

Diversifying and Expanding Access to AI Systems

REQUEST: Support the bipartisan CREATE AI Act (H.R. 2385)

TALKING POINTS:

- The NAIRR pilot program has been successful and ought to be made permanent.
- The NAIRR democratizes supercomputing power by giving small companies, universities, and researchers access to our country’s most powerful computers.

BACKGROUND

IEEE-USA supports the bipartisan “*Creating Resources for Every American To Experiment with Artificial Intelligence Act*” (CREATE AI Act), which will help maintain US leadership in AI.

Introduced by former IEEE member Rep. Jay Obernolte (R-CA) and Rep. Don Beyer (D-VA), the CREATE AI Act makes the National AI Research Resource (NAIRR) pilot program permanent. The NAIRR is a cloud computing resource that leverages the Department of Energy’s computational assets, including Oak Ridge National Laboratory’s Summit supercomputer, to give small companies and researchers access to supercomputers. The program aims to democratize access to AI resources to spur cutting-edge research and propel the strategic development of AI capabilities.

Without full congressional authorization and approval of the NAIRR via the CREATE AI Act, American leadership in AI R&D could be diminished.

CREATE AI Act Addresses the Access Divide:

AI R&D activities rely on access to large volumes of data and advanced computational power, most of which are unavailable to researchers outside of well-resourced tech companies and major research universities.

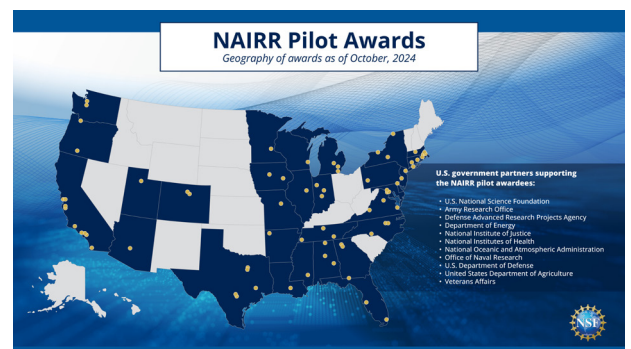
This inaccessibility constrains the ability of small companies and universities, community colleges, and less traditional R&D institutions to leverage AI to tackle society’s significant challenges.

NAIRR Operations:

The NAIRR opens up AI research capabilities to a larger number of Americans. Researchers at smaller institutions of higher education and certain small businesses will be eligible to use the NAIRR for AI research.

An independent non-governmental entity may run the day-to-day operations of NAIRR, including procuring the computational and data resources needed for AI research. This operational entity, which would be selected through a competitive process, would be a single educational institution or federally funded research and development center (FFRDC), or a consortium of universities or FFRDCs.

Appropriations for the NAIRR will occur through the regular annual appropriations process.



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