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June 26, 2025

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer

Minority Leader

United States Senate

322 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand

United States Senate

478 Russell Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Schumer and Gillibrand:

I am writing on behalf of the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA), the nation's largest and oldest voluntary bar association, to express our opposition to the proposed provision in the Senate's reconciliation legislation that would condition state access to federal broadband funding on a prohibition of state-level regulations of artificial intelligence.

In 2020, NYSBA's [Rural Justice Report](#) found that the lack of technological infrastructure in rural areas was an impediment to justice. The Senate's proposed action would deprive rural New Yorkers of broadband and access to justice when legal services already face dramatic funding cuts.

In 2024, our [Task Force on Artificial Intelligence](#) supported the study of responsible development of artificial intelligence regulation. We are deeply concerned about efforts to tie essential broadband infrastructure funding to a ten-year moratorium on state regulation of AI technologies. New York has been a national leader in broadband expansion through its ConnectALL initiative, made possible in large part through federal funding. This would undermine that progress by linking it to an unrelated federal policy that interferes with state sovereignty and consumer protection.

We urge you to reject this provision. I have also asked our Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Emerging Technologies to study this issue.

I would be pleased to discuss this further if you have any questions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or NYSBA's Federal Policy Consultant Hilary Jochmans at 202.669.3585 or via email [HFJochmans@hotmail.com](mailto:HFJochmans@hotmail.com).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Marie Sweet". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kathleen" being more prominent.

Kathleen Marie Sweet  
President