STATE OF NEW YORK

6859--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 11, 2023

Introduced by Sen. GIANARIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Consumer Protection -- recommitted to the Committee on Consumer Protection in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the general business law, in relation to requiring advertisements to disclose the use of a synthetic performer

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 396-b of the general business law, as added by chapter 1031 of the laws of 1965, is amended to read as follows:

§ 396-b. Advertisements. **1. (a) For the purposes of this section, "generative artificial intelligence" means the use of machine learning technology, software, automation, and algorithms to perform tasks, to make rules and/or predictions based on existing data sets and instructions, including, but not limited to:**

(i) Any artificial system that performs tasks under varying and unpredictable circumstances without significant human oversight, or that can learn from experience and improve performance when exposed to data sets;

(ii) An artificial system developed in computer software, physical hardware, or other context that solves tasks requiring human-like perception, cognition, planning, learning, communication, or physical action;

(iii) An artificial system designed to think or act like a human, including cognitive architectures and neural networks;

(iv) A set of techniques, including machine learning, that is designed to approximate a cognitive task; and/or

(v) An artificial system designed to act rationally, including an intelligent software agent or embodied robot that achieves goals using perception, planning, reasoning, learning, communicating, decision making, and acting.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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(b) For purposes of this section, "synthetic performer" means a digitally created asset created, reproduced, or modified by computer, using generative artificial intelligence or a software algorithm, that is intended to create the impression that the asset is a natural performer who is not recognizable as any identifiable natural performer.

2. Any person, firm, corporation or association, or agent or employee thereof, hereinafter called person, who, being engaged in the business of dealing in any property, makes, publishes, disseminates, circulates or places before the public or causes, directly or indirectly, to be made, published, disseminated, circulated or placed before the public, in this state, any advertisement respecting any such property, in any newspaper, magazine, or other publication, or over any radio station or television station, unless it is stated in any such advertisement that the advertiser is a dealer in such property or from the context of any such advertisement, it plainly appears that such person is a dealer in such property so offered for sale in any such advertisement; or when placing or causing any such advertisement to appear in any newspaper, magazine or other publication or radio or television station as described in this section, if requested by the publisher of any such newspaper, magazine or other publication or owner or operator of such radio or television station or any agent or representative thereof to file with such owner or operator, publisher, agent or representative thereof [~~his~~] **such person's** true name, or where [~~he~~] **such person** is transacting business under a name other than the true name pursuant to law, then the name under which such business is transacted, and each business address wherein any business is transacted by [~~him~~] **such person**, in the class of property advertised or to be advertised for sale in such advertisement, shall make any false statement in relation to any of such items; or if requested by the publisher of any such newspaper, magazine or other publication or owner or operator of such radio or television station or any agent or representative thereof to file with such owner, operator, publisher, agent or representative thereof a statement showing whether [~~he~~] **such person** is causing such advertisement to appear or is offering to make such sale or disposition or transaction, as herein set forth, as principal or agent, and if as agent, to set forth such information as is specified in this section, in relation to [~~his~~] **such person's** principal as well as in relation to [~~himself~~] **such person**, shall make any false statement in relation to any of such items; is guilty of a misdemeanor.

3. Any person engaged in the business of dealing in any property or service who for any commercial purpose makes, publishes, disseminates, circulates or places before the public or causes, directly or indirectly, to be made, published, disseminated, circulated or placed before the public any advertisement respecting any such property or service, in any medium or media in which such advertisement appears, shall disclose in such advertisement if a synthetic performer is in such advertisement, where such person has actual knowledge. A violation of this subdivision shall result in a civil penalty of one thousand dollars for a first violation, and five thousand dollars for any subsequent violation.

4. Nothing in this section shall limit or reduce any rights any person may have under section fifty, fifty-f, or fifty-one of the civil rights law or under any other law.

5. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit, or to enlarge, the protections that 47 U.S.C. section 230 confers on an interactive computer service for content provided by another information content provider, as such terms are defined in 47 U.S.C. section 230.

§ 2. Severability clause. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this act shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the legislature that this act would have been enacted even if such invalid provisions had not been included herein.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.