



May 10, 2024

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Rules and Administration  
425 Dirksen Senate Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Deb Fischer  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Rules and Administration  
448 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

## **Bipartisan Coalition of Election Officials, National Security Experts, and Technologists Call for the Enactment of Critical Legislation to Safeguard Our Democracy Against AI Threats**

Dear Chairwoman Klobuchar and Ranking Member Fischer,

We, the undersigned members of Issue One’s [Faces of Democracy campaign](#), the [National Council on Election Integrity](#), and the [Council for Responsible Social Media](#), write to express our support for swift enactment of legislation to mitigate the risks that generative artificial intelligence (AI) poses to our democracy. These technologies can generate synthetic media that blur the line between reality and fabrication, making it increasingly difficult for the public to discern fact from fiction. Furthermore, detecting synthetic content is increasingly difficult for both technology and humans, and yet the tools for generating such content exhibit the potential to turbocharge preexisting election interference tactics.

The rapid deployment of AI, particularly generative capabilities like deepfake creation, poses unprecedented threats to our information ecosystem, with grave implications for informed participation in democracy. Generative AI tools can be used to systematically create hyperrealistic content, giving foreign adversaries an array of comparatively low-cost tools that can be used to further sow divisions among the electorate and destabilize domestic politics. By combining these tools with Americans’ personal data, bad actors can design [microtargeted content](#) to manipulate and misinform voters. The challenge also extends to election administration: AI can be used to [generate malware to attack election infrastructure](#) and to [automate the harassment of election workers](#).

A [majority of Americans agree](#): Federal action is needed to curb the use of fake images and videos generated by AI in elections and political campaigns. The [AI Transparency in Elections Act \(S.3875\)](#), the [Protect Elections from Deceptive AI Act \(S.2770\)](#), and the [Preparing Election Administrators for AI Act \(S. 3897\)](#) are bipartisan, vetted legislation that build necessary safeguards against the negative effects of this rapidly developing technology, while still reaping its benefits. More must be done to buttress our election infrastructure, particularly through congressional appropriation of robust and consistent federal election security grants, but these bills are a necessary step.

The **AI Transparency in Elections Act** requires labeling the use of AI in political advertisements, ensuring voters are informed when content has been artificially generated or manipulated, thus preserving the integrity of the information they receive.

The **Protect Elections from Deceptive AI Act** targets unauthorized deepfakes of political candidates, protecting elections by ensuring that AI-manipulated media cannot be used to deceive voters. This bill is particularly relevant considering the use of an AI-generated deepfake of President Biden during the 2024 [New Hampshire primary](#) that sought to mislead voters about the time, place, and manner of the election.

The **Preparing Election Administrators for AI Act** directs the Election Assistance Commission to provide election officials with voluntary guidelines to manage the challenges posed by AI technologies. This bill bolsters the resilience of our electoral system by promoting the development of best practices and standards for identifying and mitigating threats from AI.

The stakes are high, and the need for action is urgent. We implore you to prioritize these bipartisan bills in the legislative agenda, ensuring that our democracy remains robust and resistant to the manipulative potential of advanced technologies.

Thank you for your attention to this issue. We look forward to your leadership in passing these essential measures in a bipartisan manner.

Sincerely,

**Natalie Adona**

*Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters for Nevada  
County, CA  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. Gregg M. Amore**

*Rhode Island Secretary of State*

**Tina Barton**

*Former Rochester Hills City Clerk  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**The Hon. Shenna Bellows**

*Maine Secretary of State  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. Jocelyn Benson**

*Michigan Secretary of State  
Faces of Democracy*

**Dave Bjerke**

*Director of Elections & General Registrar of  
Voters for the City of Falls Church, VA  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. Charles Boustany**

*Former U.S. Rep. (R-LA)  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**Donna Brazile**

*Former DNC Chair  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**Kristin Bride**

*Social media reform advocate  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**Kristin Connelly**

*Contra Costa County, CA Clerk-Recorder-  
Registrar  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. John Bridgeland**

*Executive Chairman of the Office of American  
Possibilities & former Dir. of White House  
Domestic Policy Council  
National Council on Election Integrity and  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**Bruce Brown**

