The *Humanitarian Tech Corps Act*

Introduced By: Senator Peter Welch (D-Vt.)

Background:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) provides new opportunities to support and improve humanitarian aid operations at home and abroad, whether in disaster response at home or humanitarian relief in war-torn areas across the globe. At a time of heightened international conflict, investing in initiatives that foster innovation and leverage AI to supplement chronically under-resourced federal humanitarian operations is vital to ensuring global stability.

Legislation:

The *Humanitarian Tech Corps Act* will help build America's technical workforce by creating scholarships through the National Science Foundation (NSF) for students who choose to work for federal humanitarian organizations like USAID or other critical nongovernmental organizations. The scholarship program will be facilitated in consultation with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to strengthen U.S. technical capacity in humanitarian operations and create inroads for students pursuing careers in federal public service.

The scholarship will be made available to students pursuing a baccalaureate or postgraduate degree in computer science, data science, or any other science, technology, engineering, or mathematics field deemed relevant to humanitarian operations by the NSF selection committee. Eligible students can then fulfill their public service obligation—for an amount of time equivalent to their time in school—working for USAID or qualifying nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations with humanitarian operations.