



September 5, 2025

Bret Taylor, Chair Board of Directors Open AI, Inc. 1455 Third Street San Francisco, CA 94158

Dear Mr. Taylor and members of the Board:

As you know, we met with senior members of OpenAI's legal team earlier this week in Wilmington, Delaware. We write you to underscore our serious concerns about what we view as a critical public safety issue. As a Delaware non-profit corporation headquartered in California, OpenAI's proposed recapitalization plan is subject to review by our offices to ensure the nonprofit beneficiaries' interests are adequately protected and the mission of the nonprofit remains paramount. As set forth in OpenAI's founding documents, the mission includes ensuring that artificial intelligence is deployed safely. We have been particularly focused on ensuring rigorous and robust oversight of OpenAI's safety mission, including ensuring the effectiveness of governance structures.

The real-world challenges, and importance, of implementing OpenAI's mission have come into acute focus with deeply troubling reports of dangerous interactions between artificial intelligence products and their users, particularly minors. Last week, together with a bipartisan coalition of 42 of our colleagues, we issued the attached letter highlighting many of these issues (see Appendix A). Since the issuance of that letter, we learned of the heartbreaking death by suicide of one young Californian after he had prolonged interactions with an OpenAI chatbot, as well as a similarly disturbing murder-suicide in Connecticut. Whatever safeguards were in place did not work.

In our meeting, we conveyed in the strongest terms that safety is a non-negotiable priority, especially when it comes to children. Our teams made additional requests about OpenAI's current safety precautions and governance. We expect that your responses to these will be prioritized and that immediate remedial measures are being taken where appropriate.

We recognize that OpenAI has sought to position itself as a leader in the AI industry on safety. Indeed, OpenAI has publicly committed itself to build safe AGI to benefit all humanity, including children. And before we get to benefiting, we need to ensure that adequate safety measures are in place to not harm. It is our shared view that OpenAI and the industry at large are not where they need to be in ensuring safety in AI products' development and deployment. As Attorneys General, public safety is one of our core missions. As we continue our dialogue related to OpenAI's recapitalization plan, we must work to accelerate and amplify safety as a governing force in the future of this powerful technology.

The recent deaths are unacceptable. They have rightly shaken the American public's confidence in OpenAI and this industry. OpenAI – and the AI industry – must proactively and transparently ensure AI's safe deployment. Doing so is mandated by OpenAI's charitable mission, and will be required and enforced by our respective offices.

We look forward to hearing from you and working with your team on these important issues.

Rob Bonta

California Attorney General

Kathleen Jennings

Delaware Attorney General

APPENDIX "A"



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August 25, 2025

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Character Technologies, Inc.

68 Willow Road

Menlo Park, CA 94025

Google

1600 Amphitheatre Parkway Mountain View, CA 94043

Luka Inc.

55 Rodgers Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Meta

1 Meta Way

Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Chief Executive Officer:

We, the undersigned Attorneys General of 44 jurisdictions, write to inform you of our resolve to use every facet of our authority to protect children from exploitation by predatory artificial intelligence products.

Your innovations are changing the world and ushering in an era of technological acceleration that promises prosperity undreamt of by our

Microsoft

One Microsoft Way

Redmond, WA 98052-6399

Nomi Al

901 South Bond Street #204

Baltimore, MD 21231

Open Al

3180 18th Street

San Francisco, CA 94110

Perplexity Al

115 Sansome Street, Ste. 900 San Francisco, CA 94104

Replika

1266 Harrison St, Bldg. 4 San Francisco, CA 94103

XAi

1450 Page Mill Road Palo Alto, CA 94304 forebears. We need you to succeed. But we need you to succeed without sacrificing the well-being of our kids in the process.

Recent revelations about Meta's Al policies provide an instructive opportunity to candidly convey our concerns. As you are aware, internal Meta Platforms documents revealed the company's approval of Al Assistants that "flirt and engage in romantic roleplay with children" as young as eight. We are uniformly revolted by this apparent disregard for children's emotional well-being and alarmed that Al Assistants are engaging in conduct that appears to be prohibited by our respective criminal laws. As chief legal officers of our respective states, protecting our kids is our highest priority.

Of course, this is not an isolated occurrence. In May, many of us wrote to Meta about a damningly similar matter where Meta Al's celebrity persona chatbots were exposing children to highly inappropriate sexualized content.² Nor are such risks isolated to Meta. In the short history of chatbot parasocial relationships, we have repeatedly seen companies display inability or apathy toward basic obligations to protect children. A recent lawsuit against Google alleges a highly-sexualized chatbot steered a teenager toward suicide. Another suit alleges a Character.ai chatbot intimated that a teenager should kill his parents.

And those are only the highly-visible examples with media-friendly hooks. There are already indications of broader structural and systemic harms to young users of Al Assistants. You are well aware that interactive technology has a particularly intense impact on developing brains. Your immediate access to data about user interactions makes you the most immediate line of defense to mitigate harm to kids. And, as the entities benefitting from children's engagement with your products, you have a legal obligation to them as consumers.

Exposing children to sexualized content is indefensible. And conduct that would be unlawful—or even criminal—if done by humans is not excusable simply because it is done by a machine.

We've been down this road before. A new and powerful technology comes along to capture the imagination of the entire planet, unveiling previously inconceivable vistas of human creativity and productivity. Big Tech, heedless of warnings, relentlessly markets the product to every last man, woman, and child. Many, even most, users employ the tool appropriately and constructively. But some, especially children, fall victim to dangers known to the platforms. Broken lives and broken families are an irrelevant blip on engagement metrics as the most powerful corporations in human history continue to accrue dominance. All of this has happened before, but it cannot happen again.

At this inflection point in human history, the decisions your companies make could ramify for centuries, shaping the day-to-day lives of billions yet to be born. Today's children will

¹ You are also aware of other concerns raised by Reuters' investigation of Meta Platforms' chatbot policies allowing AI Assistants to create "verifiably false" content and "statements that demean people based on their protected characteristics" for children. They are outside the scope of this letter but will be addressed by many of the undersigned.

² https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/attorneygeneral/documents/pr/2025/2025-5-meta.pdf

grow up and grow old in the shadow of your choices. When your Al products encounter children, we need you to see them through the eyes of a parent, not the eyes of a predator. Protect kids, encourage them, and equip them to succeed. Err on the side of child safety, always.

We understand that the frontier of technology is a difficult and uncertain place where learning, experimentation, and adaptation are necessary for survival. You are figuring things out as you go. But in that process, you have opportunities to exercise judgment. Opportunities like Meta had when it articulated the policy approving its Al engaging in sexualized conversations with minors. Meta got it wrong. Young children should absolutely not be subjected to intimate entanglements with flirty chatbots. When faced with the opportunity to exercise judgment about how your products treat kids, you must exercise sound judgment and prioritize their well-being. Don't hurt kids. That is an easy bright line that lets you know exactly how to proceed.

You will be held accountable for your decisions. Social media platforms caused significant harm to children, in part because government watchdogs did not do their job fast enough. Lesson learned. The potential harms of Al, like the potential benefits, dwarf the impact of social media. We wish you all success in the race for Al dominance. But we are paying attention. If you knowingly harm kids, you will answer for it.

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Jeff Jackson

North Carolina Attorney General

Alan Wilson

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Treg R. Taylor

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