

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Congress of the Philippines

Metro Manila

REPUBLIC ACT No. 123456

AN ACT PROMOTING THE ETHICAL AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF DATA, MACHINE
LEARNING, AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN THE PHILIPPINES

ARTICLE 1

STATE POLICIES AND BASIC PRINCIPLES

SECTION 1. Short title. - This act shall be known as the “Artificial Intelligence Ethical Usage Act of 2024.”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policies. - It is declared as the policy of the State to conform to the ethical standards set forth by the dynamic nature of technology in terms of growth by:

- (a) Ensuring the protection of the rights of the citizens and compliance of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 as technology rapidly develops and improves.
- (b) Using ethically-sound technology that aims to aid the stakeholders as much as possible while also ensuring that these technologies being developed do not compromise the rights of everyone involved and follow the foundations of ethical principles as outlined in Section 4 of this Act.

- (c) Developing programs and initiatives aimed to educate the public regarding the new technologies being developed and encouraging public participation in these events and initiatives.

ARTICLE 2

DEFINITION OF TERMS

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. - For the purposes of this Act,

- (a) Artificial Intelligence refers to usage of highly advanced computers and machines programmed in order to automate the performing of tasks that are normally performed by human beings. In this Act, broad collections of algorithms including machine learning will collectively be referred to as “Artificial Intelligence” or “AI”, unless explicitly stated otherwise.
- (b) Ethical Usage here refers to the implementation of Artificial Intelligence systems and algorithms that promotes first and foremost, benefits to the wellbeing and the rights of the community as a whole, and follows the foundation of ethical principles specified in Section 3 of this Act.
- (c) AI Institutions refer to any establishment or entity regularly using AI in their operations.
- (d) Developers refer to anyone involved in the creation and development of AI systems
- (e) Innovation refers to any new systems, machines, or algorithms that involve Artificial Intelligence which are created by Developers.

SECTION 3. Foundation of Ethical Principles.

- (a) Fairness - Algorithms and systems must be fair in the sense that outcomes should not be biased and that they should treat everyone equally. Data used in these algorithms must be representative and diverse, and constant audits and updating must be conducted in order to ensure that these algorithms and systems adapt properly over changes in society. Ethical guidelines and governance structures must be properly implemented in order to help in the development of the algorithms and technology.

- (b) Transparency - Algorithms and systems must be properly documented and communicated in order to ensure that the mechanisms involved are properly understood both by developers and AI institutions. Proper understanding of the technology and mechanisms at hand will help stakeholders and developers improve upon and make necessary changes to the current capabilities of machine learning and artificial intelligence. Impact assessments must regularly be conducted in order to make sure that all those who use these systems and algorithms are aware of the ethical implications of using these kinds of technology in society. There must be regular communication to stakeholders regarding updates to these kinds of technology to continually ensure that the mechanisms involved are ethically used and do not compromise the rights of everyone involved.

- (c) Accountability - Algorithms and systems developers need to hold themselves accountable in order to correct whatever errors or unethical implications arise from their creation. They should be ready to rectify any unintended results from their work that may compromise the safety and the rights of the stakeholders. Developers must engage with the stakeholders and those who use the technology and algorithms as their output and feedback can help expedite the process of improving upon the current technology and rectifying any mistakes or failures that may occur when using

said technology. They are also obligated to continually ensure that their work continues to align with the ethical standards of society. Developers must frequently review internal guidelines and make sure that these foundations of ethical principles are integrated in their technology at all times.

ARTICLE 3

DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Section 4. Digital Workforce Week. - The state shall promote awareness regarding the evolution of AI and its ethical usage during the Digital Workforce Week which is set on the third week of June, as enacted by the Republic Act No. 11927, also known as the Philippine Digital Workforce Competitiveness Act, which aims to educate the public regarding evolving jobs and skills requirements in digital technology and innovations.

Section 5. Funding. The funds needed in order to implement this Act shall be the obligation of the Congress of the Philippines.

ARTICLE 4

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 6. Reportorial Requirement. - The state and all implementing agencies must submit a report no later than October 30 of each year regarding the status and any noteworthy updates of the implementation of this Act.

Section 7. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is deemed unconstitutional, the provision mentioned shall not invalidate the other provisions of this Act.

Section 8. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect within thirty (30) days upon publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,

Name of the President

January 30, 2024

References:

Republic act no. 10631. (n.d.).

https://lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2013/ra_10631_2013.html?fbclid=IwAR09Pq7TtvHUMEldgOLorHRCQ4gS2VbvWHnzHtK8i9zs-1AQhX7HsIXDgU4

Republic act no. 11927. (n.d.).

https://lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra2022/ra_11927_2022.html

Republic act no. 9003 | Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines. (n.d.).

<https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2001/01/26/republic-act-no-9003-s-2001/>

Module 1 - Canvas