Opening Statement of Chairman Brett Guthrie Subcommittee on Communications and Technology "AI in the Everyday: Current Applications and Future Frontiers in Communications and Technology" Wednesday, June 4, 2025, at 10:30 AM

Thank you, Chairman Hudson, for bringing us together for this important hearing and thank you to the witnesses for your participation. I look forward to hearing about all the ways that artificial intelligence is currently being used and the promise that AI holds for the future.

AI is a top priority for the Energy and Commerce Committee this year. The Committee's jurisdiction covers almost every layer of the AI tech stack – from the energy needed to power massive amounts of computing power, to the fiber optic cable and wireless connections needed to move the data through interconnected networks, to the data itself which underpins innumerable lines of code that together form the modeling needed to generate outputs for consumer and commercial applications of AI technologies.

We started this Congress by holding multiple subcommittee hearings related to AI regulation and use cases spanning all the industries under this Committee's jurisdiction, including the Committee's first full Committee hearing on the existential opportunities—and risks—of AI technologies.

Today's hearing will focus on AI in the communications and technology sectors, where we are committed to supporting the development of this transformational technology and to ensuring that American innovation continues to set the global standard for advanced networking and connectivity.

When ChatGPT came roaring into everyday life in 2022, it provided a clear, accessible example of the power of AI for everyday consumer use. While it is a fantastic tool, it's only one example of how AI can be used, and there are many ways that AI technologies have been deployed over the last couple of decades to support other applications.

For example, some applications use AI technologies to detect and prevent spam robocalls. Others are implementing sophisticated cybersecurity systems to prevent secure consumer data. Law enforcement officers and other first responders in the field can utilize

real-time language translation to help assist people facing language barriers.

Even country music artist Randy Travis is taking full advantage of AI. After suffering a stroke that reduced his ability to sing and speak, he used AI tools to recreate his own voice from his own recordings to continue producing new music.

I firmly believe that we are just beginning to uncover the possibilities that AI has to offer. America is uniquely positioned to continue innovating as a global leader in this sector, but this requires a commitment on our part. It is vitally important that we hear from industry experts what has enabled AI technology to develop rapidly and how we can allow AI to continue to thrive in America, while addressing potential risks along the way.

At the same time, our adversaries are also developing cutting edge AI technologies in an effort to capture global technological dominance. We cannot allow countries that do not share our values to lead in technology as important as this. As I've said before, if we do not secure AI leadership, China will fill the void. And if we cede the development

of AI technologies to China, which as a nation does not share the same ethical values that we do, we will also cede the ability to shape future development of these technologies in a free and democratic society.

As such, it's important that we take a measured approach and strike the right balance between facilitating innovation and providing principled guardrails where needed to address gaps in current law. As we have seen with Europe's approach on everything from energy production to data privacy, imposing heavy-handed regulations on AI that will stifle innovation and stunt economic growth.

If we can get this right, there is no limit to American innovation in artificial intelligence or the benefits it will unlock for all Americans.

Thank you again to the witnesses for your participation and I look forward to hearing from you.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back.