Artificial Intelligence: States Leading the Way

Issue and Background

- The proliferation of artificial intelligence (AI) promises to have a tremendous impact on how citizens interact with government at all levels and for almost all services, and states are encouraged that our federal partners are working to address the increasing use of this technology in the operation of government.
- However, states have not waited for federal action before developing their own robust strategies to govern their use and deployment of AI technologies.
- The policies enacted by states thus far have been developed with input from numerous stakeholders, including citizens groups, elected representatives, private industry, thought leaders in the AI field and others.
- They showcase efforts to integrate AI into state government operations in a way that maximizes the benefit of this burgeoning technology, while still addressing concerns over data protection, ethical usage, cybersecurity and other harmful ramifications that can result from a misuse of AI.
- While these policies have been beneficial in allowing states to begin to responsibly harness AI when providing government services, more action and research is urgently needed.

Recommendation

- **Congress and federal agencies must work closely with states as they continue to develop AI legislation and regulations.** It is imperative that federal actors consider both what states have already done to address AI in their operations, and how any federal law or regulation will impact state government. In doing so, we can ensure that the federal government's AI policy does not create inefficient duplicative regulations, harm state efforts to develop solutions that meet their unique needs and erode citizen trust in government application of AI.
- **Provide tools and resources to states to implement AI strategies.** As with any new technology, it will take time, funding and expertise to incorporate AI effectively and efficiently into government operations. The federal government should take early and robust measures to provide states with the resources needed to ensure services are not interrupted, to train and develop the AI workforce and prevent user data from being compromised.

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