

ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-3641

Minority (202) 225-2927

September 18, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Bondi
Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20530

Attorney General Bondi:

We write to express our significant concern about recent reports regarding BrainCo, a neural-technology company purportedly funded by the People's Republic of China (PRC), and allegations of its harvesting of personal information of United States citizens.¹ We urge the Administration to investigate BrainCo for risks to American national and economic security and to protect Americans' personal information from potential access by a foreign adversary.

Based in Hangzhou, BrainCo is one of the PRC's "six little dragons," or leading technology companies supporting the Chinese Communist Party's (CCP) ambitions to dominate new and emerging technologies.² In the U.S., BrainCo offers "FocusCalm," a headset that collects electroencephalogram (EEG) information, data on brain activity, from users purportedly to help with meditation, athletic performance, and sleep. FocusCalm headsets are used by numerous leading American professional sports teams, Olympic organizations, and universities.³ The company also provides connected prosthetics including a bionic hand powered by

¹ Wendy Nardi et al., *BrainCo: The "Harvard" Startup That Became a "Little Dragon" in China — With Brain Data From U.S. Olympians and Schoolchildren*, HUNTERBROOK (Sept. 16, 2025), <https://hntbrk.com/brainco/>.

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“embodied intelligence,” a field of artificial intelligence (AI) essential to the development of robotics.⁴

The Committee on Energy and Commerce has long warned about the national and economic security risks of CCP-aligned entities accessing Americans’ personal and proprietary information.⁵ The use of American data by CCP-aligned entities to develop and deploy AI underscores our concerns. Under Chinese law, all businesses must cooperate with and answer to the CCP in one form or another.⁶ Accordingly, BrainCo is subject to these obligations, and itself admits to collecting personal information from “any given person using our devices and applications, including people under the age of 18.”⁷

The federal government is not without tools to address these risks. Earlier this year, the Department of Justice implemented its Data Security Program to protect Americans’ sensitive personal information from foreign adversaries, including the PRC.⁸ The Department of Commerce’s Information and Communications Technology and Services Program has likewise taken action to address unacceptable risks to national security stemming from transactions involving connected vehicles and foreign adversaries.⁹ Moreover, the Federal Trade Commission’s new and longstanding authorities enable it to hold CCP-aligned companies accountable when their unfair or deceptive data practices harm American consumers.¹⁰

⁴ Press Release, BrainCo, *BrainCo Launches Revo2 Hand for Humanoid Robotics*, (Sept. 16, 2025), <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/brainco-launches-revo2-hand-for-humanoid-robotics-302557714.html>.

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¹⁰ Protecting Americans’ Data from Foreign Adversaries Act of 2024, div. I of Pub. L. No. 118-50, 138 Stat. 960 (2024) (permanently codified at 15 U.S.C. § 9901); *Privacy & Security*, FED. TRADE COMM’N, <https://www.ftc.gov/business-guidance/privacy-security> (last visited Sept. 16, 2025).

Given these concerns, the Committee urges swift action to investigate and address the potential national and economic security risks posed by BrainCo's operations in the United States and its access to Americans' personal information. We stand ready to support your efforts on this critical matter.

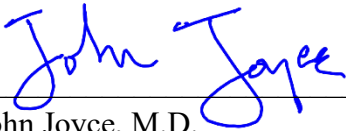
Sincerely,



Brett Guthrie
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce



Gus M. Bilirakis
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Manufacturing, and Trade



John Joyce, M.D.
Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight and
Investigations

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September 18, 2025

The Honorable Andrew Ferguson
Chairman
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20580

Chairman Ferguson:

We write to express our significant concern about recent reports regarding BrainCo, a neural-technology company purportedly funded by the People's Republic of China (PRC), and allegations of its harvesting of personal information of United States citizens.¹ We urge the Administration to investigate BrainCo for risks to American national and economic security and to protect Americans' personal information from potential access by a foreign adversary.

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The federal government is not without tools to address these risks. Earlier this year, the Department of Justice implemented its Data Security Program to protect Americans’ sensitive personal information from foreign adversaries, including the PRC.⁸ The Department of Commerce’s Information and Communications Technology and Services Program has likewise taken action to address unacceptable risks to national security stemming from transactions involving connected vehicles and foreign adversaries.⁹ Moreover, the Federal Trade Commission’s new and longstanding authorities enable it to hold CCP-aligned companies accountable when their unfair or deceptive data practices harm American consumers.¹⁰

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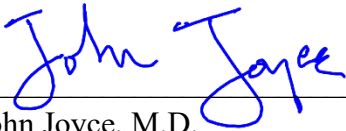
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September 18, 2025

The Honorable Howard Lutnick
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20230

Secretary Lutnick:

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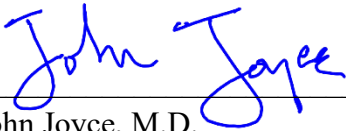
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