....

(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To establish a task force to address legal and ethical issues related to the use of AI speech-to-text technology and automatic speech recognition technology in the United States judicial system, and for other purposes.

_____

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

_____

Ms. HAGEMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

_____

A BILL

To establish a task force to address legal and ethical issues related to the use of AI speech-to-text technology and automatic speech recognition technology in the United States judicial system, 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 ''Research and Over-

5 sight of AI in Courts Act of 2026''.

SEC. 2. AI RESEARCH AND OVERSIGHT IN COURTS TASK FORCE.

(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to provide Congress with—

(1) an analysis of any issues or benefits related to the use of AI speech-to-text technology and automatic speech recognition technology in the United States judicial system;

(2) a review of the use of AI speech-to-text technology and automatic speech recognition technology in the United States judicial system; and

(3) any recommendations based on the analysis and review conducted under paragraphs (1) and (2).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General of the United States, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Justice, shall establish a task force (to be known as the "AI Research and Oversight in Courts Task Force") to assess the feasibility, accuracy, privacy, and civil liberty implications of using AI speech-to-text technology and automatic speech recognition technology in the United States judicial system.

(c) TASK FORCE DUTIES.—The duties of the task force established under subsection (b) shall be to—

(1) assess policy findings, regulatory findings, and legal findings with respect to the use of AI

1 speech-to-text technology and automatic speech rec-

2 ognition technology in the United States judicial sys-

3 tem; and

4 (2) make recommendations to Congress, the ex-

5 ecutive branch, and the judicial branch for any judi-

6 cial, legislative, or regulatory reforms to ensure the

7 use of AI speech-to-text technology and automatic

8 speech recognition technology in the United States

9 judicial system does not infringe upon any rights

10 under the Constitution of the United States, includ-

11 ing the litigant's right to an accurate official court

12 record.

13 (d) TASK FORCE APPOINTEES.—

14 (1) COMPOSITION.—The task force established

15 under subsection (b) shall be composed of 15 mem-

16 bers, to be appointed by the Director of the National

17 Institute of Justice, as follows:

18 (A) 4 members employed by the Federal

19 Government in at least one of the following ca-

20 pacities:

21 (i) As an employee of the National In-

22 stitute of Justice.

23 (ii) As an employee of the Administra-

24 tive Office of the United States Courts.

25 (iii) As a clerk of court.

1 (iv) As a Federal judge.

2 (v) As a Federal prosecutor.

3 (B) 11 members not employed by the Fed-

4 eral Government, which shall include the fol-

5 lowing individuals:

6 (i) An individual who is a member of

7 a professional association that specializes

8 in the official record making process of the

9 United States judicial system and in the

10 technology used for such record keeping.

11 (ii) An individual who is a specialist

12 in civil liberty law.

13 (iii) An active State court judge or a

14 retired Federal court judge with experience

15 reversing a ruling because of a written or

16 audible deficiency in the official court

17 record.

18 (2) ELIGIBILITY.—A member appointed under

19 paragraph (1)(B) to the task force established under

20 subsection (b), may not be employed by, contracted

21 with, receive compensation from, or otherwise rep-

22 resent any entity that develops, markets, sells, or

23 provides artificial intelligence technologies or related

24 services.

1 (3) REQUIRED EXPERTISE.—Members ap-
2 pointed to the task force established under sub-
3 section (b) under paragraph (1) of this subsection
4 shall have expertise in—

5 (A) the official record making process in
6 the United States judicial system; or

7 (B) the technology used by the United
8 States judicial system to create and modify a
9 court record.

10 (4) CO-CHAIRS.—The Director of the National
11 Institute of Justice shall designate as co-chairs of
12 the task force established under subsection (b)—

13 (A) 1 member appointed to the task force
14 under paragraph (1)(A); and

15 (B) 1 member appointed to the task force
16 under paragraph (1)(B).

17 (5) VACANCIES.—In the case of a vacancy on
18 the task force established under subsection (b), the
19 co-chairs appointed under paragraph (4) shall ap-
20 point a new member not later than 15 days after the
21 vacancy occurs.

22 (6) COMPENSATION.—

23 (A) FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.—Each member
24 of the task force established under subsection
25 (b) appointed under paragraph (1)(A) of this

6

1 subsection shall serve without compensation in
2 addition to that received for services as an em-
3 ployee of the United States.

4 (B) OTHER MEMBERS.—Each member ap-
5 pointed to the task force established under sub-
6 section (b) under paragraph (1)(B) of this sub-
7 section shall serve without compensation.

8 (C) REIMBURSEMENT.—Each member ap-
9 pointed to the task force established under sub-
10 section (b) under paragraph (1) of this sub-
11 section shall be allowed travel expenses, includ-
12 ing per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates au-
13 thorized for employees of agencies under sub-
14 chapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States
15 Code, while away from their homes or regular
16 places of business while carrying out the duties
17 described under subsection (c).

