

STATE OF NEW YORK

8420--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

June 9, 2025

Introduced by Sen. GIANARIS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Rules -- 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:

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

3 § 396-b. Advertisements. 1. For the purposes of this section, the
4 following terms shall have the following meanings:

5 (a) "Artificial intelligence", "artificial intelligence technology",
6 or "AI" means a machine-based system that can, for a given set of
7 human-defined objectives, make predictions, recommendations, or deci-
8 sions influencing real or virtual environments, and that uses machine-
9 and human-based inputs to perceive real and virtual environments,
10 abstract such perceptions into models through analysis in an automated
11 manner, and use model inference to formulate options for information or
12 action. This definition includes but is not limited to systems that use
13 machine learning, large language model, natural language processing, and
14 computer vision technologies, including generative artificial intelli-
15 gence.

16 (b) "Generative artificial intelligence" means a class of artificial
17 intelligence models that are self-supervised and emulate the structure
18 and characteristics of input data to generate derived synthetic content,
19 including, but not limited to, images, videos, audio, text, and other
20 digital content.

21 (c) "Synthetic performer" means a digitally created asset created,
22 reproduced, or modified by computer, using generative artificial intel-
23 ligence or a software algorithm, that is intended to create the

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

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1 impression that the asset is engaging in an audiovisual and/or visual
2 performance of a human performer who is not recognizable as any iden-
3 tifiable natural performer.

4 2. Any person, firm, corporation or association, or agent or employee
5 thereof, hereinafter called person, who, being engaged in the business
6 of dealing in any property, makes, publishes, disseminates, circulates
7 or places before the public or causes, directly or indirectly, to be
8 made, published, disseminated, circulated or placed before the public,
9 in this state, any advertisement respecting any such property, in any
10 newspaper, magazine, or other publication, or over any radio station or
11 television station, unless it is stated in any such advertisement that
12 the advertiser is a dealer in such property or from the context of any
13 such advertisement, it plainly appears that such person is a dealer in
14 such property so offered for sale in any such advertisement; or when
15 placing or causing any such advertisement to appear in any newspaper,
16 magazine or other publication or radio or television station as
17 described in this section, if requested by the publisher of any such
18 newspaper, magazine or other publication or owner or operator of such
19 radio or television station or any agent or representative thereof to
20 file with such owner or operator, publisher, agent or representative
21 thereof [~~his~~] such person's true name, or where [~~he~~] such person is
22 transacting business under a name other than the true name pursuant to
23 law, then the name under which such business is transacted, and each
24 business address wherein any business is transacted by [~~him~~] such
25 person, in the class of property advertised or to be advertised for sale
26 in such advertisement, shall make any false statement in relation to any
27 of such items; or if requested by the publisher of any such newspaper,
28 magazine or other publication or owner or operator of such radio or
29 television station or any agent or representative thereof to file with
30 such owner, operator, publisher, agent or representative thereof a
31 statement showing whether [~~he~~] such person is causing such advertisement
32 to appear or is offering to make such sale or disposition or trans-
33 action, as herein set forth, as principal or agent, and if as agent, to
34 set forth such information as is specified in this section, in relation
35 to [~~his~~] such person's principal as well as in relation to [~~himself~~]
36 such person, shall make any false statement in relation to any of such
37 items; is guilty of a misdemeanor.

38 3. Any person engaged in the business of dealing in any property or
39 service who for any commercial purpose produces or creates an advertise-
40 ment respecting any such property or service, in any medium or media in
41 which such advertisement appears, shall conspicuously disclose in such
42 advertisement that a synthetic performer is in such advertisement, where
43 such person has actual knowledge. A violation of this subdivision shall
44 result in a civil penalty of one thousand dollars for a first violation,
45 and five thousand dollars for any subsequent violation.

46 4. This section shall not apply to advertisements and promotional
47 materials for expressive works, including but not limited to, motion
48 pictures, television programs, streaming content, documentaries, video
49 games, or other similar audiovisual works, provided that the use of a
50 synthetic performer in the advertisement or promotional material is
51 consistent with its use in the expressive work.

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

55 6. Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit, or to enlarge,
56 the protections that 47 U.S.C. section 230 confers on an interactive

1 computer service for content provided by another information content
2 provider, as such terms are defined in 47 U.S.C. section 230.

3 7. This section shall not apply to advertisements and promotional
4 materials in any of the following circumstances:

5 (a) Audio advertisements; or

6 (b) Where the use of artificial intelligence solely involves the
7 language translation of a human performer.

8 8. Nothing in this section shall apply to any medium used for adver-
9 tising, including, but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, and tele-
10 vision networks and stations, streaming services, cable television
11 systems, billboards, and transit advertisements, by whom any advertise-
12 ment or solicitation in violation of this section is published or
13 disseminated.

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

23 § 3. This act shall take effect on the one hundred eightieth day after
24 it shall have become a law.