

## KEY FINDINGS

A recent statewide survey of likely November 2024 voters shows a strong intensity of support for developing AI safety regulations to protect Californians, with the vast majority of voters saying it is a very high priority that California take action on this issue.

The proposal tested (below) is supported by over three-quarters of likely November 2024 voters, with bipartisan support at levels rarely witnessed in the polarized political environment. Further, two-thirds of voters distrust technology companies developing AI systems to adequately focus on safety.

Key findings include:

- ✓ 77% of voters support – 55% strongly support – the proposal (in the text box to the right) to require California companies developing the next generation of most powerful AI systems to test for safety risks before releasing them. Unusual for the current polarized political climate, support is bipartisan, with 73% of Republicans, 73% of Independents and 82% of Democrats supportive of the proposal.

The proposal would require California companies developing the next generation of most powerful AI systems to test for safety risks before releasing them. If testing shows that the AI system could be used to cause catastrophic harm to society, such as disrupting the financial system, shutting down the power grid or creating biological weapons, the company must add reasonable safeguards to prevent these risks. If the company fails to test or adopt reasonable safeguards, they could be held accountable by the Attorney General of California.

- ✓ After likely voters are provided information about the core provisions included in the proposed legislation, support for the proposal increases from 77% to 82%. Support remains strong across parties, with support growing by a few percentage points for each party. Further, support is consistently strong across race and ethnicity, with 82% support from White voters, 83% from Latino voters, 87% among AAPI voters, and 82% support among African American voters.
- ✓ 66% of voters distrust technology companies developing AI systems to adequately focus on safety, with only 25% saying they trust technology companies, while 10% are unsure.
- ✓ 86% of voters say it is an important – with 61% saying it is a very important – priority for California to develop AI safety regulations to protect Californians.

### Survey Methodology

David Binder Research (DBR) conducted a survey of 800 likely November 2024 voters in California, selected based on prior vote history and screened to determine if they are likely to participate in the November 2024 general election. The survey was conducted between May 18<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. The margin of error for the full sample is  $\pm 3.5\%$ . Voters were interviewed by cell phone, landline, and online (email and text to web) utilizing information from the voter file. Voters were interviewed in English and Spanish.

## **About David Binder Research**

For over 25 years, David Binder Research (DBR) has provided research and insight to political, government, and private sector clients. DBR works with a range of clients, including campaigns, non-profits, foundations, advocacy organizations and companies on the top issues of the day, including jobs and the economy, health care, education, immigration, guns, the environment and climate change, civil rights, criminal justice, taxes and regulations, voting rights, international affairs, artificial intelligence, labor relations, and everything in-between. DBR has provided award-winning messaging work for a variety of initiatives and candidates up and down the ballot, from local city council races, county commissioner or Supervisor races, Gubernatorial and Senatorial races, and Presidential campaigns.

