



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 5, 2024

TO: The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

FROM: Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson
GACEC

RE: **House Bill No. 333 Artificial Intelligence Commission**

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed House Bill No. 333, which will create a Delaware Artificial Intelligence (AI) Commission to make recommendations to the General Assembly and Department of Technology and Information on AI utilization and safety within Delaware. The Commission would also conduct an inventory of all Generative AI usage within Delaware's executive, legislative, and judicial agencies and identify high-risk areas for the implementation of Generative AI. The Commission would be established for 10 years unless extended by the General Assembly. Council **supports** the proposed legislation. However, we ask that the bill be amended to include representation from the disability community.

Council would suggest that someone from the disability community who understands both AI and electronic accessibility for individuals with disabilities would be a critical addition. This is important because AI has great potential to further integration and independence for people with disabilities – if it is designed with inclusion in mind. According to the Harvard Business Review, in the future, as much as 40% of the time people spend working could be with AI's assistance; presently there are around 386 million working people with disabilities.

AI has the ability to ease communication (e.g., text-to-speech, Parrotron - enables individuals with distorted speech patterns to have their speech translated into a format more people understand), improve learning (e.g. AI-powered braille tutor apps), aide in independence (Amazon Alexa can automate reminders, turn devices on or off by voice command), and increase community involvement (RogerVoice transcribes group conversations for those with hearing disabilities). The range of ways present – and future - AI could benefit students with disabilities is remarkable, from social skills robots, to using AI to better identify and define certain

disabilities like dyslexia. The number of people with disabilities that AI impacts and will impact cannot be understated. Therefore, it is critical to ensure the inclusion of disability membership on this Commission.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our support of the proposed legislation and our recommendation to include representation from the disability community. Please feel free to contact me or Pam Weir at the GACEC office should you have any questions.