

Ateneo de Manila
Department of Mathematics

MATH 103.03i
First Assignment

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PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ACT 11927

EXPLANATORY NOTE:

This amendment is created to define ethics and force ethical consideration on digital technologies developed in the Philippines and concerned parties.

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11927, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "PHILIPPINE DIGITAL WORKFORCE COMPETITIVENESS ACT"

Section 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 11927 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. — As used in this Act:

(a) 21st century skills refer to skills that are required by new jobs, including but not limited to critical thinking, problem solving, good communication, collaboration, information and technology literacy, flexibility and adaptability, innovativeness, and creativity, among others;

(b) Certification refers to any attestation of an individual's knowledge, proficiency, or competence in a certain subject matter or skill set by a reputable third party, which can be public, private or non-profit in nature;

(c) Co-working or shared service facilities refer to shared workspaces equipped with the necessary facilities and support services for the needs of the digital workforce;

(d) Digital workforce refers to any natural person who engages in remunerated activity through the use of digital skills and digital technology, regardless of work or

employment arrangement, whether as a regular employee of a company or as a freelancer;

(e) Digital labor platforms refer to digital technology-based platforms that facilitate the production, trade, and commercial exchange of digital content, digital products, or other goods and services arising from digital transactions. This includes web-based and online platforms where work is outsourced through an open call to geographically-dispersed individuals and location-based online applications where work is allocated to individuals in a specific geographical area;

(f) Digital content refers to any type of content that exists in the form of digital data that are stored, and can be created, viewed, processed, distributed, modified and stored using computers and digital technologies. The content can be either free or paid content such as webpages and websites, social media, data and databases, digital audio, such as MP3s or MP4s, and e-books, digital imagery, digital video, video games, computer programs and software;

(g) Digital entrepreneurship refers to the creation of new ventures or the transformation of existing businesses by developing novel digital technologies and/or novel usage of such technologies;

(h) Digital inclusion refers to the process of ensuring that all members of society, especially those from disadvantaged and marginalized groups, have access and are empowered to utilize and benefit from state-of-the-art information and communications technology (ICT);

(i) Digital skills refer to a range of skills, encompassing a combination of behaviors, expertise, know-how, work habits, character traits, dispositions, and critical

understanding on the use of digital devices, communication applications, and networks to access and manage information;

(j) Digital technology refers to any product or service that can be used to create, view, distribute, modify, store, retrieve, transmit, and receive information electronically in a digital form, such as personal computers and devices like desktop, laptop, netbook, tablet computer, smart phones, games consoles, media players, e-book readers, as well as digital television, robots, personal assistant smart devices, and smart boards; and

(k) Innovation refers to the creation of new ideas using new or existing technologies that results in the development of new or improved products, processes, or services, which are then spread or transferred across the market.

(l) Transparency refers to the availability of documentation and clear explanation for developed digital technologies, their functions, the process of development, and any and all data used to develop a digital technology.

(m) Fairness refers to the ability of a person or group to present necessary data with transparency and develop digital technologies while maintaining digital inclusion.

(n) Ethics refers to the ability of a person, group, or developed technology to be fair, transparent, and to continuously seek improvement and improve the lives of citizens.

Section 2. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 11927 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Role of LGUs. - All LGUs shall create local policies supporting and promoting the growth and development of ethical digital technology, digital careers and innovations

in their respective communities, which may include providing incentives for technological innovations for agri-fishery industries and hospital care or public health services.

Section 3. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11927 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Role of Public Employment Service Offices (PESOs). — All PESOs shall:

- (a) Develop and maintain a webpage where PESO-accredited employers may register and publish their vacancies;
- (b) Create a digital application help desk where job seekers can ask for feedback or assistance with a job application;
- (c) Encourage and facilitate local access to jobs at crowdwork, crowdsource, or work in-demand applications;
- (d) Create a localized digital technology and digital skills registry and encourage listing in the locality for assistance and availment of local incentives; and
- (e) Conduct virtual job fairs.
- (f) Promote ethics and development of digital skills

Section 4. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 11927 is hereby amended to read as follows:

E-Readiness of LGUs. — The DICT, Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and other relevant government agencies shall ensure universal access to high-speed, quality, and affordable internet by prioritizing and facilitating the development of ICT infrastructure in the localities

across the country. The DILG and DICT shall jointly assess the e-readiness of all municipalities, cities, provinces, and regions to ensure a thriving digital workforce ecosystem.

For this purpose, the national government shall prioritize the construction of digital infrastructure to foster ethical digital-based economic activity under their infrastructure programs or initiatives.

Section 5. If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 6. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 7. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

References:

- 1) Philippine Digital Workforce Competitiveness Act, R.A. 119271 §§ 1-19 (2022)
- 2) Proposed Amendment to Article VI, Paragraph 2 of the Constitution, General Conference 25 §§ 1-10 (1989)
- 3) The Animal Welfare Act of 1998, R.A. 10631 §§ 1-8 (2013)
- 4) The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, House Bill No. 6783 § 1 (2023)