

**Assembly Joint Resolution**

**No. 6**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Essayli**

May 4, 2023

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 6—Relative to artificial intelligence.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AJR 6, as introduced, Essayli. Artificial intelligence.

This measure would urge the United States government to impose an immediately moratorium on the training of AI systems more powerful than GPT-4 for at least 6 months to allow time to develop much-needed AI governance systems.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, Top artificial intelligence (AI) labs acknowledge  
2 that AI systems with human-competitive intelligence can pose  
3 profound risks to society and humanity; and  
4 WHEREAS, The widely endorsed Asilomar AI Principles state  
5 that advanced AI could represent a profound change in the history  
6 of life on Earth, and should be planned for and managed with  
7 commensurate care and resources; and  
8 WHEREAS, Unfortunately, this level of planning and  
9 management is not happening, even though recent months have  
10 seen AI labs locked in an out-of-control race to develop and deploy  
11 ever more powerful digital minds that no one, not even their  
12 creators, can understand, predict, or reliably control; and  
13 WHEREAS, Contemporary AI systems are now becoming  
14 human-competitive at general tasks, and we must ask ourselves:  
15 Should we let machines flood our information channels with

1 propaganda and untruth? Should we automate away all the jobs,  
2 including the fulfilling ones? Should we develop nonhuman minds  
3 that might eventually outnumber, outsmart, obsolete and replace  
4 us? Should we risk loss of control of our civilization? These  
5 decisions must not be delegated to unelected tech leaders; and

6 WHEREAS, Powerful AI systems should be developed only  
7 once we are confident that their effects will be positive and their  
8 risks will be manageable. This confidence must be well justified  
9 and increase with the magnitude of a system's potential effects;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Open AI's recent statement regarding artificial  
12 general intelligence, states that, "At some point, it may be  
13 important to get independent review before starting to train future  
14 systems, and for the most advanced efforts to agree to limit the  
15 rate of growth of compute used for creating new models." We  
16 agree. That point is now; and

17 WHEREAS, Time is needed to develop and implement a set of  
18 shared safety protocols for advanced AI design and development  
19 that are rigorously audited and overseen by independent outside  
20 experts and that ensure that systems adhering to them are safe  
21 beyond a reasonable doubt; and

22 WHEREAS, AI research and development should be refocused  
23 on making today's powerful, state-of-the-art systems more accurate,  
24 safe, interpretable, transparent, robust, aligned, trustworthy, and  
25 loyal; and

26 WHEREAS, In order to continue the development of AI without  
27 engaging in the dangerous race to ever-larger, unpredictable  
28 black-box models with emergent capabilities, AI developers must  
29 work with policymakers to dramatically accelerate development  
30 of robust AI governance systems. These should, at a minimum,  
31 include: new and capable regulatory authorities dedicated to AI;  
32 oversight and tracking of highly capable AI systems and large  
33 pools of computational capability; provenance and watermarking  
34 systems to help distinguish real from synthetic and to track model  
35 leaks; a robust auditing and certification ecosystem; liability for  
36 AI-caused harm; robust public funding for technical AI safety  
37 research; and well-resourced institutions for coping with the  
38 dramatic economic and political disruptions (especially to  
39 democracy) that AI will cause; and

1 WHEREAS, Humanity can enjoy a flourishing future with AI.  
2 Having succeeded in creating powerful AI systems, we can now  
3 enjoy an “AI summer” in which we reap the rewards, engineer  
4 these systems for the clear benefit of all, and give society a chance  
5 to adapt. Society has hit pause on other technologies with  
6 potentially catastrophic effects on society. We can do so here.  
7 Let’s enjoy a long AI summer, not rush unprepared into a fall;  
8 now, therefore be it

9 *Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of*  
10 *California, jointly*, That the Legislature of the State of California  
11 urges the United States government to impose an immediate  
12 moratorium on the training of AI systems more powerful than  
13 GPT-4 for at least six months to allow time to develop  
14 much-needed AI governance systems; and be it further

15 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
16 of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United  
17 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the  
18 Majority Leader of the Senate, to each Senator and Representative  
19 from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the  
20 author for appropriate distribution.