



Representative Ted Lieu

2454 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

May 8, 2026

Dear Representative Lieu,

We write as young people from across the state of California, including from California's 36th district, to urge you to publicly commit to opposing any AI preemption provisions being attached to The American Leadership in AI Act.

Young people are already intimately aware of how technology policy decisions deeply affect the course of our lives, and we must get it right with artificial intelligence. As the generation that grew up on social media, we know all too well the harms of tech companies designing and deploying their products without sufficient guardrails. While we know social media has benefits, social media companies have weaponized our attention, keeping us scrolling and in harm's way so that they can make more money. The stakes are just as high for AI companies that have recklessly deployed their products, putting our [mental health](#), [our economic opportunities](#), [our education](#), and our collective future at risk. We cannot fail to regulate AI companies in the same way we failed to regulate social media companies.

That's why we are grateful to our lawmakers in California for stepping up to regulate to protect our safety, economic prosperity, and future. Young people worked to help enact [California's Transparency in Frontier Artificial Intelligence Act](#), the [California Age-Appropriate Design Code](#), and California's [Protecting Our Kids from Social Media Addiction Act](#). In addition, the legislature is considering further critical protections on social media, chatbot protections, and AI guardrails.

As you know, Congress has considered enacting state AI preemption on two occasions, including in the July 2025 reconciliation package, where it failed on a 99-1 vote in the Senate, and again in the National Defense Authorization Act, where [57% of Americans](#) opposed Congress adding preemption to the package. [Young people spoke out alongside parent advocates](#) from across the country to urge Congress to reject those proposals. Sweeping AI preemptive measures would nullify states' rights to protect their residents from unchecked AI harms and undo much of the hard work that California has undertaken up to this point.

We are encouraged by your bipartisan efforts to regulate AI, and likewise share those same goals. However, we are concerned that this effort could be tied to larger efforts to push preemption forward, as has been [indicated by House Leadership over the past few months](#). **If you intend to move forward with this legislation, we ask that you publicly commit to ensuring that this measure is not attached to or does not include preemption at any stage of the legislative process.**

We are counting on your leadership in Congress to ensure that strong AI legislation gets done at the federal level. Although we share your goal that this effort should be bipartisan, we cannot allow our Congressional leaders to weaponize good-faith bipartisan work to jam through state AI preemption that would undo years of protections we have fought hard for.

Signed,

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