

The Digital Inclusion Act passed by the National Assembly is hereby promulgated.

Acting President  
Member of the State Council  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Strategy and Finance

Choi Sang-mok (Seal)

January 21, 2025

Acting Prime Minister  
Member of the State Council  
Deputy Prime Minister and  
Minister of Strategy and Finance

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Member of the State Council  
Minister of Science and ICT

Yoo Sang-im

Law No. 20672

## Digital Inclusion Act

### CHAPTER I GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1 (Purpose) The purpose of the Digital Inclusion Act (hereinafter referred to as the “Act” ) is to contribute to improving the quality of life of individual members of society and promoting social integration by stipulating the matters related to the promotion of digital inclusion and fostering related industries.

Article 2 (Definitions) (1) The terms used in this Act are defined as follows:

1. The term “digital inclusion” refers to creating an economic, social, and cultural environment that allows all members of society to equally enjoy the benefits of intelligent information technology without discrimination or exclusion;
2. The term “digital competence” refers to the qualities, knowledge, and abilities required for individual members of society to have sound access to or to use intelligent information technology, intelligent information services, and products utilizing such technology or services; and
3. The term “digitally vulnerable group” refers to individuals who have difficulties in using digital-based devices and services such as intelligent information products (referring to devices and software related to information and communication or intelligent information technology; hereinafter the same shall apply).

(2) The definitions of the terms used in this Act, except as provided for in Paragraph (1) hereof, shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization.

Article 3 (Responsibilities of the State and Local Governments, etc.) (1) The state and local governments shall establish programs to ensure that all individual members of society can smoothly access and use intelligent information services and intelligent information products.

(2) The state and local governments and public institutions (hereinafter referred to as “state institutions, etc.”) shall endeavor to enable all individual members of society to develop digital competence.

Article 4 (Provision of Alternative Means) Notwithstanding Article 3, the state and local governments shall endeavor to provide alternative means that enable all members of society to use intelligent information services and intelligent information products substantially and equally without using intelligent information technology (hereinafter referred to as “alternative means”).

Article 5 (Prevention and Resolution of Adverse Effects of Intelligent Information Technology) The state and local governments shall establish necessary programs to prevent and resolve economic, social, cultural, ethical, and environmental adverse effects of intelligent information services and intelligent information products.

Article 6 (Responsibilities of Intelligent Information Business Operators) (1) An intelligent information business operator (referring to a business operator that provides any intelligent information service or develops and produces any intelligent information product; hereinafter the same shall apply) shall actively cooperate on the programs of the state and local governments to promote digital inclusion.

(2) The intelligent information business operator shall endeavor to ensure that all individual members of society can smoothly access and use the intelligent information service or intelligent information product that the operator provides or develops/produces.

Article 7 (Relationships with Other Laws) Except for the provisions of this Act regarding digital inclusion, the provisions of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization shall apply.

## CHAPTER II PROMOTION SYSTEM OF DIGITAL INCLUSION POLICIES

Article 8 (Basic Plan for Digital Inclusion) (1) In order to promote digital inclusion policies efficiently and systematically, the government shall establish a basic plan for digital inclusion (hereinafter referred to as the “basic plan”) every three (3) years.

(2) The basic plan shall be established by the Minister of Science and ICT after hearing the opinions of the heads of relevant central administrative agencies (including agencies under the President and agencies under the Prime Minister; hereinafter the same shall apply) and be confirmed after the deliberation of the ICT Strategy Committee in accordance with Article 7

of the Special Act on Promotion of Information and Communications Technology, Vitalization of Convergence Thereof, etc. The same shall also apply in the case of changes to the basic plan (excluding cases of changes to minor matters prescribed by Presidential Decree).

