

The Honorable Ash Kalra
Chair, Assembly Judiciary Committee
1020 N Street, Room 104
Sacramento, CA 95814
June 27, 2024

Dear Assembly Judiciary Committee,

Together, as some of the experts and leading founders in California's Artificial Intelligence (AI) community, we stand united in our opposition to California Senate Bill 1047. The bill is fraught with unintended consequences and would have a devastating impact on California's businesses, innovation, economy and security.

We are California entrepreneurs, open-source developers, university researchers and academics - who have founded and run businesses in California because of the opportunity, innovation, creativity and spirit that fosters and encourages growth across the state, making us the 5th largest economy in the world.

The progress we've made on AI over the last decade has set the stage for some of the most exciting and cutting-edge technologies our generation has to offer - and we are proud to have achieved this here in California. But it isn't just about the technological advancements - it's also about the businesses we've built and the economic opportunity that these advancements bring to California.

Unfortunately, that is all at risk with SB 1047, which would stifle open-source AI development and have a downstream chilling effect not only on AI investment and expansion, but on the small business entrepreneurship that makes California what it is today.

As it stands, SB 1047 raises serious risks that have global implications, as the bill would drive important AI research offshore and out of California. The result would be catastrophic, as research would continue to advance internationally, letting places like China take the lead in development of this powerful tool and leaving California, and indeed the nation, without the means to effectively guard against just those threats SB 1047 purports to address.

In California, we have access to the best AI researchers and academics the world has to offer and we should be working collaboratively with them to develop the next phases of AI, not overregulating their work and rendering our advancements moot because of the unintended and far reaching consequences that laws like SB 1047 would impose of Californians.

As lawmakers consider the future of AI here in California, it is prudent to give thought to the implications this kind of regulation would have on the rest of the nation, and the world. Regulations should be informed by the insights of the preeminent AI developers, business owners and thought leaders that have dedicated their careers to understanding the opportunities and challenges that lie within the technology and who have the real-world context for how the field operates.

The bottomline: SB 1047 would threaten our tech economy, undermine our security, and threaten competition.

