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SENATE
P.S. Resolution No. 344

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE PLANS AND INITIATIVES OF GOVERNMENT TO MAXIMIZE THE BENEFITS OF DEVELOPMENTS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND OTHER EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

WHEREAS, Section 10 Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that Science and Technology are essential for national development and progress, and the State shall support their application to the country's productive systems and national life;

WHEREAS, Section 12 Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall regulate the transfer and promote the adaptation of technology from all sources for national benefit;

WHEREAS, Artificial intelligence is one of the emerging technologies emphasized in the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022. The State plans to engage in more collaborative research and development activities and invest in infrastructure buildup;[1]

WHEREAS, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) seeks to develop an AI Program in the country, particularly to optimize mass production and effective operations in the country's manufacturing sector;[2]

WHEREAS, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) stressed the need for government policies and the participation of all sectors to facilitate the transition to increased automation in order to actualize its potential, and to address discrepancies in workers' skill sets and job opportunities;[3]

WHEREAS, published reports on the impact of artificial intelligence have noted the increased presence and capacity of *Chatbots*, and the emergence of systems capable of referring questions to human operators and learning from their responses;

WHEREAS, the Philippine IT-BPM Roadmap 2022 emphasizes the need of the Information Technology and Business Process Management (IT-BPM) sector to evolve and adapt to the changing demands of the market to remain competitive in light of rapid innovations in artificial intelligence, big data and analytics, machine learning, delivery models, and digital transformation;[4]

WHEREAS, the July 2016 working paper of the International Labour Organization (ILO), entitled *The Future of Jobs at Risk of Automation,* revealed that 49% of all employment in the Philippines face a high risk of automation in the next couple decades;[5]

WHEREAS, according to a policy brief of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), developing countries should embrace the digital revolution. This requires redesigning education systems to create skills needed to operate new technologies and widely diffuse the benefits of their use, as well as complement them. It also requires establishing the internet links between massive data storage and the computing devices that power the increased use of robots, and developing the associated regulatory frameworks;[6]

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the plans and initiatives of government to maximize the benefits of developments in artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies.

Adopted,

Bam Aquino

[1] Philippines, National Economic Development Authority . (2017, February). *Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022.* Retrieved March 13, 2017, from http://pdp.neda.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Chapter-14-Prepublication.pdf
[2] DOST pushing artificial intelligence research. (2017, January 29). Retrieved March 13, 2017, from http://www.techblade.ph/2017/01/dost-pushing-artificial-intelligence.html
[3] Gonzales, G. (2017, March 14). DICT: 48% of employees to be affected by automation. Retrieved March 14, 2017, from http://www.rappler.com/technology/news/164145-dict-salalima-employees-affected-automation
[4] PH-IT-BPM-Roadmap-2022 - Home. (n.d.). Retrieved March 13, 2017, from http://itbpm-roadmap2022.ibpap.org/
[5] Chang, J., & Huynh, P. (2016, July). ASEAN IN TRANSFORMATION: The Future Of Jobs At Risk Of Automation (Working paper No. 9). Retrieved March 13, 2017, from International Labour Organization website: http://www.ilo.org/public/english/dialogue/actemp/downloads/publications/2016/asean_in_transf_2016_r2_future.pdf
[6] Kozul-Wright, R. (2016, October). Robots and industrialization in developing countries (Issue brief No. 50). Retrieved March 13, 2017, from United Nations Conference on Trade and Development website: http://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/presspb2016d6_en.pdf