*Secretary and Lead Member of the City of  
Alexandria Electoral Board  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. Barbara Comstock**

*Former U.S. Rep. (R-VA)  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**The Hon. Jim Condos**

Former Vermont Secretary of State  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Carlos Curbelo**

Former U.S. Rep. (R-FL)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**Dustin Czarny**

Onondaga County, NY Election Commissioner  
Faces of Democracy

**Josh Daniels**

Former Clerk of Utah County, Utah  
Faces of Democracy

**Cathy Darling Allen**

Former County Clerk and Registrar of Voters in  
Shasta County, CA  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Tom Daschle**

Former Senate Majority Leader (D-SD)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**Lisa Deeley**

Philadelphia City Commissioner  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Donna Edwards**

Former U.S. Rep. (D-MD)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**Tate Fall**

Director of Elections for Cobb County, GA  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Adrian Fontes**

Arizona Secretary of State  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Dick Gephardt**

Former House Majority Leader (D-MO)  
National Council on Election Integrity and  
Council for Responsible Social Media

**The Hon. Trey Grayson**

Former Kentucky Sec. of State (R)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**The Hon. Steve Gunderson**

Former U.S. Rep. (R-WI)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**The Hon. Chuck Hagel**

Former Sec. of Defense & U.S. Sen. (R-NE)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**Ken Hamm**

Poll worker trainer in Las Vegas, NV  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Jane Harman**

Former U.S. Rep. (D-CA)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**The Hon. Asa Hutchinson**

Former Governor (R-AR)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**Neal Kelley**

Former Registrar of Voters for Orange County, CA  
Faces of Democracy and National Council on  
Election Integrity

**Carly Koppes**

County Clerk and Recorder in Weld County, CO  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Mary Landrieu**

Former U.S. Sen. (D-LA)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**Brianna Lennon**

County Clerk for Boone County, MO  
Faces of Democracy

**The Hon. Amber McReynolds**

Presidential Appointee & former Director of  
Elections for Denver, CO  
Faces of Democracy and National Council on  
Election Integrity

**The Hon. Susan Molinari**

Former U.S. Rep. (R-NY)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**The Hon. Connie Morella**

Former Ambassador & U.S. Rep. (R-MD)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**The Hon. Carol Moseley Braun**

Former Ambassador & U.S. Sen. (D-IL)  
National Council on Election Integrity

**Adm. Bill Owens**

*Former Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff  
National Council on Election Integrity and  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**The Hon. Leon Panetta**

*Former Sec. of Defense, Director of the CIA,  
White House Chief of Staff, and U.S. Rep. (D-CA)  
National Council on Election Integrity and  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**Trisha Prabhu**

*Founder and CEO of ReThink  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**The Hon. Deborah Pryce**

*Former U.S. Rep. (R-OH)  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**The Hon. Reid Ribble**

*Former U.S. Rep. (R-WI)  
National Council on Election Integrity and  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**The Hon. Tim Roemer**

*Former Ambassador & U.S. Rep. (D-IN)  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**Omar Sabir**

*Philadelphia City Commissioner  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. Michael Steele**

*Former RNC Chair & Lt. Gov. (R-MD)  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**The Hon. Natalie E. Tennant**

*Former West Virginia Sec. of State (D)  
Faces of Democracy and National Council on  
Election Integrity*

**Nicole Tisdale**

*Former Director for the National Security Council  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**The Hon. Zach Wamp**

*Former U.S. Rep. (R-TN)  
National Council on Election Integrity*

**Tonya Wichman**

*Director of the Board of Elections in Defiance  
County, OH  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. Tim Wirth**

*Former U.S. Sen. (D-CO)  
National Council on Election Integrity and  
Council for Responsible Social Media*

**Julie Wise**

*Director of King County Elections, WA  
Faces of Democracy*

**The Hon. Kim Wyman**

*Former Washington Sec. of State and CISA's  
Senior Election Security Advisor  
National Council on Election Integrity*

For more information please contact Gideon Cohn-Postar at [gcohnpostar@issueone.org](mailto:gcohnpostar@issueone.org).

CC: Members of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration