Sen. Young aims for AI report by April

By Mohar Chatterjee

02/29/2024 11:42 AM EST Updated: 02/29/2024 01:32 PM EST

Sen. Todd Young said Thursday he and Sen. Mike Rounds (R-S.D.) visited “a ranking member” of a major committee in Congress to discuss AI legislation for mark up “in March or April” in accordance with the new list of AI priorities that Senate leaders on AI are creating for Congress.

“Myself and Mike Rounds, we visited with a ranking member of a major committee yesterday and we said essentially: ‘Get ready. We're about to produce our lessons learned through these Insight Forums. We're going to hand them to this prominent committee — ranking member, chairman — and ask you to get started marking up legislation as it related to AI, probably in March or April would be my estimate.’” Young (R-Ind.) said at a Punchbowl News event in Washington.

Rounds (R-S.D.) did not immediately confirm Young’s comments, but he said Wednesday that he had discussed the new AI priorities list as well as specific legislation with the Senate Finance Committee.

**Why it matters:** Young’s conversation with committee leaders provides a glimpse into how Senate AI leaders are planning to advance AI policy solutions suggested in a series of “AI Insight Forums” through a stalled Congress. The forums were organized by Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Young and Rounds — an influential Senate AI working group called the Gang of Four.

**What’s next:** Health care may be an early target for AI legislation, according to Rounds. He proposed on Wednesday that Senate Finance examine using Medicare and Medicaid programs to fund AI innovation in health.

Earlier this week, Rounds said he and his working group plan to issue a report on possible AI legislation by the “end of March,” although other members of the group did not confirm.