7 May 2024

Senator Gary Peters, Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Peters,

IEEE-USA is pleased to offer our support for the *Promoting Responsible Evaluation and Procurement to Advance Readiness for Enterprise-wide Deployment for Artificial Intelligence Act (PREPARED for AI Act)*.

We fully agree that AI systems ("AI"), when deployed responsibly, have the potential to radically augment and strengthen the federal government's ability to deliver services to Americans. However, while AI can promote innovative societal and economic benefits, it must be acquired and used within risk-mitigating frameworks that prevent potential harms such as critical failures and even loss of life. The requirements set forth in this bill provide the best path forward to help mitigate those harms. IEEE, a leading global standards developer, believes that the PREPARED for AI Act, which recognizes the role that standards play in providing necessary best practices, will provide federal agencies with the AI governance framework they need.

Standardization can help the public by:

- setting the foundation on which technology innovation is based,
- enabling the development of complex solutions at a better cost structure,
- fueling growth of global markets,
- expanding consumer choice,
- supporting interoperability, and
- protecting the health and public safety of workers and the public.

As the world increasingly uses AI systems for problem solving and decision making, Congress must ensure that guard rails are in place to provide informed acquisition, deployment, and use of AI systems, especially within federal government activities that rely on the trust of the American people.

Procurement of an AI system is complicated. It is not as simple as buying the products and services with which federal employees have some familiarity. The federal workforce must possess the expertise to recognize not only what system should be purchased, but how that system operates and how it will impact decision-making. Requiring the use of standards can help and perhaps even eliminate some of the risks that come with deploying very complicated systems.

Thank you for your leadership on this matter and we look forward to working with you to ensure passage of this legislation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Erica Wissolik at e.wissolik@ieee.org or (202) 360-5023.

Sincerely,

Keith Moore
IEEE-USA President