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Office of Public Policy

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Trump administration executive action alert

Executive order on "Promoting Advanced Artificial Intelligence Innovation and Security" | June 2, 2026

Text of Executive Order and Fact Sheet

Key highlights

- President Trump signed a new executive order (EO) this week with the goal of promoting innovation and reducing burdensome regulation of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. The EO calls on the federal government to work "collaboratively with the private sector to modernize government and private sector information systems and harden them against external threats; to protect American ingenuity and intellectual property from exploitation and theft by adversaries; and to cultivate America's advanced AI-enabled capabilities."
- The EO reflects concerns that arose in the wake of emerging advanced AI technologies and accompanying national security issues.
- The most anticipated portion of the EO creates a voluntary process by which the developers of "covered frontier models" may provide the federal government with a 30-day access period before such models are released.
    - The framework for determining what constitutes a "covered frontier model" will be determined by the Director of the National Security Agency (NSA), in consultation with the National Cyber Director, the Assistant to the President for Science and Technology (APST), the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), and other representatives of the Department of War, as appropriate, within 60 days.
    - The order does *not* establish any kind of "mandatory governmental licensing, preclearance, or permitting requirements." A mandatory preclearance process would likely need to be established via congressional legislation, except as related to procurement policies for AI developers that do business with the federal government.
    - However, the 30-day pre-release access will allow the federal government time to review and raise concerns confidentially with participating developers or prepare government functions for new models. (This 30-day period was shortened from 90 days in an earlier draft.)

- Some opponents of the order have expressed concerns that the EO opens the door for future mandatory reviews of AI models, as well as raises the risks for technology companies that choose not to participate in the voluntary process – particularly where national security agencies define what constitutes a "covered frontier model."
- While the EO formalizes the opportunity for prerelease review, some AI developers had already agreed to grant the federal government early access to their new models. Prior to this week's order, on May 5 the Trump administration announced that the Center for AI Standards and Innovation (CAISI), which is part of the Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology, entered into voluntary agreements with several leading AI developers to provide prerelease access to frontier AI models.

Additional

- The EO comes after the administration shelved a prior draft of the directive when concerns were raised by White House officials and industry about its potential impact on innovation.
- The deliberative process within the administration on the text of the order demonstrates the balance the Trump administration is seeking between ensuring that the US leads on AI development and deployment, and protecting against the potential cyber and national security risks posed by advanced AI technologies.
- In addition to the prerelease review period, the EO directs the Treasury Department, in cooperation with other agencies, to establish an AI clearinghouse "that coordinates and deconflicts scanning for software vulnerabilities, discovers and validates such vulnerabilities, and coordinates and prioritizes remediation and distribution of vulnerability patches."
- Additional provisions of the order:
    - Calls on the Committee on National Security Systems and Secretary of War to prioritize the cyber defense of the US
    - Directs the release of "Binding Operational Directives" (within 30 days) to: protect federal government information systems; utilize AI-enhanced cyber defense systems; provide appropriate access to such tools for state and local governments, as well as critical infrastructure; and identify available grant funding for advanced AI vulnerability protection
    - Orders the Office of Personnel Management to "expand the United States Tech Force Information Cybersecurity Specialist hiring and placement pathways" within 60 days
    - Directs the attorney general to prioritize the enforcement of federal criminal laws "against anyone who utilizes AI to illegally access or damage a computer without authorization, or who utilizes AI while engaged in such illegal access to further any other crime."

Congressional action

- Also this week, a bipartisan pair of House members released a discussion draft of legislation to regulate AI at the federal level. An op-ed written by the bill's sponsors characterized the legislation as including "safety and transparency requirements for frontier AI while avoiding a one-size-fits-all approach that would slow innovation." This follows the March release of the Trump administration's National AI Legislative Framework (mandated by the president's December 2025 executive order that pledged to develop a federal framework to regulate the technology that would be "minimally burdensome").

- At more than 250 pages long, the "Great American Artificial Intelligence Act of 2026'' would create a federal oversight framework for frontier AI developers, including mandatory third-party audits, transparency reports, incident reporting and whistleblower protections.
- The proposed bill would also preempt state laws that specifically regulate AI model development but continue state authority over deployed AI uses – a provision that has proven controversial during consideration of other tech regulation proposals. The bill's preemption authority expires after three years.
- While the legislation is a meaningful step toward movement on federal AI legislation, it remains unlikely that any sweeping regulation of AI at the federal level will be enacted this year.