(3) The basic plan shall include the following matters:

1. Basic direction and mid- to long-term development direction of digital inclusion policies;
2. Matters regarding the activities to develop digital competence;
3. Matters regarding ensuring accessibility to intelligent information services and intelligent information products;
4. Matters regarding improving accessibility for digitally vulnerable groups and supporting social participation;
5. Matters regarding guaranteeing and providing alternative means;
6. Development, distribution, standardization, and export support of technologies, services, and products for digital inclusion;
7. Improvement of laws and systems for digital inclusion;
8. Matters regarding the promotion of research and business for digital inclusion;
9. Analysis of the current status and policy outcome of digital inclusion;
10. Training of professionals for digital inclusion;
11. Prevention and resolution of adverse effects of intelligent information technology;
12. International cooperation for digital inclusion;
13. Procurement and management of financial resources necessary for promoting programs for digital inclusion;
14. Education, counseling, and publicity for digital inclusion; and
15. Other matters necessary to promote digital inclusion.

(4) If it is necessary to establish a basic plan, the Minister of Science and ICT may request the submission of necessary data from the heads of state institutions, etc. In such cases, the individual who received the request must comply with the request unless there is a special reason otherwise.

(5) Other matters necessary for the establishment and change of the basic plan shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 9 (Implementation Plan for Digital Inclusion) (1) The heads of relevant central administrative agencies and the heads of local governments shall establish and implement an implementation plan for digital inclusion (hereinafter referred to as the “implementation plan” ) every year in accordance with the basic plan.

(2) If necessary, the Minister of Science and ICT may prepare basic guidelines necessary for establishing an implementation plan and notify these guidelines to the heads of relevant central administrative agencies and local governments.

(3) The heads of relevant central administrative agencies and the heads of local governments shall submit the implementation results of the implementation plan from the previous year and

the implementation plan for the following year to the Minister of Science and ICT.

(4) The heads of relevant central administrative agencies and the heads of local governments may establish an implementation plan by including the plan in an action plan for the intelligent informatization society pursuant to Article 7(1) of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization, and in this case, the submission pursuant to Paragraph (3) hereof may be replaced with the submission pursuant to Article 7(2) of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization.

(5) The Minister of Science and ICT shall examine and analyze the implementation results and the implementation plan submitted pursuant to Paragraph (3) hereof.

(6) Other matters necessary for the establishment and implementation of the implementation plan shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 10 (Private Participation in Policymaking, etc.) (1) The state and local governments shall prepare measures to make private experts or relevant groups participate widely and collect a variety of opinions from people in general in the process of establishing and executing policies for digital inclusion.

(2) The state institutions, etc. shall prepare necessary measures to activate and support voluntary activities in the private sector to realize an inclusive intelligent information society.

Article 11 (Surveys on Actual Status, etc.) (1) The Minister of Science and ICT may conduct a survey on actual status of the following matters for the efficient establishment and promotion of digital inclusion policies:

1. The current status of the information gap and subsequent resolution;
2. Digital competence level and statistics of individual members of society;
3. Current status and statistics of the guarantee of alternative means;
4. Current status and statistics of the adverse effects of intelligent information technology;
5. Current status and statistics of the guarantee of accessibility according to Article 19(1);
6. Current status of performance and level of digital inclusion policies;
7. Level and statistics of industries and technologies related to digital inclusion; and
8. Other matters necessary for the efficient implementation of digital inclusion policies.

(2) If it is necessary for any survey on actual status pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof, the Minister of Science and ICT may request the heads of state institutions, etc. and related companies, corporations, and groups to submit necessary documents. In such cases, the individual who received the request must comply with the request unless there are special circumstances.

(3) The Minister of Science and ICT may announce the results of the survey on actual status pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof.

(4) The government shall submit the results of the survey on actual status pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof to the National Assembly by including the results in a report pursuant to Article 67 of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization.

(5) Matters necessary for the timing, method, and procedure of the survey on actual status pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof and the announcement pursuant to Paragraph (3) hereof shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 12 (Digital Inclusion Impact Assessment) (1) Where the head of a state institution, etc. intends to introduce, develop, or implement a new intelligent information service and/or an intelligent information product, or implement any plan and and project that may have a significant impact on digital inclusion, the head shall conduct a digital inclusion impact assessment (hereinafter referred to as “self-assessment”) in advance as prescribed by the Presidential Decree, and submit the results to the Minister of Science and ICT.

