

A Framework for America's AI Future:

NOTABLE QUOTES OF SUPPORT

Data Center Tax Accountability and Disclosure Act

Keisha Sedlacek, Senior Policy Director, Chesapeake Bay Foundation: “Our region faces unprecedented challenges from the data center boom, in part due to the lack of transparency around how much energy and water these facilities use. We’re thankful for Senator Warner’s leadership in righting this wrong. This bill would require reporting on energy and water usage and incentivize more efficient data centers through LEED Certification, the global standard for sustainable buildings. Communities desperately need this information to understand, plan for, and reduce the risks data centers pose to clean air and water.”

Elizabeth Beardsley, Senior Policy Counsel at the U.S. Green Building Council: “USGBC applauds Sen. Warner’s leadership on this issue. This bill leverages the LEED rating system to guide large AI data centers to incorporate sustainability in site development, use highly energy-efficient building systems, and reduce potable water consumption, as foundational requirements. Additionally, the bill creates important transparency to give states and communities clear information about the projected and actual impacts that data centers have on energy demand and local water resources.”

Sierra Club Virginia Chapter Director Connor Kish, “Senator Warner’s bill is a critical first step to addressing several components of this major issue. We need continued reforms at the local, state, and federal level to protect our environment and protect people from rising costs. We appreciate Senator Warner’s effort and look forward to working together to deliver a cleaner, more affordable, and more reliable energy future for Virginians.”

National Workforce Transition Fund Act

Veronica Goodman, Senior Director for Workforce Development Policy at the Center for American Progress: “AI brings real uncertainty to the American workforce, and workers deserve policies that prepare them for potential disruption. Senator Warner’s *National Workforce Transition Fund Act* takes this challenge head-on, helping move closer to ensuring dignity of work for all workers.”

Shalin Jyotishi, Founder & Director of the Future of Work & Innovation Economy initiative at New America and a Visiting Scholar at Arizona State University: “Multiple Nobel prize-winning studies have affirmed the centrality of technological progress in increasing American standards of living going back centuries, but that doesn’t absolve policymakers from easing the impact of ‘creative destruction’ on workers and families. By catalyzing co-creation among government,

industry, and labor partners, the *National Workforce Transition Fund Act* strikes a pragmatic, sensible, and time-bound way to ease Americans' growing anxiety about AI's impact on their jobs and the economy. Without asking anything of everyday Americans, it also unlocks much-needed funding to modernize federal and state data infrastructure, expand effective workforce practices like sectoral partnerships, and bolster intergovernmental coordination needed for worker transition strategies and any future AI policies relating to education and work."

Promoting High-skilled Doctoral (PHD) Talent Act

Tim Sands, President, Virginia Tech: "I appreciate Senator Warner's leadership of the *Promoting High-skilled Doctoral (PHD) Talent Act* and share the forward-thinking view that the U.S. needs to produce more PhD level graduates in critical STEM fields to maintain our global edge in technology development, especially in the era of artificial intelligence. This bill provides necessary resources and incentives for universities to accelerate STEM PhD programs and develop deeper partnerships with national laboratories, federal agencies, and industry to better align research and training with our nation's most pressing challenges and opportunities."

Sean Hearne, President and CEO of the Southeastern Universities Research Association: "Growing our STEM workforce is essential to maintain and expand our nation's leadership in innovation infrastructure. By incentivizing the creation of more efficient and focused PhD programs, we increase access to this critical national resource while rapidly scaling the capacity for U.S. innovation."

Tamara L. Kinzer-Ursem, Marta E. Gross Professor, Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, Associate Dean of Graduate and Professional Education, College of Engineering, Purdue University: "As a subject matter expert in graduate STEM education, I am strongly supportive of efforts to strengthen the nation's STEM workforce through expanded federal investment in accelerating the timeline of research training. Universities have a critical role to play in developing innovative models of graduate education that prepare students for this future. At Purdue University, for example, the B2D7 initiative provides a framework for accelerated bachelors to PhD-level training that leverages undergraduate research training, advance coursework, and integrates AI/ML, data analytics and computational methods into the curriculum. Federal policies that support the expansion of such training models will strengthen the domestic talent pipeline, enhance U.S. competitiveness, and ensure that our research workforce is prepared to address the complex challenges of the coming decades."

Lori McMahon, Vice President for Research, University of Virginia: "This legislation recognizes that exceptional students should not have to spend additional years navigating administrative barriers before contributing to scientific discovery. By expanding undergraduate research experiences and creating more direct pathways to doctoral training, the *PHD Talent Act* strengthens both the talent pipeline and the nation's research enterprise."