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**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS**
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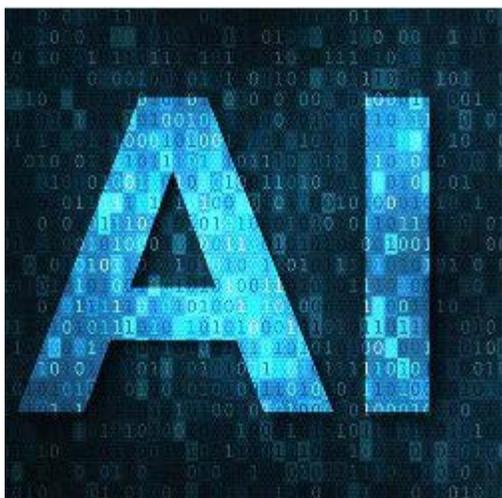
"I think we should be very careful about artificial intelligence. If I were to guess at what our biggest existential threat is, it's probably that. With artificial intelligence, we are summoning the demon."

Elon Musk, CEO, Tesla Motors & SpaceX

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE STUDY:

AI TODAY, AI TOMORROW

We are following up on our last message about a proposed National Study on Artificial Intelligence. We very much appreciate the responses and encouragement we have received, and welcome input and questions from any League and/or its members on this subject.



We believe that the pace of development of AI and the implications of its advancement make this an extremely timely subject. AI is becoming an important part of our society - from medical uses to transportation to

banking to national defense. Putting off this study will put us behind in the progress being made in AI. We again request that your League consider supporting this study at your program planning meeting.

The reason to propose this study now is because there are currently no positions that address many of

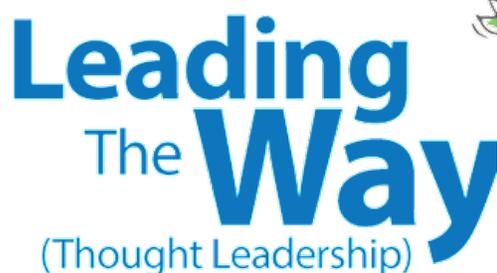
the issues that fall under the umbrella of this relatively new and powerful technology. For several years now private groups and even countries (like Russia, China and Korea) have made it a priority to develop mechanical brains/computers that can function intelligently



and command robots or other machines to perform some task. Most recently advanced programs known as “Deep Intelligence” are able to teach themselves.

Although this technology is not yet a full replacement for a person—it is rapidly advancing in that direction. **The most serious problem is finding a way to control this technology.**

Currently, Congress has started a bi-partisan caucus, but has yet to suggest any rules to control this technology or to plan for the dislocation it may cause large numbers of working citizens. We are not a Country that agrees we should have a strong safety net and even if we did agree to a basic level of care for all -- in housing, health and other basic needs -- we do not have a tax structure to afford it.



Since the League has always been on the leading edge of policies that affect citizens, this is a study we need now to educate our members

and to lobby for legislation that will benefit us all.

Many leaders in technology are concerned about the developments in AI and the implications for all of us if it is unchecked. If anyone would like to explore some of the aspects of this technology, we suggest that you look at books that are **recommended by Bill Gates** on this subject. He recommends *The Master Algorithm* by Pedro Domingo and *Superintelligence* by Nick Bostrom.

There is also a [video of Nick Bostrom](#) “Talks at Google” in 2014—the year his book was published. It is a bit long but also insightful.

Elon Musk recommends *Life 3.0: Being Human in the Age of Artificial Intelligence* by Max Tegmark, an MIT Professor. There are also numerous articles that one can find at the magazine rack and in the news. One very recent article covers [Steven Hawking’s AI speech](#) on the Dangers of AI at opening night of the WebSummit Conference on November 6, 2017.

We welcome your comments and questions and look forward to your support.



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