August 7, 2024

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Chairman
Science, Space, and Technology Committee
US House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Lucas:

Code.org is an education innovation nonprofit dedicated to the vision that every student in every school has the opportunity to learn computer science as part of their core K-12 education. We expand access to computer science in schools, with a focus on increasing participation by young women and students from other underrepresented groups. As an organization committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to learn computer science, we wholeheartedly support the NSF AI Education Act and its expedient enactment.

Evolving technology has fundamentally transformed our world. Computer science and artificial intelligence (AI) are at the forefront of this transformation, driving innovation and economic growth. It is imperative that we equip K-12 students with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive in this digital era. Similarly, we must support educators as they use powerful AI tools to improve teaching and learning. Supporting computer science and AI education in K-12 classrooms is of paramount importance.

The demand for computer science and AI professionals is growing exponentially. By investing in computer science and AI education, we prepare our students for the jobs of the future, ensuring that the United States remains a global leader in technology and innovation. By learning to code and understand AI, students develop a mindset that empowers them to tackle complex challenges and create innovative solutions. Further, educating students in computer science and AI builds a workforce capable of protecting our nation's infrastructure and responding to emerging threats.

The NSF AI Education Act represents a significant step towards achieving these goals by providing resources and support for AI education and research. This legislation will enable the National Science Foundation to fund initiatives that integrate AI education into K-12 curricula, develop innovative teaching methods, and support professional development for educators.

At Code.org, we have witnessed firsthand the transformative impact of computer science education on students, teachers, and communities. However, much work remains to ensure that every student has the opportunity to learn these critical skills. The NSF AI Education Act will invest in the future of our students, our economy, and our nation.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues to advance computer science and AI education in our schools.

Sincerely,

Pat Yongpradit
Chief Academic Officer, Code.org