

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 16, 2024

The Honorable David Pekoske
Administrator
Transportation Security Administration
6595 Springfield Center Drive
Springfield, VA 22150

Dear Administrator Pekoske,

As you are aware, we have expressed concern with the TSA's expanded use of facial recognition technology (FRT) used by passengers traveling through American airports. This issue has garnered significant attention from our constituents, who have raised important questions and concerns about the implications of such an expansion.

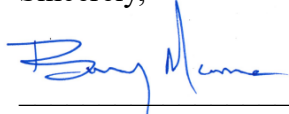
Facial recognition technology raises critical issues concerning privacy, data security, and civil liberties. As Members of Congress, it is our duty to ensure that such technologies are implemented in a manner that balances national security interests with the rights and freedoms of American citizens.

Given the significance of this matter, we request a written explanation of how TSA determined that it should expand this technology to over 430 airports across the United States. Please answer the following questions within 30 calendar days.

1. **The Evaluation Process:** What studies and assessments did TSA conduct to evaluate the effectiveness of facial recognition technology? How did these evaluations inform your decision-making process? What determined that FRT was truly needed to enhance security operations at American airports?
2. **Public Consultation and Transparency:** To what extent did the TSA engage with stakeholders, including privacy advocates, civil liberties organizations, and the general public, during the decision-making process? How did the agency address the concerns raised by these groups?
3. **Legal and Ethical Considerations:** What legal frameworks and ethical guidelines did the TSA consider when deciding to expand the use of facial recognition technology? How does the agency ensure compliance with relevant laws and regulations?
4. **Future Plans and Oversight:** What are the TSA's plans for further expanding the use of facial recognition technology for identity verification? How does the agency intend to monitor and evaluate the technology's effectiveness and its impact on privacy concerns?

Understanding the TSA's approach to these critical questions will help us provide informed oversight and address the concerns of our constituents. We look forward to your prompt and thorough response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Barry Moore", written over a horizontal line.

Barry Moore
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andy Biggs", written over a horizontal line.

Andy Biggs
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Warren Davidson", written over a horizontal line.

Warren Davidson
Member of Congress