18 (e) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after
19 the task force is established under subsection (b), the task
20 force shall submit to the Attorney General, the Committee
21 on the Judiciary of the Senate, and the Committee on the
22 Judiciary of the House of Representatives a final report
23 on the following:

24 (1) Whether a court record created or modified
25 by AI speech-to-text technology or automatic speech

1 recognition technology affects the quality or accu-

2 racy of a transcription of a legal proceeding.

3 (2) Whether AI speech-to-text technology or

4 automatic speech recognition technology alters any

5 comments made in a courtroom by an individual

6 with a speech impediment, unique speech pattern,

7 accent, or dialect.

8 (3) Whether using AI speech-to-text technology

9 or automatic speech recognition technology to per-

10 form tasks in the United States judicial system will

11 increase or decrease costs for litigants.

12 (4) An assessment of any cybersecurity risks

13 associated with using AI speech-to-text technology or

14 automatic speech recognition technology to perform

15 tasks in the United States judicial system.

16 (5) An assessment of any other risks associated

17 with using AI speech-to-text technology or automatic

18 speech recognition technology to analyze or process

19 a court record and perform tasks in the United

20 States judicial system.

21 (6) An assessment of any effects on the data in-

22 tegrity, authenticity, or preservation of the evi-

23 dentiary value of a court record when using AI

24 speech-to-text technology or automatic speech rec-

1 ognition technology to manage, process, and store
2 such court record.

3 (7) Whether implementing AI speech-to-text
4 technology or automatic speech recognition tech-
5 nology to conduct managerial and administrative
6 tasks in the United States judicial system will in-
7 crease or decrease court expenditures.

8 (8) Whether a court record created or modified
9 by AI speech-to-text technology or automatic speech
10 recognition technology should display a watermark,
11 header, footer, or banner to indicate that such court
12 record was created or modified by such technology.

13 (9) Whether a watermark, header, footer, or
14 banner described under paragraph (8) should be dis-
15 played permanently on a court record.

16 (10) Whether metadata should be included in a
17 court record created or modified by AI speech-to-text
18 technology or automatic speech recognition tech-
19 nology, including—

20 (A) which AI speech-to-text technology or
21 automatic speech recognition technology tool
22 was used to create or modify such record;

23 (B) which version of the AI speech-to-text
24 technology or automatic speech recognition

9

1 technology was used to create or modify such

2 record; and

3 (C) any changes made by such technology

4 to such record.

5 (11) Whether the United States judicial system

6 should provide guidance on the selection process of

7 vendors providing AI speech-to-text technology or

8 automatic speech recognition technology to ensure

9 the safety and privacy of parties and individuals in-

10 volved in the United States judicial system.

11 (12) Whether the use of AI speech-to-text tech-

12 nology or automatic speech recognition technology in

13 the United States judicial system compromises the

14 accuracy or integrity of a court record.

15 (13) Whether the use of AI speech-to-text tech-

16 nology or automatic speech recognition technology in

17 the United States judicial system causes any disrup-

18 tions during a judicial proceeding.

19 (14) An analysis of any potential future devel-

20 opments and advancements of AI speech-to-text

21 technology and automatic speech recognition tech-

22 nology within 10 years of the date of enactment of

23 this Act, and how the United States judicial system

24 should adjust its policies to keep pace with the

25 quickly evolving technology.

1   (15) Any recommendations for policies to be
2 implemented in the United States judicial system
3 with respect to AI speech-to-text technology and
4 automatic speech recognition technology.

5   (f) STATUS REPORT.—Not later than 4 months after
6 the date of enactment of this Act, and every 4 months
7 thereafter until the task force established under subsection
8 (b) submits the final report under subsection (e), the task
9 force shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of
10 the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
11 House of Representatives a report on—

12   (1) the status of the final report; and

13   (2) whether the final report will be submitted to
14 such committees by the deadline established under
15 subsection (e).

16   (g) TERMINATION.—The task force established under
17 subsection (b) shall terminate, and this Act shall cease to
18 be effective, upon the date of submission of the final report
19 under subsection (e).

20   (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21   (1) AI SPEECH-TO-TEXT TECHNOLOGY.—The
22 term ''AI speech-to-text technology'' means a ma-
23 chine-based system that uses artificial intelligence,
24 including machine learning and natural language
25 processing, to automatically perceive, analyze, and

1 convert human speech into written text or machine-
2 readable data, enabling real-time transcription, ac-
3 cessibility, and interaction with digital systems.

4 (2) AUTOMATIC SPEECH RECOGNITION TECH-
5 NOLOGY.—The term "automatic speech recognition
6 technology" means a technology that processes
7 human speech and converts it into a written or ma-
8 chine-readable format without using artificial intel-
9 ligence to facilitate communication and accessibility.

10 (3) UNITED STATES JUDICIAL SYSTEM.—The
11 term "United States judicial system" means all
12 State and Federal courts in the United States and
13 the territories of the United States.