

Assuring Safe, Secure, and Ethical Systems for AI (ASSESS AI) Act U.S. Senator Michael Bennet (D-Colo.)

The U.S. government should lead by example in the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI). The vast promise of AI tools also comes with potential risks to core American values, including privacy, civil liberties, non-discrimination, and due process. Although the federal government has taken steps to promote the responsible use of AI, including the White House's Blueprint for an AI Bill of Rights and NIST's AI Risk Management Framework, these efforts fall short of the comprehensive effort required to ensure the administration and Congress have a specific roadmap to ensure responsible uses of AI across the federal government.

To that end, Senator Michael Bennet's ASSESS AI Act would create a cabinet-level AI Task Force to identify existing policy and legal gaps in the federal government's AI policies and uses, and provide specific recommendations to ensure those policies and uses align with our democratic values. The Task Force would have the ability to shape the direction of the commercial AI market through the federal procurement process, the authority to set the standard for thorough AI risk assessment and auditing, and the resources to recommend robust protections for the data generated by these tools.

The AI Task Force would:

- Include the U.S. Attorney General, the directors of NIST and OSTP, and representatives from industry, academia, and nonprofit organizations.
- Assess existing policy, regulatory, and legal gaps in the federal government's use of Al.
- Hold hearings, hear testimony, and collect data from in and out of government.
- Recommend specific legislative and regulatory reforms, including for policies to protect privacy, civil liberties, and civil rights; federal standards for facial recognition and biometric identification; requirements for AI audits and risk assessments; and policies for responsible AI procurement.
- Submit a final report to Congress and the President no later than 18 months after its creation.