

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9903

To provide personnel of the Department of Defense with increased access to training and education in artificial intelligence and machine learning, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 1, 2024

Mr. LARSEN of Washington introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To provide personnel of the Department of Defense with increased access to training and education in artificial intelligence and machine learning, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Next Generation Mili-
5 tary Education Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MODIFICATION TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EDU-**
2 **CATION STRATEGY.**

3 Section 256 of the National Defense Authorization
4 Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116–92; 133 Stat.
5 1290) is amended by adding at the end the following new
6 subsection:

7 “(d) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE
8 LEARNING EDUCATION PLATFORMS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
10 after the date of the enactment of this subsection,
11 the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer
12 of the Department of Defense, in coordination with
13 the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and
14 Readiness, shall—

15 “(A) develop a set of distance education
16 courses on—

17 “(i) the foundational concepts of arti-
18 ficial intelligence and machine learning;
19 and

20 “(ii) the responsible and ethical use of
21 artificial intelligence and machine learning
22 applications; and

23 “(B) make such courses available to mem-
24 bers of the Armed Forces.

25 “(2) ELEMENTS.—The courses developed under
26 paragraph (1) shall address—

1 “(A) basic artificial intelligence literacy to
2 enable members of the Armed Forces to make
3 informed decisions about the use of artificial in-
4 telligence products and services, including—

5 “(i) a basic understanding of the
6 strengths and limitations of artificial intel-
7 ligence products and services;

8 “(ii) a basic understanding of the cat-
9 egories of artificial intelligence technologies
10 (including classification, prediction, prod-
11 uct recommendation, autonomous decision
12 making, voice dictation and machine trans-
13 lation, and the generation of content such
14 as text, image, video, and speech) and the
15 manner in which such categories relate to
16 different capabilities, benefits, and risks;

17 “(iii) an awareness of best practices
18 for the protection of personal data and
19 personal identifying information based
20 upon privacy and classification require-
21 ments;

22 “(iv) an awareness of ethical consider-
23 ations in the use of artificial intelligence
24 products and services;

1 “(v) the ability to identify common in-
2 dicators of artificial intelligence-generated
3 content; and

4 “(vi) an awareness of common at-
5 tempts to employ artificial intelligence-gen-
6 erated content to deceive or defraud con-
7 sumers; and

8 “(B) any other artificial intelligence lit-
9 eracy skill the Chief Digital and Artificial Intel-
10 ligence Officer and the Under Secretary of De-
11 fense for Personnel and Readiness consider ap-
12 propriate.

13 “(3) MILITARY DEPARTMENT PARTICIPA-
14 TION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the
15 enactment of this subsection, each Secretary of a
16 military department shall—

17 “(A) ensure that members of the Armed
18 Forces under the jurisdiction of such Secretary
19 have the ability to access the distance education
20 courses made available under paragraph (1);

21 “(B) notify members of the availability of
22 such courses and provide a description of the
23 course content; and

24 “(C) provide members with instructions for
25 accessing such courses.

1 “(4) REPORT.—Not later than 270 days after
2 the date of the enactment of this subsection, the
3 Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congres-
4 sional defense committees a report on the status of
5 the activities required under this section.

6 “(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

7 “(A) The term ‘artificial intelligence’ has
8 the meaning given that term in section 5002 of
9 the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National De-
10 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021
11 (Public Law 116–283; 15 U.S.C. 9401).

12 “(B) The term ‘artificial intelligence lit-
13 eracy’ means the ability to make informed use
14 of products and services that employ artificial
15 intelligence.”.

16 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF PARTICIPATION IN THE DIGITAL ON-**
17 **DEMAND PROGRAM.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall
19 take such steps as may be necessary—

20 (1) to expand participation in the Digital On-
21 Demand Program to—

22 (A) all organizations and elements of the
23 Department of Defense; and

24 (B) all members of the Armed Forces and
25 civilian employees of the Department; and

1 (2) to actively promote the Program throughout
2 the Department.

3 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
4 of the enactment of this Act, and on an annual basis there-
5 after through 2029, the Secretary of Defense shall submit
6 to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and
7 the House of Representatives a report on the progress of
8 the Secretary in expanding and promoting the Digital On-
9 Demand Program as described in subsection (a).

10 **SEC. 4. INCORPORATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**
11 **MATTERS INTO ANNUAL CYBERSECURITY**
12 **TRAINING.**

13 In conjunction with the activities required under sec-
14 tions 2 and 3, the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that
15 information on the risks and threats of artificial intel-
16 ligence is incorporated into the annual cybersecurity train-
17 ing courses required to be completed by members of the
18 Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department
19 of Defense.

20 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) The term “artificial intelligence” has the
23 meaning given that term in section 5002 of the Wil-
24 liam M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Author-

1 ization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116–
2 283; 15 U.S.C. 9401).

3 (2) The term “Digital On-Demand Program”
4 means the program overseen by the Chief Digital
5 and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department
6 of Defense pursuant to which educational resources
7 on artificial intelligence, emerging technologies, data
8 literacy, and related topics are made available to
9 personnel of the Department of Defense through a
10 digital platform on an on-demand basis.

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