



March 7, 2025

The Honorable David Schweikert  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Schweikert:

On behalf of the American College of Physicians (ACP), we have grave concerns regarding H.R. 238, the Healthy Technology Act of 2025 (HTA). That Act would amend current law to clarify that artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning technologies can qualify as a practitioner eligible to prescribe drugs if authorized by the state involved and approved, cleared, or authorized by the Food and Drug Administration. ACP believes AI-enabled technologies should complement and not supplant the decision making of physicians and other clinicians.

ACP is the largest medical specialty organization and the second largest physician membership society in the United States. ACP members include 161,000 internal medicine physicians, related subspecialists, and medical students. Internal medicine physicians are specialists who apply scientific knowledge, clinical expertise, and compassion to the preventive, diagnostic, and therapeutic care of adults across the spectrum from health to complex illness. Additionally, internal medicine is the specialty with the largest number of active physicians specializing in primary care, with 120,342 internal medicine physicians being identified as specializing in primary care in 2021.

### **Healthy Technology Act**

The purpose of the HTA is to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify that AI and machine learning technologies can qualify as a practitioner eligible to prescribe drugs. Medical prescribing is a complex process that requires human consideration of multiple tangible and intangible factors such as the patient's illnesses and disease burden, concurrent prescriptions, medication cost and patient and family preferences, among others. It is not easily amenable to algorithmic dispensation as would occur under an AI/machine learning program. Our [position paper](#) "Artificial Intelligence in the Provision of Health Care: An American College of Physicians Policy Position Paper," lays out our belief that AI-enabled technologies should complement and not supplant the logic and decision making of physicians and other clinicians and that the development, testing, and use of AI in health care must be aligned with principles of medical ethics, serving to

enhance patient care, clinical decision making, the patient-physician relationship, and health care equity and justice.

We do not believe that AI has the capability to appropriately assess patients, make patient-centered medical decisions and safely prescribe potentially dangerous drugs without physician involvement. In no circumstances should prescription drugs be prescribed without the involvement of a physician who best knows a patient's medical history, treatment preferences and reaction to various prescribed medications. There are many examples of AI-related problems within healthcare. For example, an OpenAI medical record tool [fabricated](#) patients' medical histories. In another example, AI tools have offered [harmful](#) advice on eating disorders. Worse, machine-learning algorithms might in turn "learn" some of these dangerous AI practices and make them widespread, leading to a major public health concern. AI programs can also be "tricked" by nefarious player into prescribing addictive drugs without any accountability or oversight. At a minimum, rather than proposing laws to facilitate unimpeded AI prescribing, we believe that more research needs to be done to understand the clinical utility and risks of AI in healthcare settings.

## **Conclusion**

ACP believes the HTA has the potential to cause more harm than good for the patient and the general public. We have serious concerns with this legislation and believe that further studies are warranted on AI use in healthcare. Please contact George Lyons, Jr., Director of Legislative Affairs, by phone at (202) 261-4531 or via email at [glyons@acponline.org](mailto:glyons@acponline.org) with any further questions or if you need additional information.

Sincerely,



Isaac O. Opole, MD, PHD, MACP

President