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Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, along with a bipartisan team of senators, revealed a detailed plan to shape future congressional legislation on artificial intelligence (AI). The 31-page document outlines extensive government spending aimed at accelerating AI research and development, reinforcing earlier commitments to prioritize U.S. innovation in this competitive field.

Key components of the roadmap include the establishment of guardrails for AI to mitigate risks such as discrimination, job displacement, and election interference. The proposal also calls for the creation of a national data privacy law to give consumers more control over their personal information, aligning with legislative efforts seen in the European Union.

The plan recommends an annual allocation of at least $32 billion for AI research, based on a 2021 report by the National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence. Developed through extensive consultations with tech companies, civil rights leaders, labor unions, and intellectual property holders, the roadmap aims to energize a legislative initiative that began last year under Schumer's leadership.

Bipartisan support for the roadmap was highlighted by Republican Senators Mike Rounds of South Dakota and Todd Young of Indiana, as well as Democratic Senator Martin Heinrich of New Mexico. The blueprint emphasizes moving from a learning phase to actionable legislation, with discussions on export controls and national security-related AI designations.

Schumer expressed an urgency to regulate AI, citing the rapid approach of the 2024 elections as a motivating factor to prioritize election-focused AI legislation. However, some policy analysts and congressional aides remain skeptical about significant legislative advances in an election year.

The European Union has already made strides in AI regulation, passing the EU AI Act in March, which bans certain AI applications and imposes restrictions on high-risk uses.

**Source: CNN**