

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6937

To require the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a study on artificial intelligence, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 19, 2020

Mr. GUTHRIE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a study on artificial intelligence, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Countering Online
5 Harms Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ONLINE HARMS OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**
7 **STUDY.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—

9 (1) STUDY REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years
10 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the

1 Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission shall
2 conduct a study on how artificial intelligence may be
3 used to address the online harms described in para-
4 graph (2).

5 (2) REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDY.—In con-
6 ducting the study, the Commission shall consider
7 whether and how artificial intelligence may be used
8 to identify, remove, or take any other appropriate
9 action necessary to address the following online
10 harms:

11 (A) Deceptive and fraudulent content in-
12 tended to scam or otherwise harm individuals,
13 including such practices directed at senior citi-
14 zens.

15 (B) Manipulated content intended to mis-
16 lead individuals, including deepfake videos and
17 fake individual reviews.

18 (C) Website or mobile application inter-
19 faces designed to intentionally mislead or ex-
20 ploit individuals.

21 (D) Illegal content online, including the
22 sale of illegal opioids, child sexual exploitation
23 and abuse, revenge pornography, harassment,
24 cyberstalking, hate crimes, and incitement of vi-
25 olence.

1 (E) Terrorist and violent extremists’ abuse
2 of digital platforms, including the use of such
3 platforms to promote themselves, share propa-
4 ganda, and glorify real-world acts of violence.

5 (F) Disinformation campaigns coordinated
6 by inauthentic accounts or individuals to influ-
7 ence United States elections.

8 (G) The sale of counterfeit products.

9 (b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6
10 months after the completion of the study required pursu-
11 ant to subsection (a), the Chairman shall submit to the
12 Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of
13 Representatives and the Committee on Commerce,
14 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report that
15 contains—

16 (1) the results of the study conducted under
17 subsection (a); and

18 (2) based on such results, the following:

19 (A) Recommendations on how artificial in-
20 telligence may be used to address the online
21 harms described in subsection (a)(2).

22 (B) Recommendations on what reasonable
23 policies, practices, and procedures may be im-
24 plemented to utilize artificial intelligence to ad-
25 dress such online harms.

1 (C) Recommendations for legislation that
2 may advance the adoption and use of artificial
3 intelligence to address such online harms.

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