May 22, 2018

The Honorable Pete Olson
U.S. House of Representatives
2133 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Olson:

On behalf of the Security Industry Association (SIA), I would like to express our strong support for H.R. 4625, the FUTURE of Artificial Intelligence Act of 2017, which directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Federal Advisory Committee on the Development and Implementation of Artificial Intelligence. SIA is an international trade association representing nearly 900 companies that provide security and life safety solutions vital to protecting American citizens and millions of visitors to the United States.

Your legislation creates an advisory committee within the U.S. Department of Commerce to study how the United States can foster growth in artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and that will increase U.S. competitiveness and public and private sector investment. SIA believes your legislation correctly recognizes that these goals can be met through non-regulatory means which incentivizes SIA member companies to expand investments in AI research and development.

SIA industry leaders have identified AI as a force multiplier that will augment traditional security systems’ computing processes, surveillance capabilities, and software analytics and provide security professionals with improved situational awareness. Our industry understands that traditional security equipment must proactively safeguard malicious acts against people, property, and proprietary information. Machine learning allows security equipment to become smarter, more intelligent, and more precise in responding to threats.

SIA looks forward to working with you to ensure swift passage of this legislation by Congress. Thank you for your leadership and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Don Erickson
CEO
Security Industry Association