

Senate proposal of amendment to House proposal of amendment

S. 23

An act relating to the use of synthetic media in elections.

The Senate concurs in the House proposal of amendment with further proposal of amendment thereto:

First: In Sec. 1, 17 V.S.A. chapter 35, subchapter 4, in section 2031, by striking out subdivisions (1) and (2) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new subdivisions (1) and (2) to read as follows:

(1) “Deceptive and fraudulent synthetic media” means synthetic media that appears to a reasonable person to be a realistic representation of an individual that does any of the following:

(A) injures the reputation of a political candidate; or

(B) attempts to unduly influence the outcome of an election, including a public question, by providing materially false information to voters.

(2) “Synthetic media” means an image, an audio recording, or a video recording of an individual’s appearance, speech, or conduct that has been created or intentionally manipulated with the use of digital technology, including artificial intelligence.

Second: In Sec. 1, 17 V.S.A. chapter 35, subchapter 4, in section 2032, in subsection (a), by striking out subdivisions (1) and (2) in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new subdivisions (1) and (2) to read as follows:

(1) For deceptive and fraudulent synthetic media consisting of images and video recordings, the text of the disclosure shall appear in a size that is easily readable by the average viewer and inclusive to the greatest extent possible of individuals with disabilities. For video recordings, the disclosure shall appear for the full duration of the video recording.

(2) For deceptive and fraudulent synthetic media consisting of audio recordings only, the disclosure shall be read in a clearly spoken manner and in a pitch and pace that can be easily heard by the average listener and inclusive to the greatest extent possible of individuals with disabilities, at the beginning of the audio recording, at the end of the audio recording, and, if the audio is greater than two minutes in length, interspersed within the audio recording at intervals of not greater than two minutes each.

Third: In Sec. 1, 17 V.S.A. chapter 35, subchapter 4, in section 2032, in subsection (a), in the last sentence, by striking out the words “created or”.