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Dear Senator Becker & FIXME-YOUR-STATE-SENATOR-IF-YOU-HAVE-ONE,

**Re: California AI Transparency Act amendment under consideration in SB 1000**

I am aware that you have received a letter campaign from a number of generative AI companies — including GitHub (a subsidiary of Microsoft), Mozilla, and various others — claiming that § 22757.3(b) (as to be amended by SB 1000) is in conflict with core principles of open source licenses.

I am a proud member of and contributor to the open source community for FIXME-YEARS years. I am familiar with the arguments that these companies have brought forward, and as a concerned citizen of California, I must draw to your attention that it appears these companies are purposely misunderstanding open source licensing in an effort to oppose legislation they do not like.

First, none of these companies currently release any end-to-end generative AI system that is licensed under an open source license. Second, the provisions found in §22757.1–2,3(a) do not contradict any requirements currently found in open source licenses. Finally, even the open source licenses with the heaviest requirements (namely, *copyleft* licenses such as the General Public License (“GPL”)) already account for situations like the California AI Transparency Act in GPLv2§ 7 and GPLv3§ 12.

If you need further policy input on these laws, I would be glad to talk to your office, and also encourage you to contact the 501(c)(3) non-profit charity called Software Freedom Conservancy — who have knowledgeable open source policy licensing staffers available.

While anyone familiar with technology and open source policy would have some tweaks or ideas to share about improvement of the drafting of SB 1000 (as would I), I am writing to assure you and your colleagues that there appear to be no fatal flaws in the drafting with regard to open source. In fact, I thank the California Senate for working toward legislation that will make these generative AI systems more transparent, and consumer-friendly.

Sincerely,

J. Hobbist