# Georgia lawmakers unite against federal 10-year freeze on AI regulations



The urgency surrounding artificial intelligence (AI) regulation has taken centre stage in Georgia, as six state legislators have rallied support against a proposed 10-year freeze on local and state AI regulations that is embedded in a federal budget bill backed by former President Trump. This bipartisan appeal, involving over 250 state lawmakers from across the United States, warns of the long-term dangers that a moratorium would pose to existing efforts aimed at regulating the burgeoning sector.

The lawmakers stress that the freezing of state and local legislative powers could undermine significant recent developments in AI governance. Across the country, states have enacted various laws designed to increase transparency for consumers, establish protocols for governmental tech acquisitions, and safeguard patients within healthcare frameworks as well as protecting the rights of artists and creators. A national standstill on AI regulations could jeopardise these vital instruments of public protection, leaving citizens vulnerable and potentially stifling the industry’s positive attributes.

The debate over AI oversight is intensifying, particularly within Georgia. A proposed state bill intended to curate AI growth has been stymied by Republican U.S. Representative Rich McCormick, who argues for a unified federal approach to AI regulation. This perspective underpins his belief that state-level regulations could lead to inconsistencies. Senator Brandon Beach, the chair of the Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee, confirmed McCormick's position has impeded advancements on the proposed legislation, underscoring a broader clash between state and federal jurisdiction in the realm of AI policy.

In response to these complexities, some Georgia lawmakers are advocating for a meticulous approach to AI legislation. A state Senate study committee has put forward a series of 22 recommendations intended to regulate AI without inhibiting innovation. These suggestions encompass pressing issues such as managing deepfakes, implementing data privacy laws, and ensuring the establishment of comprehensive AI plans for state and local agencies. The overarching intent of these recommendations is to harness the technological promise of AI while maintaining essential safeguards to protect citizens' privacy, fairness, and transparency.

Furthermore, the discourse around AI regulation in Georgia is not solely about safeguarding public interest. There are ongoing legislative efforts addressing AI’s implications within the creative arts and entertainment sectors. Proposed legislation aimed at holding individuals accountable for abuses, rather than targeting platforms or technology itself, is currently advancing despite mixed reception from industry representatives. These moves indicate a recognition among legislators that AI’s influence reaches far and wide, necessitating responsive and thoughtful governance.

As Georgia grapples with these multifaceted challenges, an increasing number of state lawmakers are seeking to balance the allure of innovation with the need for ethical frameworks. This evolving landscape merits careful observation as it reveals not only the complexities of AI regulation but also the broader implications for democratic governance and public safety in an increasingly digital world.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://nowhabersham.com/georgia-lawmakers-urge-congress-to-reject-10-year-freeze-on-ai-regulations/), [[4]](https://albanyherald.com/news/georgia-lawmakers-call-for-balanced-approach-to-ai/)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://nowhabersham.com/georgia-lawmakers-urge-congress-to-reject-10-year-freeze-on-ai-regulations/), [[2]](https://www.wabe.org/bill-to-help-guide-georgias-ai-growth-stalled-after-gop-us-rep-mccormick-raises-concerns/), [[5]](https://citizenportal.ai/articles/2479453/Georgia/Georgia-lawmakers-advance-Artificial-Intelligence-legislation-amid-industry-concerns)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://capitol-beat.org/2024/12/georgia-lawmakers-call-for-balanced-approach-to-ai/), [[4]](https://albanyherald.com/news/georgia-lawmakers-call-for-balanced-approach-to-ai/)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://citizenportal.ai/articles/2479453/Georgia/Georgia-lawmakers-advance-Artificial-Intelligence-legislation-amid-industry-concerns), [[6]](https://atlantaciviccircle.org/2025/03/12/georgia-artificial-intelligence-ai-state-bill-local-government/)
* Paragraph 5 – [[7]](https://www.wabe.org/georgia-lawmakers-propose-sweeping-ai-policies-privacy-and-ethics-laws/)

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## Bibliography

1. <https://nowhabersham.com/georgia-lawmakers-urge-congress-to-reject-10-year-freeze-on-ai-regulations/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.wabe.org/bill-to-help-guide-georgias-ai-growth-stalled-after-gop-us-rep-mccormick-raises-concerns/> - A proposed bill aimed at guiding Georgia's artificial intelligence (AI) growth has been stalled after Republican U.S. Representative Rich McCormick raised concerns. Senator Brandon Beach, chair of the Senate Economic Development and Tourism Committee, stated that McCormick believes AI regulation should be handled at the federal level to ensure consistency across states. This perspective has led to a halt in the bill's progress, highlighting the debate over state versus federal jurisdiction in AI policy.
3. <https://capitol-beat.org/2024/12/georgia-lawmakers-call-for-balanced-approach-to-ai/> - Georgia lawmakers are advocating for a balanced approach to artificial intelligence (AI) regulation. A state Senate study committee recommended legislation that regulates AI without stifling innovation. The committee's report includes 22 recommendations, such as addressing deepfakes, adopting data privacy laws, and developing comprehensive AI plans for state and local agencies. The goal is to harness AI's potential while safeguarding privacy, fairness, and transparency.
4. <https://albanyherald.com/news/georgia-lawmakers-call-for-balanced-approach-to-ai/> - A bipartisan Georgia Senate committee has recommended legislation to regulate artificial intelligence (AI) without hindering innovation. The committee's 185-page report includes 22 recommendations, including addressing deepfakes, adopting data privacy laws, and developing comprehensive AI plans for state and local agencies. The aim is to balance AI's potential benefits with safeguards to protect privacy, fairness, and transparency.
5. <https://citizenportal.ai/articles/2479453/Georgia/Georgia-lawmakers-advance-Artificial-Intelligence-legislation-amid-industry-concerns> - Georgia lawmakers are advancing legislation related to artificial intelligence (AI) in the creative arts and entertainment industry. A State Planning & Community Affairs meeting discussed the proposed bill, with industry representatives expressing concerns and support. The legislation aims to address AI's impact on the industry, with a focus on holding individuals accountable for misuse rather than targeting platforms or tools. The bill has been advanced unanimously by the committee.
6. <https://atlantaciviccircle.org/2025/03/12/georgia-artificial-intelligence-ai-state-bill-local-government/> - Georgia lawmakers are considering how to regulate artificial intelligence (AI) use by state agencies and local governments. A state Senate committee discussed House Bill 147, which would require state agencies to disclose any use of AI to the Georgia Technology Authority. The bill also provides a legal definition of AI and passed the state House unanimously. The committee is considering incorporating elements of the 'AI Accountability Act,' which proposed creating a statewide AI board to issue guidance for both state agencies and local governments.
7. <https://www.wabe.org/georgia-lawmakers-propose-sweeping-ai-policies-privacy-and-ethics-laws/> - Georgia lawmakers are recommending that all state bodies, cities, counties, and school systems create comprehensive policies to ensure the ethical use of artificial intelligence (AI). The bipartisan Georgia Senate Committee on Artificial Intelligence released its final report, which includes findings and recommended policies to promote AI's advancement while addressing potential negative consequences. The policy guidance comes ahead of the 2025 legislative session, with the aim to balance innovation with safeguards to protect privacy, fairness, and transparency.