(2) Where the Minister of Science and ICT deems it necessary, the Minister may conduct a digital inclusion impact assessment (hereinafter referred to as “individual impact assessment”) on any of the following matters in consultation with the heads of relevant government agencies:

1. Policies of central administrative agencies and local governments closely related to digital inclusion;
2. Projects closely related to digital inclusion among projects carried out by state institutions, etc.; and
3. Any other plans or projects that may have a significant impact on the digital inclusion policies, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(3) The heads of state institutions, etc. and the Minister of Science and ICT shall consider the following matters upon conducting a self-assessment and an individual impact assessment:

1. Scale and characteristics of all users;
2. Impact on the access to, and use of, information by digitally vulnerable groups;
3. Improvement measures based on the results of the digital inclusion impact assessment; and
4. Other matters related to the digital inclusion impact assessment as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(4) The Minister of Science and ICT may review the results of the self-assessment submitted pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof or the results of the individual impact assessment pursuant to Paragraph (2) hereof, and recommend improvements to the heads of relevant state institutions, etc., if necessary.

(5) The heads of state institutions, etc. who have been recommended for improvements in accordance with Paragraph (4) hereof shall endeavor to implement the recommendation.

(6) The Minister of Science and ICT shall analyze and evaluate the impact of the use of intelligent information services and intelligent information products built and operated by state institutions, etc. in regards to access to, and convenience of use of, information by digitally vulnerable groups based on the results of self-assessment and individual impact assessment to reflect the results in the basic plan.

(7) Matters necessary for the operation of the digital inclusion impact assessment, such as the standards, methods, and procedures for conducting self-assessment and individual impact assessment and the procedures for recommendation pursuant to Paragraph (4) hereof, shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 13 (Specialized Institutions) (1) In order to support the development of digital inclusion policies and promote related projects efficiently and systematically, the Minister of Science and ICT may designate the National Information Society Agency pursuant to Article 12 of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization, or an institution or group in the field of information and communication technology, as an institution specializing in digital inclusion to make the institution carry out any of the following projects:

1. Support for the establishment and development of digital inclusion policies;
2. Support for expertise required for the establishment and implementation of a basic plan and an implementation plan;
3. Survey and analysis of domestic and international trends related to digital inclusion;
4. Study (or studies) on laws and systems related to digital inclusion;
5. Promotion, investigation, analysis, and evaluation of digital inclusion policies and projects;
6. International cooperation for digital inclusion;
7. Digital competence training to develop digital competence;
8. Support for digital inclusion impact assessment work pursuant to Article 12;
9. Support for the operation of a digital competence center under Article 15;
10. Support for the operation of quality accessibility certification of intelligent information services and intelligent information products under Article 21;
11. Support for the operation to verify intelligent information products subject to priority purchasing under Article 23(4); and
12. Any project stipulated or entrusted as the operation of a specialized institution pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof in relation to digital inclusion policies in other laws and regulations.

(2) The Minister of Science and ICT may contribute all or part of the costs incurred by the specialized institution pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof in carrying out a project under each subparagraph of Paragraph (1) within the scope of the budget.

### CHAPTER III DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL COMPETENCE

Article 14 (Activities to Develop Digital Competence) (1) The state and local governments may implement any of the following projects to develop the digital competence of individual members of society:

1. Installation of educational facilities and equipment required for digital competence training;

2. Discovery and support of professionals for digital competence training;
3. Development, investigation, dissemination, and study of indicators necessary for developing digital competence;
4. Publicity and reward of activities to develop digital competence; and
5. Other projects necessary to support solving various adverse effects resulting from the development and spread of intelligent information technology.

(2) Upon implementing a project pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof, the state and local governments shall endeavor to ensure that discrimination and exclusion do not occur among individual members of society.

