

**Committee:** House Oversight & Government Reform Subcommittee on Cybersecurity,

Information Technology & Government Innovation

**Event:** Shaping Tomorrow: The Future of Artificial Intelligence

Date: September 17, 2025

**Time**: 2:00 PM

Place: 2247 Rayburn House Office Building

## **Member Toplines:**

<u>Chair Nancy Mace (R-SC-01)</u>: Mace warned that U.S. leadership in artificial intelligence (Al) is critical to setting global standards, ethics, and economic benefits, rather than ceding influence to adversarial countries. She emphasized the subcommittee's responsibility to guide the responsible development of Al, ensuring it advances American values and strengthens the nation's global leadership.

Ranking Member Shontel Brown (D-OH-11)<sup>1</sup>: Brown emphasized that while AI has the potential to strengthen the economy and government efficiency, it also poses risks if not paired with strong safeguards. She underscored the importance of oversight focused on security, accountability, and building a diverse and resilient workforce.

## Witness Toplines:

Kinsey Fabrizio, President, Consumer Technology Association: Fabrizio emphasized that while U.S. companies lead in AI, China's investments pose a serious challenge, making strong federal policies essential to maintaining U.S. competitiveness. She urged Congress to enact a 10-year moratorium on state and local AI laws to avoid a patchwork of regulations.

Samuel Hammond, Chief Economist, Foundation for American Innovation: Hammond warned that AI agents are approaching the ability to autonomously perform tasks equivalent to a human workday, and breakthroughs could yield systems capable of accelerating scientific discovery. He stressed that U.S. national security depends on monitoring frontier AI, securing computing resources, and ensuring robust oversight and safeguards.

Nicol Turner Lee, Senior Fellow, Governance Studies; and Director, Center for Technology Innovation, The Brookings Institution: Lee called for ethical AI design and federal oversight to prevent fraud and discrimination. She emphasized the importance of cultivating a diverse and agile workforce, warning that restrictive policies and weak education systems threaten U.S. competitiveness.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ranking Member Brown's opening statement was not available at the time of this memo's distribution.

## Major Takeaways:

- Mace and Fabrizio agreed that a patchwork of state Al laws stifles innovation and argued the issue is inherently federal since it involves interstate commerce.
- Hammond stressed that the U.S. and China are roughly at parity on Al talent and data, but China is rapidly expanding its energy capacity. He contended that the U.S. risks falling behind without major investment in infrastructure and energy resources.
  - o Mace and Hammond noted nuclear as a solution for powering Al infrastructure.
  - Fabrizio emphasized the need to modernize the grid, while Lee also supported upgrades but cautioned against rushing changes in communities already facing environmental and infrastructure disadvantages.
  - Lee argued that any Al-driven solutions should be paired with careful consideration of environmental impacts and equitable implementation.
- Rep. John McGuire (R-VA-05) advocated for fossil fuel energy sources and nuclear power over renewables to power data centers, arguing they are more efficient and land-sparing. He called solar impractical for powering Al nationwide by 2030.
  - Fabrizio and Lee promoted a balanced "all-of-the-above" approach, including renewables. Fabrizio further emphasized how Al can help in research, modeling, and finding solutions to energy problems.
  - Burlison and Hammond emphasized that AI competitiveness requires domestic data centers, which in turn depend on sufficient electricity supply. Hammond noted that China is simultaneously expanding coal and renewable capacity, highlighting the dual approach to meet energy needs. He argued that in the short term, AI data centers in the U.S. will rely heavily on natural gas for energy.
- McGuire expressed concern that strict environmental regulations and large-scale renewable mandates could stifle innovation and slow the deployment of energy infrastructure needed for AI.
- Rep. Suhas Subramanyam (D-VA-10) highlighted Al's displacement of workers and expressed concerns about STEM graduates struggling to find jobs.
  - Fabrizio emphasized investment in STEM education, reskilling, upskilling, and apprenticeships to help workers adapt to Al. She highlighted that regulatory environments can affect workforce opportunities. For example, Europe's stricter Al regulations have slowed innovation and job creation in Al-related startups.
  - Turner advocated for workforce development through digital literacy, upskilling, and mentorship programs.
  - Lee cautioned against overestimating post-construction jobs from data centers, stressing the need to differentiate between construction-phase jobs and long-term operational employment.
- In response to Rep. Eli Crane (R-AZ-02), Hammond recommended limiting exports of Nvidia's H20 chips to protect the U.S. from adversaries. He also expressed support for the GAIN AI Act (S. Amdt. 3505 to S. 2296) and the Chip Security Act (H.R. 3447/S. 1705) to give U.S. companies the first right of refusal and enforce chip tracking, and argued the U.S. must crack down on chip smuggling.
- Rep. Eric Burlison (R-MO-07) raised concerns about Al's ability to be used to weaponize personal data to target people with unwanted solicitations or deepfake content.