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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 188

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROLIFERATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-SYNTHESIZED AUDIOVISUAL MATERIALS, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS *DEEPFAKES*, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT MECHANISMS TO IMPLEMENT CYBERCRIME AND DATA PRIVACY LAWS, SAFEGUARDING THE PRIVACY, INFORMATION AND IDENTITY OF ALL FILIPINOS AND PROTECTING THE INTEGRITY OF PHILIPPINE SOCIAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution recognizes science and technology as an essential component for national development and progress;

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution mandates the State to give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, and their utilization, and to science and technology education, training, and services; and to support indigenous, appropriate, and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, and their application to the country's productive systems and national life;

WHEREAS, the modern-day advances in computer hardware, artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning have ushered the creation of valuable devices and systems especially in the field of medicine, sports and fitness, business and communications, among others;

WHEREAS, the extensive use of the Internet and social media platforms made it possible to share news and information materials with millions of people in a short period of time;

WHEREAS, the widespread use of more powerful computing devices and more sophisticated AI and machine learning algorithms have ushered in the production of AI-synthesized audiovisual materials, otherwise known as *deepfakes*, in a manner that is inexpensive, simple, accessible and most importantly, compelling;

WHEREAS, AI-synthesized materials have been used today for various intents and purposes, ranging from the benign, like simple satires and film tweaks, to the malevolent, like targeted harassment and altered pornography;

WHEREAS, there is a growing concern that digital content manipulation may become too ubiquitous and too accurate that the disparity between altered videos and reality become too minute for the human eyes and ears to perceive;

WHEREAS, hyper-realistic fabrication of audios and videos has the potential to cast doubt and erode the decades-old understanding of truth, history, information and reality;

WHEREAS, altered digital contents could be disseminated through social media platforms and reach millions of users before being exposed as deceptive or inaccurate;

WHEREAS, the proliferation of fabricated audios and videos have far-reaching consequences not only on the protection of identity, personal information and privacy, but also on matters concerning journalism and media literacy, civil discourse, political institutions, economic systems, criminal justice, law enforcement and national security;

WHEREAS, the issues presented by AI-synthesized videos and audios cannot be addressed by what Evgeny Morozov called technological solutionism, for the predicaments it presents are neither "neatly defined problems with definite, computable solutions" nor "transparent and self-evident processes that can be easily optimized;"

WHEREAS, the 2019 National Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Ecosystem Framework recognizes the need for transparency in automating decision-making processes, in establishing control over one's personal data, and in making channels available for seeking redress from the misuse and inappropriate use of information;

WHEREAS, as the technical capabilities on AI and machine learning become more widespread, there is a need to determine the systems and policies needed not only in the prevention, mitigation, detection, and investigation of the malicious utilization of AI and machine learning, but more importantly, in bolstering the physical and digital security of the Philippine political, economic, social and financial institutions: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the proliferation of Artificial Intelligence-synthesized audiovisual materials, otherwise known as *deepfakes*, with the end in view of strengthening government mechanisms to implement cybercrime and data privacy laws, safeguarding the privacy, information and identity of all Filipinos and protecting the integrity of Philippine social, political, economic and financial institutions.

Adopted,

RALPH G. RECTO

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