenture.com/t20170927T080049Z_w_/us-en/_acnmedia/PDF-33/Accenture-Why-AI-is-the-Future-of-Growth.PDF#zoom=50.

We recognize that raising awareness of AI and addressing concerns that may arise will also be key to spurring increased adoption of AI. BSA member companies are committed to building trust and are actively exploring how to use AI technologies to broaden inclusion, address the potential for bias, and keep data private and secure.

We need more awareness of, and thoughtful discussion of, the challenges and opportunities presented by AI. In our view, The **FUTURE** of Artificial Intelligence Act of 2017 is an important step in the right direction toward maximizing AI's positive potential to benefit the economy and society.

Again, thank you for your leadership, and we look forward to working with you on this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Victoria A. Espinel
President and CEO

cc:

Chair and Ranking Member Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee
Chair and Ranking Member House Energy and Commerce Committee
Chair and Ranking Member House Science, Space, and Technology Committee
Chair and Ranking Member House Education and Workforce Committee
Chair and Ranking Member House Foreign Affairs Committee
Chair and Ranking Member House Judiciary Committee
Chair and Ranking Member House Oversight and Government Reform Committee
The Honorable Edward Markey
The Honorable Ted Lieu
The Honorable Rohit Khanna
The Honorable Emanuel Cleaver
The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
The Honorable Michael Doyle
The Honorable Luke Messer
The Honorable Derek Kilmer