



HUMAN FACTORS and ERGONOMICS SOCIETY

Dear Chairman Lucas and Ranking Member Lofgren:

On behalf of the [Human Factors and Ergonomics Society \(HFES\)](#), we commend the committee on the *Workforce for AI Trust* bill. HFES is the world's largest interdisciplinary non-profit organization of human factors and ergonomics (HF/E) professionals who work to advance safety and efficiency in research, development, and operations. With over 3,000 members, HFES represents a range of expertise including engineers, social scientists, and former government officials. HFES researchers have dedicated much of their work to ensuring the safe and secure development, deployment, and implementation of AI systems and were pleased to see the Committee draft a bill addressing workforce gaps in trustworthy AI systems.

As mentioned above, many HFES experts have spent decades researching the best ways to safely develop and implement advanced AI systems. HFES has developed a [policy paper](#) outlining a set of guardrails and recommendations for human use of AI. These recommendations seek to harness the benefits of AI for the workforce and public at large, while mitigating risks. Some recommendations include providing explicit labeling for AI systems, ensuring AI systems are transparent and explainable, promoting training for users, and validating and certifying systems throughout the development process.

HFES was particularly pleased by the inclusion of a provision that would initiate an interdisciplinary AI fellowship at the National Science Foundation (NSF) that would support a diverse array of students and post-doctoral researchers in engaging in activities that promote the integration of ethical and responsible practices across the spectrum of AI systems development from design to implementation and evaluation. As mentioned, HFES represents a range of professionals, including social scientists, who are dedicated to advancing safe and secure AI research and development (R&D). HFES was also interested to see that the bill would amend the National Institute Standards and Technology (NIST) Risk Management Framework (RMF) to include language that would "support technical standards and guidance" on workforce development education and training activities related to AI risk management. As AI governance tools are established, the need for a workforce that can effectively utilize them grows. As a member of the [US Artificial Intelligence Safety Institute Consortium](#), HFES recognizes the efforts of NIST leadership in ensuring safe AI systems and developing a highly skilled AI workforce. HFES contributes to the Institute's mission in advancing better understanding of AI and its risks. HFES is in support of cultivating a wholistic AI workforce, including those who can test and validate AI systems to mitigate risk posed by such systems.

HFES is proud to endorse a bill that considers the AI governance workforce and promotes safe, ethical, and responsible AI R&D practices. We thank you for your bipartisan leadership on the bill and hope that you can see HFES as a resource on all future AI legislation.

Sincerely,

Susan Kotowski

President, HFES