SENATE BILL 1087 MARYLAND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY AND OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

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From: Anthony Watson
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Subject: State of Maryland Senate Bill SB 1087 introduced by Senator Cory McCray
In FAV of this bill

In-person testimony:

This testimony is in support (FAV) of SB 1087.

Einstein was wrong. In 1935 he was famously quoted as saying that quantum physics was "spooky action at a distance". That declaration set off a wave of research and discovery that led to the creation of X-ray machines, the MRI, quantum computers, and a lot more. Recently the advent of AI Large Language Models such as ChatGPT has initiated a revolution in information science, leading to our ability to amplify our creativity, produce more, and will unquestionably lead to the discovery of cures for diseases worldwide.

Combine these revolutionary technologies with the fact that there are 8 million job openings in the U. S. but only 5 million eligible workers and the urgency of preparing our young people for careers in STEM becomes clear. Dr Tyrone Taborn, CEO of Career Communications Group, has created in Baltimore the nation's largest conference to attract young people into STEM, and last week 2600 students were mentored by over 150 admirals and generals including the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Secretary of the U.S. Air Force. It also included SES professionals and CEOs of major fortune 100 companies. We need this kind of investment to develop the base to actualize these new technologies for the betterment of our citizens.

But please also keep in mind that *function* follows *form*. The form, or framework, with which supportive funding of quantum computing and Large Language Model development (like ChatGPT) will dictate how the funding is ultimately allocated. For that reason, it is critically important to establish this framework to tap the broad richness of the entire community. We know from recent experience for example that many AI developers have not included consideration of diverse facial characteristics in facial recognition. It's not just these characteristics but also the experiences and cultures of people that need to become a viable part of everything from the research and development to the product delivery, the people who experience the pain of sickle cell anemia or essential tremors. The solutions to these issues may very well lie in being able to create dynamic models of the proteins that function to make up our DNA or virus molecules. We can't do that today, but quantum computing will enable it.

Funding these new technologies should start with a framework that embraces the entire spectrum of Maryland's population. Function follows form, and what gets measured gets done. I suggest consideration that funding for support of these life changing technologies be subject to review by a designated group that embraces the richness of all of the population of the State of Maryland.