Congress completed its final week of votes until December, and the new NAPA — UDACA — has still not moved closer to the finish line. Here are the top 5 other topics we’re tracking in U.S. tech policy.

one

Drones deliver medicine

UPS, CVS, FedEx, and Walgreens recently launched drone delivery programs to bring medication to consumers and supplies to medical facilities. In the latest CES Tech Talk podcast, FAA Administrator Steve Dickson discussed the many use cases for drones (his son has a drone photography business), and the FAA’s approach to regulations.

Move tech for good at CES 2020: CTIA is partnering with the World Bank Group on a Global Tech Challenge to create solutions focused on key development challenges such as resilience and climate change.

two

America needs Phase One trade deal with China now

September was the first month of China tariffs on $50 billion worth of mainly consumer-facing goods, including TVs and digital cameras, and the first month that tariffs paid by U.S. tech companies surpassed $2 billion. Over $5 billion has already been paid by American tech companies. The trade war costs will go up if threatened tariffs — on products such as smartphones and laptop — hit in December. We need a Phase One deal with China that includes a commitment to no new tariffs and removes existing tariffs before the financial bleeding gets even worse.

Take action: Tell Congress to protect Americans from a trade war with China.

three

National Apprenticeship Week highlights the future of work

In honor of National Apprenticeship Week, CTIA issued a new report taking a deeper dive into the value of apprenticeships and how they are revolutionizing the tech workforce. IBM, one of the founding members of CTIA’s Apprenticeship Coalition, created one of the tech industry’s first registered apprenticeships and has dropped degree requirements for the majority of its jobs. You can also learn directly from tech companies such as Postmates and Pandora about their own earn-and-learn training programs.

See it at CES 2020: The Future of Work conference track will address the U.S. skills gaps and how workplace cultures are adapting in the 21st century.

four

AI could prevent forest fires

Recent wildfires in California have consumed over 250,000 acres and forced residents to evacuate their homes. With 1.3 million acres of forest to monitor, the state’s agencies face challenges discovering, mapping, and containing forest fires. This AI startup can scan satellite images for evidence of wildfires that are invisible to the naked eye, potentially saving forest land and human lives.

AI at CES 2020: We’re testing facial recognition software for badge pickup at a few booths.

five

Carta analysis of nearly 10,000 startups

- One employee: 63%
- Female founder: 16%
- Male founder: 74%
- Woman employee: 12%
- Men employee: 88%

AI at CES 2020: We’re testing facial recognition software for badge pickup at a few booths.
How tech is investing in diverse leaders

Women comprise 15% of startup founders, but women-led companies have raised less than 2% of U.S. venture capital dollars, leaving billions of dollars on the table. With a career spanning six tech startups, Kim Feldman, co-founder of Founders First Capital Partners and a recipient of CVS’s Diversity Investment Fund, understands the obstacles barring access to growth capital and is investing in early-stage startups led by underrepresented founders.

Innovation for All: The new CES 2020 conference track will highlight case studies and best practices of how diversity and inclusion help create a productive tech sector.

Powered by

Consumer Technology
Association™