

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 31, 2023

The Honorable Kamala Harris  
Vice President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Vice President Harris,

Thank you for your efforts to develop and ensure safeguards for artificial intelligence (AI) that mitigate harmful outcomes while preserving innovation. We understand you plan to participate in the UK government's upcoming global AI Safety Summit (the "Summit"), which will convene governments, AI companies, and nongovernmental organizations to consider the risks posed by AI and potential opportunities for coordinated responses. As the United States engages in the Summit, we underscore the importance of ensuring that efforts to govern AI promote fundamental rights and democratic values. Your Administration has already shown clear leadership in developing the *Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights*,<sup>1</sup> and we urge you to promote these principles at the Summit.

Although global processes such as the Summit are not a substitute for domestic regulation, they represent important opportunities to advance common principles for the governance of this rapidly evolving technology. Both the United States and the United Kingdom have demonstrated initiative around such processes in the past, including through their engagement around the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) AI Principles of 2019, the first global AI policy framework.<sup>2</sup> The Summit will focus on "frontier AI"—described by the UK government as primarily large, general purpose AI—including risks to biosecurity, cybersecurity, and loss of human control and oversight.<sup>3</sup> As the United States engages around this agenda, we must ensure that fundamental rights and democratic values, including respect for civil liberties such as the freedom from unnecessary surveillance, remain central to these discussions.<sup>4</sup>

In your domestic engagement with AI businesses, labor leaders, and civil society organizations, you have championed AI that is fair, accountable, and safe.<sup>5</sup> In addition to mitigating global security risks,

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<sup>1</sup> *Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights*, The White House (Oct. 5, 2022) <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/ai-bill-of-rights/>.

<sup>2</sup> *OECD AI Principles Overview*, OECD (2019), <https://oecd.ai/en/ai-principles>.

<sup>3</sup> *Introduction to the AI Safety Summit*, UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (Oct. 11 2023), <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-safety-summit-introduction/ai-safety-summit-introduction-html>; *AI Safety Summit: day 1 and 2 programme*, UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (Oct. 16 2023), <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ai-safety-summit-programme/ai-safety-summit-day-1-and-2-programme>.

<sup>4</sup> *The UK AI Summit: Time to Elevate Democratic Values*, Council on Foreign Relations (Sept. 27 2023), <https://www.cfr.org/blog/uk-ai-summit-time-elevate-democratic-values>.

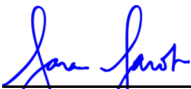
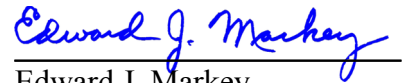


<sup>5</sup> *Statement from Vice President Harris After Meeting with CEOs on Advancing Responsible Artificial Intelligence Innovation*, The White House (May 4 2023), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/05/04/statement-from-vice-president-harris-after-meeting-with-ceos-on-advancing-responsible-artificial-intelligence-innovation/>; *Readout of Vice President Harris's Meeting with Consumer Protection, Labor, and Civil Rights Leaders on AI*, The White House (July 13

which is an important priority, there are existing harms to workers, consumers, and marginalized communities that must be urgently addressed. As you participate in the Summit, we ask that you continue to uplift the principles of fairness, accountability and safety, while promoting an inclusive definition of AI safety.<sup>6</sup> We applaud the UK government's inclusion of a roundtable discussion on societal risks. During this discussion, we hope you will emphasize the impact of algorithmic decision-making on access to opportunities and critical needs, including housing, credit, employment, education, and criminal justice. This work requires participation from a broad range of stakeholders, such as civil society organizations and those most likely to be impacted by AI harms, including marginalized communities across the globe who often do not have a representative voice in these conversations.

We thank you again for the Biden-Harris administration's important work to identify guardrails for AI through the development of the *Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights*, which supports fundamental principles such as AI fairness, accountability, and safety.<sup>7</sup> We urge you to promote these principles on the world stage through your engagement in the Summit.

Thank you for your attention to this timely and important matter.

Sincerely,

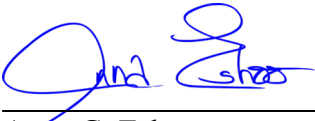
  
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Sara Jacobs  
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Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator  
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Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator  
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Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator

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2023), <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/07/13/readout-of-vice-president-harris-meeting-with-consumer-protection-labor-and-civil-rights-leaders-on-ai/>.

<sup>6</sup> Seth Lazar & Alondra Nelson, *AI Safety on Whose Terms?*, Science (Jul. 13 2023), <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/science.adi8982>.

<sup>7</sup> *Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights*, *supra* n. 1.



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Member of Congress



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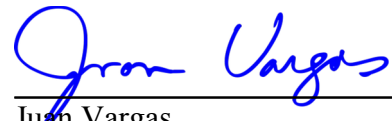
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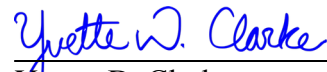
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Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress



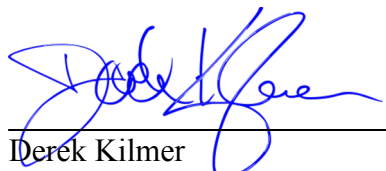
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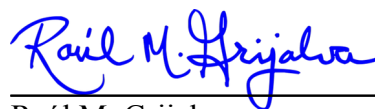
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