



THE UNITED STATES
CONFERENCE OF MAYORS



June 26 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Jeffries, and Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the nation's states, cities, counties and municipalities, we write to express strong opposition to recent congressional proposals in the budget reconciliation process that would impose a federally mandated 10-year moratorium on state and local artificial intelligence (AI) policymaking. Furthermore, we strongly oppose the conditioning of any federal funds on compliance with such a moratorium.

Collectively, our organizations represent the nation's 50 states, 3,069 counties and 19,000 cities throughout the United States. We are enthusiastic about the opportunities presented by artificial intelligence (AI) and are already working to integrate this technology into critical public services – from smart infrastructure and traffic systems to permitting and public safety. By restricting state and local governments from enacting any policy or law regarding AI and GenAI for the next 10 years, Congress would be enacting significant overreach into state and local authority, while threatening the ability of state and local governments to responsibly regulate emerging technologies in ways that best serve their communities.

A 10-year pause could lead to immeasurable negative consequences without meaningful intervention from state and local governments, particularly in the likely absence of federal statutes. State and local authorities have adopted a highly measured and selective approach to regulating emerging technologies; thus, a one-size-fits-all federal moratorium would strip state and local governments of essential tools to protect residents, ensure safety, and manage risk.

Moreover, tying federal funding sources to a moratorium unfairly penalizes communities – particularly rural and underserved areas – that may rely on technology funding streams to close the digital divide and improve access to other features of the modern economy, including telemedicine and distance learning, precision agriculture, online commerce and telework opportunities, and more.

Together, we urge Congress to remove the proposed moratorium on artificial intelligence policymaking at the state and local level from the budget reconciliation text, and to oppose any future attempts to preempt state and local governments from the ability to enact regulations or policy on artificial intelligence.

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Matthew Chase
Executive Director/CEO
National Association of Counties



Doug Robinson
Executive Director
National Association of State Chief Information
Officers



David Adkins
Executive Director/CEO
The Council of State Governments



Tom Cochran
CEO and Executive Director
The United States Conference of
Mayors



Julia Novak
Executive Director and CEO
International City/County Management
Association



Clarence E. Anthony
CEO & Executive Director
National League of Cities

CC: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate