



May 9, 2024

The Honorable Jay Obernolte
Chairman
Task Force on Artificial Intelligence
U.S. House of Representatives
1029 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ted Lieu
Co-Chairman
Task Force on Artificial Intelligence
U.S. House of Representatives
2454 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Obernolte and Representative Lieu:

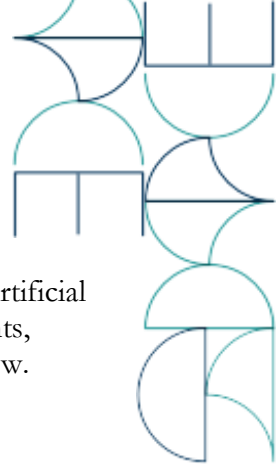
As the House Task Force on Artificial Intelligence works to understand the evolving Artificial Intelligence (AI) landscape and develop policies to guide the technology's use, I want to bring your attention to a crucial aspect that underlies the success of AI systems: structured data.

Think of structured data as information that is neatly organized, labeled, and stored in a consistent format, much like a well-maintained library. Each piece of information has a clear label and a defined relationship with other pieces of information. This organization allows AI systems to easily access, process, and learn from the data, leading to better performance and more accurate results in applications such as career guidance, course recommendations, and skills matching.

Credential Engine's Credential Transparency Description Language (CTDL) is a prime example of how structured data can benefit AI and support federal policy reforms like the House Education and Workforce Committee's recent bipartisan update to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. CTDL provides a common language and format for describing programs, credentials, skills, jobs, and the connections between them. As more organizations adopt CTDL and contribute their data to open credential repositories, AI tools can analyze the patterns and relationships within this information, leading to more reliable and consistent insights for workers, employers, and policymakers.

Imagine a student exploring career options or a worker looking to reskill. AI-powered tools that leverage CTDL data could provide personalized recommendations based on their skills, interests, and goals, drawing from a vast network of organized data. This structure not only empowers individuals to make informed decisions but also helps educators, employers, and policymakers better understand the ever-changing landscape of credentials and skills.

As you consider policies to govern AI, we encourage you to recognize the importance of structured data and support initiatives like Credential Engine that are working to standardize and organize critical information. By investing in the development and adoption of data frameworks like CTDL, we can harness the power of AI to transform lives and drive innovation in education and workforce development.



Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you or the broader Task Force on Artificial Intelligence would like to learn more about structured data's advantages for AI and the students, employers, and other stakeholders the technology will support in the future, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott L. Cheney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" and last name "Cheney" clearly legible.

Scott L Cheney
CEO
Credential Engine

Cc: House Task Force on Artificial Intelligence

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