



COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

Ranking Member Bennie G. Thompson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subcommittee Hearing Statement of Ranking Member Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS)

Security to Model: Securing Artificial Intelligence to Strengthen Cybersecurity

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Over the past several years, this subcommittee has had multiple hearings on the impact that artificial intelligence is having on our nation's cybersecurity. These discussions have helped the subcommittee better understand how the threat landscape is evolving and how the Federal government and critical infrastructure entities can leverage AI technologies to enhance their cyber defenses.

Rapid AI technological developments since the release of ChatGPT in 2022 have made clear the significant impact that AI is having on how people develop and use technology, demonstrating the need for policymakers to consider AI impacts when developing legislation and conducting oversight. Under the Biden Administration, we witnessed an unprecedented commitment from the executive branch to strengthen our nation's cybersecurity and invest in improvements to Federal cybersecurity capabilities.

President Biden's executive order on AI recognized the security and safety risks that AI presents and sought to meaningfully address those risks as we implement this new technology. Unfortunately, President Trump repealed the AI executive order without developing a clear alternative of how to address these security and safety challenges. I would encourage that Trump Administration to build on existing efforts and to maintain the technical expertise that the Federal government will need if we are to understand and address AI security risks. Of particular importance to this subcommittee is the need to understand what unique security risks AI may pose and how the Federal government must mature existing programs to address these risks.

CISA's work on Secure by Design and its collaboration with NIST to develop security frameworks has provided voluntary guidance on how to develop and operate AI systems securely. I hope this hearing today will help the subcommittee better understand how AI security can continue to be integrated into CISA's work and into existing security frameworks.

Additionally, as the Federal government embraces the use of AI on its own networks, we must understand what steps agencies must take to ensure that such deployments do not undermine Federal agency network security. In the past, the Federal government has frequently been left playing catch up in implementing basic security practices. Prioritizing security today in AI deployment will avoid harmful cybersecurity incidents and help us prevent repeating previous mistakes.

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