(3) The state and local governments may bear all or part of the costs required to develop digital competence for any individual who falls under any of the following subparagraphs:

1. An individual as prescribed by Presidential Decree among those with disabilities pursuant to Article 2 of the Act on Welfare of Persons with Disabilities;
2. An individual as prescribed by Presidential Decree among those eligible for special education under Article 15 of the Act on Special Education for Persons with Disabilities;
3. An eligible recipient pursuant to subparagraph 1 of Article 2 of the National Basic Living Security Act; and
4. A North Korean defector pursuant to Subparagraph 1 of Article 2 of the North Korean Defectors Protection and Settlement Support Act;
5. An aged individual pursuant to subparagraph 1 of Article 2 of the Act on Prohibition of Age Discrimination in Employment and Promotion;
6. Farmers and fishermen, etc. pursuant to subparagraph 3 of Article 3 of the Special Act on Improvement of Quality of Life of Farmers and Fishers and Promotion of Development of Farming and Fishing Villages; and
7. Any other individual as prescribed by Presidential Decree among those who need to develop digital competence at the expense of the state or local government.

(4) Digital competence training shall include the following:

1. Competence to find and use necessary intelligent information technology and intelligent information services;
2. Competence to respect, and be considerate of, others upon using intelligent information technology and intelligent information services;
3. Competence to protect oneself and others from the adverse effects of the intelligent information society; and
4. Competence to actively participate in various activities of the intelligent information society.

Article 15 (Designation of a Digital Competence Center, etc.) (1) The Minister of Science and ICT may designate a digital competence center to support the development of digital competence of local residents and the resolution of the information gap through consultation with the heads of relevant local governments.

(2) The state and local governments may support all or part of the expenses necessary to carry out projects for a digital competence center pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof within the scope of the budget.

(3) The Minister of Science and ICT may designate and operate a digital competence support center to carry out projects prescribed by Presidential Decree to support the digital competence center and support work related to digital competence training pursuant to Article 14.

(4) Matters necessary for the designation, operation/management, cancellation of designation, etc. of the digital competence center pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof and the digital competence support center pursuant to Paragraph (3) hereof shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 16 (Standard Teaching Materials for Digital Competence Training, etc.) (1) The Minister of Science and ICT may develop and distribute standard teaching materials and training programs, etc. to support digital competence training in state institutions, etc.

(2) The Minister of Science and ICT may support the development and production of teaching materials and training programs necessary for digital competence training in order to boost digital competence training in the private sector.

(3) Matters necessary for the target, method, and procedure, etc. of support pursuant to Paragraph (2) hereof shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 17 (Establishment and Operation of a Comprehensive Information System for Developing Digital Competence) (1) The Minister of Science and ICT may establish and operate a comprehensive information system for developing digital competence (hereinafter referred to as the “comprehensive information system”) in order to systematically and efficiently manage information related to developing digital competence.

(2) Other necessary matters, such as the establishment, management, and promotion of utilization of the comprehensive information system, shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 18 (Support for Social Participation of Digitally Vulnerable Groups) (1) Upon promoting any of the projects specified in each subparagraph of Article 14(1), the state and local governments may train knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for employment or job performance in the field of digital technology to digitally vulnerable groups.

(2) Upon carrying out any relevant training pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof, the state and local governments may provide any of the following matters:

1. Information on employment and entrepreneurship, such as jobs and duties based on intelligent information technology;
2. Various psychological counseling services and career counseling services for employment and entrepreneurship to encourage employment motivation; and
3. Digital-based job training, start-up support, and overseas employment support programs for

developing job skills based on intelligent information technology.

(3) The Minister of Science and ICT shall endeavor to encourage private companies to voluntarily promote social participation of digitally vulnerable groups.

#### CHAPTER IV ENSURING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR USING INTELLIGENT INFORMATION SERVICES, ETC.

