



ParentsTogether
ACTION



December 12, 2025

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor
State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

As New York parents, some of whom have lost children to the harms of AI chatbots and social media, we write to express our strong support for New York's Responsible AI Safety and Education (RAISE) Act, as passed by the New York State Legislature; to urge you, Governor Hochul, to sign it — and to underscore what's at stake for kids and families in this moment.

Some of the world's largest AI companies are waging an aggressive lobbying campaign here in New York against even the most basic AI safety requirements, underscoring the stakes for kids, parents, and families as we stand at this crossroads in whether or not to have basic safety standards for AI. The RAISE Act proposes minimalist guardrails that would simply ensure that companies test their most powerful systems for catastrophic risks and report dangerous failures to our Attorney General before releasing them to the public.

As your office knows, the RAISE Act does not regulate all AI developers — only the very largest companies, the ones spending hundreds of millions of dollars a year. The bill requires these companies to write, publish, and follow safety and security protocols; to test for extreme risks such as large-scale automated crime; and to notify the Attorney General when they discover "critical safety incidents," including incidents that could cause mass harm.

And crucially, if a company discovers a catastrophic failure mode, such as an AI model that encourages self-harm in minors, assists in producing bioweapons, or evades its own safety checks, the bill requires the company not to release that system until the issue is fixed.

Big Tech's deep-pocketed opposition to these basic protections looks familiar because we have seen this pattern of avoidance and evasion before. Widespread damage to young people — including to their mental health, emotional stability, and ability to function in school — has been widely documented ever since the biggest technology companies decided to push algorithmic social media platforms without transparency, oversight, or responsibility.

In many cases, the companies knew the harms their products were causing, and chose to do nothing. Regulation, fought by Big Tech at every turn, has lagged behind the urgent social need. And families like ours continue to pay the price.

The RAISE Act ensures New York does not repeat that mistake this time. Like California's newly enacted [SB 53](#), this bill relies on transparency rather than prescriptive mandates. It requires that AI companies publish their safety plans — and follow them. It does not create a new bureaucracy; it simply empowers the Attorney General to enforce the rules, just as the state does in every other high-risk industry.

Because large technology companies are already integrating frontier-level AI directly into products used by millions of minors, the need for basic safety guardrails is urgent and immediate. Right now, if a major AI developer discovers an extreme safety issue that could cause widespread harm, they can simply keep it secret. New Yorkers deserve to know the truth — and to be protected from the worst possible consequences of technology run amok.

This kind of testing and adverse-event reporting requirement is standard in every mature high-risk industry. It will not impair the development of new advanced AI technology. It is the bare minimum the public expects from companies whose products will be available to tens of millions of people, including vulnerable young people.

And yet, as [CNBC](#) has reported, an AI industry super PAC has launched a massive campaign against these basic transparency rules, arguing that companies should not have to disclose catastrophic failures and should be trusted to self-police. And as [Transformer News](#) recently detailed, several major AI developers and lobbying groups are actively pressuring lawmakers to weaken or kill the bill, even as many of these same companies publicly claim to support safety standards at global AI summits.

Companies that fight transparency requirements are telling on themselves. A company that was confident that its products would not (for instance) encourage children to harm themselves would welcome the opportunity to demonstrate that through testing. But these companies instead are pouring resources into blocking a bill that would hold them only to a basic duty of care as would apply in any other industry.

Without this commonsense law, policymakers and the public will again be flying blind. Companies will again be free to push out unsafe systems while keeping critical failures hidden. And once again, young people and their families will be first to bear the consequences.

For all these reasons, we urge you to seize on the opportunity to sign the RAISE Act as passed by the New York State Legislature and establish New York as a national leader in responsible AI governance. This bill gives the public exactly what it has lacked for too long: visibility into what the largest companies are doing (and not doing) to keep people safe, and the beginnings of a path to protection.

Sincerely,

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