



THE ETHICS & RELIGIOUS
LIBERTY COMMISSION
OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION

Dear Representative,

I'm writing to you as President of the Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission (ERLC), the public policy arm of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). The SBC is the nation's largest Protestant denomination with over 13 million members in roughly 50,000 churches and congregations.

As our country wrestles with the challenges of Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies, we've quickly seen both the incredible promise and immense challenges that these new technologies pose. We believe it is essential for lawmakers to proactively assess and develop policy solutions for these technologies in a way that affirms the unique, God-given dignity and worth of human beings.

In fact, in June, the SBC overwhelmingly passed a resolution offering guidelines on this topic, becoming the first denomination to make an official statement on artificial intelligence. That resolution calls on policy makers to **“proactively engage and shape these emerging technologies** rather than simply respond to the challenges of AI and other emerging technologies after they have already affected our churches and communities.”

Enclosed is a new book, *The Digital Public Square*, by one of our research fellows on this very subject. It encapsulates the transformative impact of the digital age on our society, particularly in relation to AI. Additionally, a few years ago, we led other faith leaders in crafting an Evangelical Statement of Principles on AI. The 12 principles laid out there may be helpful to you as you work on this complex topic. **You can view that statement and other resources at [ERLC.com/AI](https://www.ericl.com/AI).**

At the ERLC, we are enthusiastic about fostering an informed dialogue surrounding this crucial topic. Toward that end, I believe this book will serve as a valuable resource, expanding your understanding and empowering you to contribute to informed discussions on related policies and initiatives. It is my sincere hope that you find the book both enlightening and inspiring.

It is our desire to be a resource on this issue, and we are always eager to engage in productive discussions and provide any assistance you may need. Please do not hesitate to reach out if we can ever serve you in this way. Thank you for your unwavering commitment to public service. I greatly appreciate your contributions to our nation.

With warm regards,

F. Brent Leatherwood
President
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission
of the Southern Baptist Convention