Article 19 (Ensuring Accessibility to Intelligent Information Services, etc.) (1) Upon providing any of the following intelligent information services and intelligent information products, the state and local governments, etc. shall ensure accessibility to digitally vulnerable groups so that they can use them without difficulty:

1. Websites;
2. Application software installed on a mobile communication terminal (a terminal required to use a facilities-based telecommunications service that uses frequency allocated in accordance with the Radio Waves Act; hereinafter the same shall apply);
3. An unmanned kiosk (hereinafter referred to as “kiosk” ) installed to allow users to independently issue documents, access information, place and pay for orders, etc.;
4. Electronic publications pursuant to subparagraph 4 of Article 2 of the Publishing Industry Promotion Act; and
5. Other intelligent information services and intelligent information products as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(2) Upon designing, producing, or providing intelligent information services and intelligent information products, intelligent information business operators shall endeavor to ensure that digitally vulnerable groups can easily access and use these services and products.

(3) The state institutions, etc. shall promote programs necessary to ensure that intelligent information products are compatible with assistive devices pursuant to subparagraph 2 of Article 3 of the Act on the Support for Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities and Older Persons and Promotion of Use Thereof.

(4) The Minister of Science and ICT shall establish and notify the types, guidelines, etc. of intelligent information services and intelligent information products that require measures to improve the accessibility to, and use of, intelligent information services and intelligent information products for digitally vulnerable groups.

Article 20 (Provision of Convenience for Use of Kiosks) (1) Those who install and operate unmanned kiosks shall take measures to improve the accessibility to and convenience of use of information by digitally vulnerable groups, such as assigning personnel who can assist in the use of kiosks or providing real-time voice guidance services.

(2) Those who manufacture or lease kiosks shall take reasonable measures as prescribed by Presidential Decree to ensure that digitally vulnerable groups can access and use the kiosks equally with those who are not digitally vulnerable.

(3) If an individual who installs and operates a kiosk or an individual who manufactures and leases the kiosks fails to take the measures pursuant to Paragraph (1) or (2) hereof without

justifiable reasons, the Minister of Science and ICT may issue a corrective order.

(4) In cases where it is necessary for the corrective order under Paragraph (3) hereof, the Minister of Science and ICT may require the individual who installs and operates a kiosk and the individual who manufactures or leases a kiosk to report or submit data on matters related to the installation, operation, manufacture, or lease of such kiosks, and may conduct on-site inspection as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(5) The progressive scope of those who install and operate and the content and method of taking measures to improve accessibility to and convenience of use of information by digitally vulnerable groups under Paragraph (1) hereof, the content and method of taking reasonable measures under Paragraph (2) hereof, the period, method, and procedure of a corrective order under Paragraph (3) hereof, and reporting and data submission under Paragraph (4) hereof, and other matters necessary for accessing and providing convenience of use of information of kiosks, shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 21 (Accessibility Quality Certification of Intelligent Information Services and Intelligent Information Products, etc.) (1) In order to improve accessibility to and convenience of use of information by digitally vulnerable groups, the Minister of Science and ICT may carry out an accessibility quality certification for intelligent information services and intelligent information products under each subparagraph of Article 19(1) (hereinafter referred to as “accessibility quality certification” ).

(2) The Minister of Science and ICT may designate a certification authority for each field of intelligent information services and intelligent information products for accessibility quality certification. In such cases, the validity period of designating a certification authority shall be five (5) years from the date of designation.

(3) An individual who intends to be designated as a certification authority pursuant to Paragraph (2) hereof shall apply for designation as a certification authority to the Minister of Science and ICT.

(4) The Minister of Science and ICT may receive the data necessary for the operation of the accessibility quality certification system, such as operational performance of quality certification, from the certification authority designated pursuant to Paragraph (2) in accordance with the provisions as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(5) If a certification authority designated pursuant to Paragraph (2) falls under any of the following subparagraphs, the Minister of Science and ICT may cancel the designation or order suspension of all or part of the relevant business for a period of up to one (1) year, provided, however, that in cases falling under subparagraphs 1 and 2, the designation must be cancelled:

1. If the authority has been designated as a certification authority through any false or other fraudulent means;
2. If the authority has performed certification during the suspension period;
3. If the authority fails to perform certification without justifiable reason;
4. If the authority fails to meet the criteria for designating a certification authority pursuant to Paragraph (6) hereof; or

5. If the authority has performed certification by violating the accessibility quality certification standards or procedures under Paragraph (6) hereof.

