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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an overview of how artificial intelligence (AI) technologies have been gradually adopted in the legislative workflows of parliaments globally over the past decades. It focuses primarily on developments in the US Congress in areas like predictive modeling, machine learning, natural language processing, computer vision, and speech recognition. It also highlights examples of AI adoption internationally, including projects in Argentina, Brazil, Estonia, the European Parliament, Finland, India, Italy, Singapore, and Taiwan. The recent emergence of generative AI (GenAI) is addressed — highlighting its potential to augment efficiency and effectiveness in lawmaking processes while acknowledging that these benefits raise complex questions. The report describes actions taken in the US House and Senate to allow for cautious exploration and experimentation with GenAI. Both chambers have established AI working groups and issued initial guidance on responsible AI adoption.

Emerging workflow disruptions signal more significant impending impacts and underscore the need for technical investments and capacity building within legislatures. The report makes several recommendations for legislative bodies planning for their own AI adoption:

Immediate

Enable experimentation; foster sharing

Short-term

Conduct expert studies; advocate prototype development

Medium-term

Invest in integration and automation initiatives

Long-term

Revolutionize constituent engagement and oversight leveraging custom models. It further advises formulating agile guidelines, promoting inclusive dialogue, adopting phased strategies, upskilling staff, ensuring human oversight of AI systems, and participating in international collaboration.

By prudently leveraging AI, representative bodies can take steps to maintain pace with a rapidly changing society, meet rising public expectations, and improve the responsiveness, effectiveness, and relevance of democratic institutions in this new AI era.

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