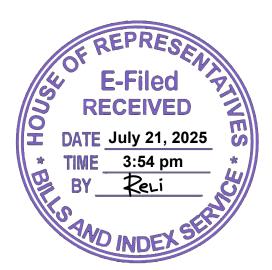
## Republic of the Philippines **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Quezon City, Metro Manila

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS** First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2186



### Introduced by Rep. Robert Nazal

### AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE INTEGRATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EDUCATION INTO THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY CURRICULUM. PROVIDING FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has emerged as a transformative force in nearly every sector of modern life, from healthcare and finance to agriculture, logistics, and education. In the World Economic Forum's Future of Jobs Report 2023, Al and machine learning specialists ranked among the fastest-growing occupations globally. In the Philippines, Al applications are increasingly integrated in business operations, and creative industries. Yet there remains a significant gap in foundational Al literacy among young Filipinos.

Basic exposure to Al concepts and ethical frameworks during formative schooling years is vital to ensure that our graduates are not merely passive users of technology but informed, responsible, and innovative contributors to an increasingly digital world. Introducing AI education at the elementary and secondary levels will:

- 1. Promote critical thinking, creativity, and problem-solving skills through practical and contextual learning;
- 2. Equip students with an understanding of algorithms, data, and responsible Al practices:
- 3. Foster a culture of innovation and scientific curiosity essential to national development; and
- Prepare the future workforce for the demands of Industry 4.0 and the 4. emerging knowledge economy.

The Department of Education has successfully integrated Information and Communications Technology (ICT) into the K to 12 curriculum over the past decade. Building on this foundation, this measure proposes to institutionalize Al literacy in all elementary and high schools nationwide. Under the bill, DepEd will develop age-appropriate curriculum modules in consultation with the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Information and Communications Technology, and other partners. Teacher capacity-building will be central to this initiative, complemented by investments in infrastructure, open-access learning resources, and training programs.

International experience demonstrates that early AI education can bridge digital divides, reduce technology anxieties, and spark interest in careers in science and technology. Countries such as Singapore, China, the United States, and the United Kingdom have already begun introducing AI lessons as early as primary school. If we are to remain competitive and inclusive in our development, the Philippines must likewise act with urgency.

The passage of this bill will empower the next generation of Filipinos with the knowledge, skills, and ethical grounding to shape AI in ways that advance national progress and uphold our shared values.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate enactment of this measure is earnestly sought.

Rep. ROBERT NAZAL
Representative

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#### AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE INTEGRATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE EDUCATION INTO THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY CURRICULUM, PROVIDING FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

#### SEC. 1. TITLE.

This Act shall be known as the "Artificial Intelligence Education Act of 2025."

#### SEC. 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the State to promote scientific and technological literacy, innovation, and competitiveness among Filipino learners. Recognizing the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in all sectors of society, the State shall ensure that students are equipped with foundational knowledge and skills in AI, ethics, and responsible use of emerging technologies, thereby preparing them for the future of work and active participation in the digital economy.

#### SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES.

This Act shall have the following objectives:

- A. To integrate basic concepts, applications, and ethical considerations of Artificial Intelligence in the K to 12 curriculum;
- B. To build capacity among teachers and school administrators to deliver Al education effectively;

- C. To foster creativity, problem-solving, and critical thinking skills among students through exposure to AI tools and projects;
- D. To promote inclusive access to AI education, especially in public schools and underserved communities; and
- E. To establish partnerships with academic institutions, industry, and international organizations to enhance curriculum content and teacher training.

#### SEC. 4. SCOPE AND COVERAGE.

The integration of Al education shall cover all public and private elementary and secondary schools nationwide. The curriculum shall be age-appropriate and contextualized to different grade levels and learner capacities.

#### SEC. 5. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT.

The Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), and relevant stakeholders, shall ensure the effective and meaningful introduction of Artificial Intelligence (AI) education in the Philippine basic education system. In this regard, the following shall be undertaken:

- A. Curriculum and Instructional Materials Development. DepEd shall formulate comprehensive curriculum guides, lesson plans, teaching strategies, and learning resources on Al concepts and applications that are suitable for learners from Grades 4 to 12. These materials shall be tailored to the learners' age, cognitive level, and capacity to understand basic to intermediate Al topics. The development of such resources must be completed within two (2) years from the date this Act takes effect.
- B. Regular Review and Updating. The Al curriculum and related learning materials shall be regularly reviewed and updated to keep pace with rapid technological advancements in the field of Al. This ensures that students are learning the most current concepts, tools, and best practices used in real-world Al environments.
- C. Integration of Ethics and Responsible Al Use. Modules and lessons shall include key topics such as data privacy, responsible data use, algorithmic fairness, and ethical considerations in the development and deployment of Al technologies. These lessons will aim to instill in learners a strong sense of social responsibility and awareness of the potential risks and impacts of Al on individuals, communities, and society.
- D. Pilot Implementation. Before full-scale implementation, the AI curriculum shall be pilot-tested in selected schools to evaluate its effectiveness, appropriateness, and

relevance. Feedback gathered from these pilot schools—especially from teachers, students, and parents—shall be used to make necessary improvements and refinements to the curriculum.

#### SEC. 6. TEACHER TRAINING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING.

DepEd shall design and implement a continuous professional development program for teachers, including:

- A. Training in basic AI concepts, programming fundamentals, and AI tools;
- B. Pedagogical strategies for effective AI instruction;
- C. Certification programs in collaboration with academic institutions and industry partners; and
- D. Provision of teaching resources, reference materials, and technical support.

#### SEC. 7. LEARNING RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

To facilitate effective teaching and learning of AI, DepEd, in collaboration with DICT and DOST, shall:

- A. Ensure availability of computers, internet connectivity, and software in all schools;
- B. Develop an open-access online repository of AI learning materials; and
- C. Provide technical assistance to schools in resource-limited settings.

#### SEC. 8. INCLUSION OF AI AWARENESS IN EARLY GRADES.

DepEd shall introduce age-appropriate content on Al awareness and digital literacy for Grades 1 to 3 to build foundational understanding of technology and responsible digital citizenship. These lessons shall focus on helping children understand, in simple terms, how technology is used in everyday life and the importance of using digital tools safely and responsibly.

#### SEC. 9. PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION.

DepEd is authorized to enter into memoranda of agreement with private sector entities, international organizations, professional associations, and higher education institutions to:

- A. Support curriculum enhancement and teacher training;
- B. Promote student competitions, camps, and innovation challenges in AI; and
- C. Facilitate donations of equipment and software.

#### SEC. 10. MONITORING AND EVALUATION.

DepEd shall establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the implementation and impact of AI education programs, including learning outcomes and teacher readiness, and submit an annual report to Congress.

#### SEC. 11. INCENTIVES.

Schools that demonstrate exemplary performance in integrating AI into their curriculum shall be eligible to receive recognition, grants, and other forms of support as may be determined by the Department of Education (DepEd), including, but not limited to, financial grants to enhance AI learning facilities and procure necessary equipment, and access to training programs for teachers and administrators. DepEd may also facilitate technical assistance or partnerships with academic and industry experts to support these schools in further developing their AI education programs.

#### **SEC. 12. APPROPRIATIONS.**

The funds necessary to carry out the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the respective budget of concerned agencies for the current year. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

#### SEC. 13. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

The Department of Education, in consultation with concerned agencies, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within ninety (90) days upon its effectivity.

#### **SEC. 14. REPEALING CLAUSE.**

All laws, decrees, executive issuances, rules, and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

#### SEC. 15. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.

If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

#### SEC. 16. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE.

This Act shall take effect fifteen days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,