Addressing Concerns and Maximizing the Benefits of AI: Practical Solutions



As Al becomes more commonplace, fears surrounding its use and capabilities have also grown. Job loss and national security top the list of concerns, according to polling data from the Center for Growth and Opportunity.

In response, lawmakers have rushed to introduce new laws and regulations specifically targeting artificial intelligence, fueled by alarming predictions from AI skeptics. For instance, in October 2023, the Biden Administration issued a lengthy <u>Executive Order</u> (EO) on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence. However, this preemptive regulation fails to acknowledge existing legal measures that can efficiently protect consumers.

The EO advocates for increased government oversight and monitoring of the AI industry, creating a pessimistic environment that hinders progress. This approach disregards the potential for AI to greatly enhance people's lives when used correctly.



The Biden Administration justifies the abundance of red tape by citing threats to privacy, national security, and civil rights posed by Al. However, existing legislation, regulations, and practices within the tech world already address these concerns, rendering additional regulations ill-suited to the rapidly advancing technology landscape.

Ensuring the Ethical Use of Al: Practical Steps

1 Leveraging Current Laws

The American legislative tradition focuses on outlawing harmful actions and outcomes rather than banning the technology itself. For example, cars can be dangerous in the wrong hands, resulting in thousands of deaths annually. However, the legal system holds car manufacturers and drivers accountable instead of banning cars altogether. A similar legal framework exists for holding Al abusers responsible. Rather than burdening industries with new laws and regulations, lawmakers should explore existing legal remedies and fill any gaps as needed.

Product recalls prevent self-driving cars from going rogue, well-established laws address malicious deepfakes, and a variety of civil rights laws safeguard against AI discrimination. Additionally, academic standards prohibit cheating, regardless of the method. The American Council on Education <u>suggests</u> integrating long-standing academic guidelines to effectively incorporate AI and protect academic integrity. <u>Tools for detecting AI-based cheating</u> are continually evolving, supporting teachers in maintaining fairness.

An information gathering approach can assist policymakers in assessing whether current laws and regulations meet their concerns. Conducting an inventory of existing legislation and developing comprehensive reports enables informed decision-making based on familiarity with the legal landscape.

2 Market Accountability Is Key

Avoiding redundant and conflicting legal requirements encourages the private sector and tech companies to establish an ethical culture around AI, empowering users. The Center for Growth and Opportunity <u>underscores</u> the role of markets in disciplining companies and holding them accountable, using mechanisms like competition, reputation, customer feedback, pricing, and transparency. The market adapts more effectively to the evolving tech landscape compared to the sluggish legislative process. Excessive regulation stifles innovation and obstructs valuable advancements. Allowing the market to dictate AI production ensures consumer judgment in testing new developments.

Embracing responsible innovation in the free market, rather than excessive government regulation, is a crucial step in unlocking the potential of artificial intelligence, safeguarding against its dangers while maximizing its promise.