Sincerely,

*Joseph Gonzalez, Professor, **UC Berkeley***

*Beyang Liu, CTO, **Sourcegraph***

*Quinn Slack, CEO, **Sourcegraph***

*Andrey Bukati, CTO, **Rapid***

*Vijay Ramesh, VP of AI Engineering, **Regrello***

*Asad Awa, CEO, **Potrero Labs, Inc.***

*Anant Bhardwaj, Founder & CEO, **Instabase***

*Matt Biilmann, CEO, **Netlify***

*Rahul Sood, President, **Irreverent Labs***

*Joshua Browder, CEO, **DoNotPay.com***

*Aman Naimat, Founder and CEO, **Regrello***

*Sumit Kadakia, CEO, **Midstream Health***

*Russ Heddleston, CEO, **Distill***

*Jeremy Nixon, CEO, **Omniscience***

*Alan Fletcher, COO, **Regrello***

*Monik Pamecha, CEO, **Toma***

*Ajay Arasanipalai, Research Engineer, **Descript***

*Eric Hartford, Principal Applied AI Researcher, **Tensorwave***

*Artem Kubatkin, CEO, **Hipclip.ai***

Aditya Advani, Founder, Best Parents

*Rich Skrenta, Executive Director, **Common Crawl Foundation***

*Mike Knoop, Co-founder, Head of AI, **Zapier***

*David Mytton, CEO, **Arcjet (Arcjet Labs, Inc.)***

*Sophia Xu, CEO, **Empowered Compute Inc***

*Joseph Jacks, Founder and Managing Partner / GP, **OSS Capital LLC***

*Jeffrey Quesnelle, Chief Technology Officer, **Nous Research***

*Jeremy Howard, CEO, **Answer.AI***

*Chris Ha, LLM Researcher, **DeepMind***

*Guillaume Verdon, Founder & CEO, **Extropic***

*John Stifter, **3D Generalist***

*Michael Ermolenko, CTO / Co-Founder, **Inworld AI***

*Jim O'Neill, Co-Founder, **CIMC***

*Jacob Marshall, Research Engineer, **Sieve***

*Alex Yu, Co-founder and CTO, **Luma AI***

*Brendan Iribe, CEO, **Sesame AI***

*Scott Phoenix, Partner, **Fifty Years***

*Alan Helmick, AI architect and Co-Founder, **Mira Ai***

*Philip Rosedale, Founder, **Second Life & IRL415***

*Romil Bhardwaj, Post-Doctoral Scholar, **UC Berkeley***

*Alex Reibman, Founder and CEO, **Agency***

*Ayush Kanodia, CTO, **Moveup AI***

*Emmanuel de Maistre, Cofounder & CEO, **Scenario Inc***

*Jonathan Sukhia, CEO, **Topkey***

*Vansh Gehlot Co-founder & CEO, **Dragverse***

*Albert Chu, Managing Partner, **Poppypeed LLC***

*Joscha Bach, AI Strategist, **LiquidAI***

*Ian Webster, CEO, **Promptfoo***

*Nicholas Ptacek, Founder, **ReadWriteReality, Inc.***

*Ron Williams, CEO, **Kindo***

*Ion Stoica, Professor, **UC Berkeley***

*Zayd Enam, CEO, **Enam & Co.***

*Matthew Smith, Founder, **Kortex labs***

*Robin Rombach, CEO, **Stealth Startup***

*David Raskino, CEO, **Irreverent Labs***

*Trey Holterman, CEO, **Tennr***

*Boris Jabes, CEO, **Census***

*Yann LeCun, Jacob T Schwartz Professor, **New York University & Meta***

*Bradley Hilton, **Software Developer***

*Erik Newton, Founder, **CIMC***

*Puya Yazdi, CEO, **KureAI***

*Michael Feiertag, Partner, **AllegisCyber Capital***

*Siddharth Ramakrishnan, Senior Product Manager, **Attentive***

*Austin Kinghorn, Founder, **Veraciety Corporation***

*Danielle Fong, CEO, **lightcell energy***

*Alexander Campbell, CEO, **Rose***

*Eric C. Little, Outside General Counsel, **Ladris Technologies, Inc.***

*Talia Goldberg, Partner, **Bessemer***

*Ed Choudhry, CEO/Co-Founder, **Barricade AI***

*Chandika Guruge, Machine Learning Engineer, **Fauna Bio***

*Kyle Kelley, CEO, **Wharf Labs***

*Matt Popovich, Cofounder & CEO, **LegislatureAI***

*Sam Pullara, Managing Director / CTO, **Sutter Hill Ventures***

*Rohan Pandey, Founding Research Engineer, **Reworkd***

*Ovais Tariq, CEO, **Tigris Data***

*Cole Roberts, Co-Founder, CEO, **Tulip Trials, Inc.***

*Ananya Chadha, Student, **Stanford University***

*Ankit Kumar, CTO, **Sesame AI***

*Vivian Shen, CEO, **Juni Learning***

*Shivani Mitra, Co-Founder and CEO, **Nous Research Inc.***

*Wyatt Schulte, CTO, **Growi***

*Allister Clisham, CTO, **Predictive BioCompounds Inc.***

*Riley Johnson, Founder, **ComeHome AI***

*Harris Rothaermel, Founder, **Starlight Labs***

*Matthew Vincent, Founder, **KaliAI***

*Lauren Wagner, Founder, **Radium Ventures***

*Alex Nix, CEO, **Biolutions Inc.***

*Joe Morrissey, General Partner, **a16z***

*Benjamin Boehme, Founder & CEO, **Basic Defense Corp.***

*MacKay Grant, Student, Founder, **the_coop R&D***

*Raad Mobrem, CEO, **Intro***

*Patrick Skinner, Technical Founder, **Argo***

*Adrian Macneil, CEO, **Foxglove***

*Ciminelli, Investor, **Samsung Next***

*Witold Kowalczyk, CEO, **Delos AI Inc.***

*Skylar Simpson, Finance, **Luma AI***

*Saravana Rathinam, Founder and CEO, **Puppetry***

*Tristan Zajonc, CEO, **Continual, Inc***

*Troy Astorino, CTO, **PicnicHealth***

*Jed White, Co-founder and CTO, **Andi***

*Viktor Makoviichuk, Senior Research Scientist, **NVIDIA***

*Andreas Blattmann, Co-Founder/Board Member, **Stealth Startup***

*William Minshew, Founder & CEO, **Splits Protocols, Inc.***

*Murali Subbarao, **Stony Brook University***

*John Demoo, Director, **Lambda Labs***

*Arsen Kalfayan, Director of sales and BD, **Lambda Labs***

*Liu Liu, Founder, **Draw Things, Inc.***

*Kamdoum Ngamgoum Franck Junior, Founder/CEO, **Universe***

*Cassandra Feilbach, Founder/Researcher, **Sentientis***

*Erin McMahon, Partner, **Andreessen Horowitz***

*Bowser Hickenbottom, Software Engineer, **Protosprite***