November 10, 2021

The Honorable Jack Reed, Chairman   The Honorable James Inhofe, Ranking Member
Senate Armed Services Committee   Senate Armed Services Committee
228 Russell Senate Office Building   228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510   Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Reed and Ranking Member Inhofe:

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing today to ask for your support for the inclusion
of the provisions of S. 2559, the Deepfake Task Force Act of 2021 as an amendment to the FY22
National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) when that legislation is considered by the full U.S.
Senate this year.

The bipartisan Deepfake Task Force Act was introduced in the U.S. Senate in July 2021 by the
Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC) Chairman Gary Peters
(D-MI) and Ranking Member Rob Portman (R-OH) and passed unanimously out of HSGAC on
August 4th. The legislation codifies certain recommendations of the National Security
Commission on Artificial Intelligence Final Report[1] and builds upon the Deepfake Report Act
that was included in last year's FY21 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)[2]. This bill is an
important step towards increasing public and private sector collaboration in combatting the
unique threat that digital content forgeries, misinformation and AI-enabled information
campaigns represent to our national security and democracy.

The legislation would specifically create the National Deepfake and Digital Provenance Task
Force, chaired by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and would be comprised of
experts from academia, government, civil society, legal, and private industry. The task force
would explore how the development and deployment of a "digital content provenance" open
standard could work to counter the spread of deepfakes and misinformation. The task force
would also make recommendations for effective public-private partnership models to fight
disinformation, serve as a formal mechanism for interagency coordination to create and
implement a plan to reduce deepfakes and adopt digital content provenance standards, while
also respecting privacy and civil liberties.

We applaud the bill's focus on digital content provenance – information about where a piece of
digital content came from and what happened to it along the way. We believe an opt-in digital

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[1] Final Report – National Security Commission on Artificial Intelligence - Chapter 1: Emerging Threats in the AI Era
Recommendations
[2] H.R. 6395 (Public Law No. 116-283) – Sec. 9004. Department of Homeland Security Reports on Digital Content
Forgery Technology

content attribution solution and open standard is key to creating a safe digital environment while ensuring user privacy is protected and maintaining freedom of expression.

As the leading organizations working to understand and combat the threats posed by deepfakes and manipulated digital content, we think the proposed task force is an important step in joining together the knowledge, perspectives, and the influence of the private and public sectors to address these challenges. The sooner this legislation is enacted, and the associated task force is established, the better able the public and US government will be able to address these issues and restore trust online.

Thank you for consideration of our views and please let us know if you have any questions.

Respectfully,

Adobe Inc.
Arm
BSA | The Software Alliance
Clink Media, Inc.
Coalition of Content Provenance and Authenticity (C2PA)
Information Technology Industry Council (ITI)
Microsoft
Ravnur, Inc.
SafeCast Limited
Serum of Truth
Silicon Valley Leadership Group (SVLG)
Software and Information Industry Association (SIIA)
Steg AI
Truepic