



March 4, 2019

The Honorable Darren Soto  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1507 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Soto:

The Security Industry Association (SIA) is pleased to offer its strong support for H.R. 827, the Artificial Intelligence Job Opportunities and Background Summary Act of 2019 (AI JOBS Act of 2019), which directs the Department of Labor to work with businesses and educational institutions to analyze the future growth of artificial intelligence technology and its impact on the American workforce. SIA is an international trade association representing nearly 1,000 companies that provide safety and security technology solutions vital to protecting lives, property, and critical infrastructure.

In our view, the primary challenge facing the security industry and many business sectors today is the recruitment and retention of qualified talent across many job functions including but not limited to sales, manufacturing, engineering, customer service, human resources, and project management fields. Your legislation would provide data and insights to help employers enhance their workforce development strategies and prepare workers to leverage technologies such as AI to perform their jobs and succeed in an increasing technology-driven economy.

SIA members 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. Machine-learning and advanced analytics can allow security equipment to become smarter, more intelligent, more efficient, and more precise in responding to threats. To achieve the full promise of AI technology will require a full investment by security manufacturers, integrators and users, and additional investment in education and training programs. Importantly, the AI JOBS Act of 2019 would empower the Labor Department to play a constructive role in fostering a future workforce that has the necessary skills needed to expand American ingenuity in AI cultivation, capabilities, and benefits.

SIA and our members look 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Erickson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Don Erickson  
CEO  
Security Industry Association