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National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee Established by Department of Commerce

Lamar Smith, Natasha G. Kohne, Ed Pagano, Hans Christopher Rickhoff, and Christina Barone*

The authors discuss the newly established National Artificial Intelligence Advisory Committee, which will advise the president and the National AI Initiative Office on various issues related to artificial intelligence.

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo recently announced the establishment of the National Artificial Intelligence ("AI") Advisory Committee ("NAIAC" or the "Committee"). The NAIAC will advise the president and the National AI Initiative Office ("NAIIO") on various issues related to AI, including the National AI Initiative (the "Initiative") and recommendations related to, but not limited to:

- The current state of U.S. competitiveness and leadership in AI.
- A review of the progress made in implementing the Initiative, including the degree to which the Initiative is achieving its defined goals and metrics.
- Issues related to AI and the U.S. workforce.
- How to leverage the Initiative's resources to streamline and enhance operations in various areas of government, including health care, cybersecurity, infrastructure, and disaster recovery.
- Whether the Initiative adequately addresses ethical, legal, safety, security, and other appropriate societal issues.
- Opportunities for international cooperation with allies on AI research activities, standards development, and the compatibility of international regulations.

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- How AI can enhance opportunities for diverse geographic regions of the United States, including urban, Tribal, and rural communities.

Additionally, the Committee's chairperson will establish a subcommittee relating to the development of AI with respect to law enforcement matters, referred to as the Subcommittee on AI and Law Enforcement. The subcommittee will advise the president on issues related to bias, security of data, adoptability, and legal standards.

Former President Trump signed the National Defense Authorization Act ("NDAA") for Fiscal Year ("FY") 2021 into law, which included the National AI Initiative Act of 2020 (the "Act"). The Act established the National AI Initiative, creating a coordinated program across the federal government to accelerate AI research and application to support economic prosperity, national security and advance AI leadership in the United States.[1] The establishment of the NAIAC is the latest AI-focused proposal to take shape from the requirements in the NDAA, following the establishment of a National AI Research Resource ("NAIRR") and associated task force.

The Committee will consist of at least nine appointed members with broad interdisciplinary expertise and involvement, including from academic institutions, companies across diverse sectors, nonprofit and civil society entities, and federal laboratories. In selecting members of the NAIAC, the Secretary of Commerce will seek and consider recommendations from Congress, industry, nonprofit organizations, the scientific community, the defense and law enforcement communities, and other appropriate organizations.

The Department of Commerce accepted nominations for members to serve on the Committee, including the Subcommittee on AI and Law Enforcement, through October 25, 2021.

Notes

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1. National Artificial Intelligence Initiative Office, *National Artificial Intelligence Initiative*, *available at* https://www.ai.gov/.