

Fostering a Competitive AI Ecosystem

TECNA members represent 20,000+ companies across North America's innovation economy—companies that build and deploy AI.

America's AI leadership is not guaranteed. Global competitors, including China, are closing the gap in AI development, deployment, and workforce preparedness. A fragmented 50-state policy patchwork is slowing U.S. companies down. We must establish a unified federal framework to address conflicting state laws that hinder innovation, while preserving targeted state flexibility where it does not undermine national consistency and security. This will ensure a baseline of certainty and interstate scalability for companies—and pave the way for growth.

TECNA urges Congress to act now.

POLICY POSITIONS ON AI

SAFETY, SECURITY, AND PRIVACY

- Protect individuals, especially children, from AI-related harms, including the unauthorized use of their name, image, likeness, voice, or other personal attributes, and through safeguards like age assurances, parental management tools, and features that reduce risk.
- Affirm the applicability of existing civil rights, privacy, and consumer protection laws to AI.
- Strengthen efforts to combat AI-enabled fraud and scams that target vulnerable populations.

INNOVATION AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- Maintain a pro-innovation regulatory environment that encourages experimentation, rapid iteration, and deployment, including the use of regulatory sandboxes and existing regulatory bodies.
- Invest in R&D, grants, technical assistance, tax incentives, and other resources for AI research, deployment, and commercialization, especially for small and medium-sized businesses.
- Protect creators' rights by establishing licensing frameworks and affirming that existing intellectual property laws apply to AI, including appropriate authorization, attribution, and compensation for use of protected works.
- Enable responsible data access and sharing that fuel innovation while protecting privacy and intellectual property.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- Streamline federal permitting and invest in AI infrastructure to accelerate its responsible buildout, including compute capacity, secure data ecosystems, and energy resources that support scalability—grounded in community input and shared benefit.
- Expand talent pipelines by supporting sector partnerships and bolstering high-quality education and workforce development programs, including Registered Apprenticeships.

AI SURGE STATISTICS ACROSS ALL 50 STATES

Source: American Edge Project

\$560B	→ AI/ML venture capital investment (2019-2025)
+14.2%	→ Net tech job growth—2.5x faster than remainder of economy (2019-2025)
5.4M	→ Jobs from data center buildout nationwide (2025)
\$27B	→ Projected state & local tax revenue over the next decade (2025-2035)