(6) The accessibility quality certification standards and standard setting procedures pursuant to Paragraphs (1) through (5) hereof, the criteria for designating a certification authority, cancellation of designation and suspension of business, and other matters necessary for the operation of the accessibility quality certification system shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 22 (Application for Accessibility Quality Certification, etc.) (1) Any individual who intends to receive accessibility quality certification shall apply for certification to a certification authority designated pursuant to Article 21(2).

(2) An individual who has obtained accessibility quality certification may display the content of accessibility quality certification or publicize the fact that the individual has obtained the accessibility quality certification as prescribed by Presidential Decree where the individual provides the relevant intelligent information service or develops and produces an intelligent information product.

(3) An individual who has not obtained accessibility quality certification shall not display the accessibility quality certification mark pursuant to Paragraph (2) hereof or a similar mark or publicize as if the individual obtained accessibility quality certification.

(4) The head of the certification authority may cancel the accessibility quality certification if the individual who obtained the accessibility quality certification falls under any of the following subparagraphs, provided, however, that if the individual falls under subparagraph 1, the certification must be cancelled:

1. If the individual obtained accessibility quality certification through false or other fraudulent means; or
2. If the individual fails to have complied with the method of displaying or publicizing the accessibility quality certification.

(5) Matters necessary for the application procedures, methods, validity period, and imposition of fees for accessibility quality certification pursuant to Paragraphs (1) through (4) shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 23 (Priority Purchasing of Intelligent Information Products with Guaranteed Accessibility) (1) Upon purchasing intelligent information products, the state institutions, etc. shall establish necessary programs to promote the priority purchasing of intelligent information products that guarantee access to and convenience of use of information for digitally vulnerable groups, such as accessibility quality-certified products.

(2) The Minister of Science and ICT may request cooperation from the state institutions, etc. in establishing and implementing programs pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof, including, but not limited to, submission of purchasing plans for the relevant year and purchasing performance for the previous year. In such cases, the individual who received the request must comply with the request unless there is a special reason otherwise.

(3) The Minister of Science and ICT may designate and notify the types of intelligent

information products subject to priority purchasing under Paragraph (1) hereof in consultation with the heads of relevant central administrative agencies.

(4) The Minister of Science and ICT may conduct a verification examination on intelligent information products subject to priority purchasing pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof, provided, however, that if accessibility quality certification has been obtained, it is considered that the products been verified under this paragraph.

(5) The Minister of Science and ICT may designate an accessibility testing and evaluation agency to effectively carry out the verification work in Paragraph (4) hereof.

(6) The Minister of Science and ICT may recommend that an individual as prescribed by Presidential Decree get priority in the use or purchase of intelligent information services or intelligent information products that have obtained accessibility quality certification.

(7) The verification standards, procedures, and validity period of intelligent information products subject to priority purchasing, designation, cancellation of designation, and validity period of accessibility testing and evaluation authorities, testing and evaluation criteria, recommendations for priority purchasing, and other necessary matters shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

#### Article 24 (Support for Intelligent Information Services and Intelligent Information Products)

(1) The state and local governments may provide intelligent information services and intelligent information products, either free of charge or for a fee, to any individual falling under any of the following subparagraphs:

1. An individual with disability pursuant to Article 2 of the Act on Welfare of Persons with Disabilities and an individual eligible for special education pursuant to Article 15 of the Act on Special Education for Persons with Disabilities, etc.;
2. An eligible recipient pursuant to subparagraph 1 of Article 2 of the National Basic Living Security Act; and
3. Any other individual who requires to get such intelligent information services and intelligent information products from the state or local governments, as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(2) Matters necessary for the methods, procedures, etc. of selecting an applicant for support pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

#### Article 25 (Accessibility, etc. of Hyper-Connected Intelligent Information and Communications Networks) (1) The state and local governments shall establish and implement programs for balanced development of the intelligent information society, including elimination of regional gaps in hyper-connected intelligent information and communications networks.

(2) Where the state and local governments establish programs to expand hyper-connected intelligent information and communications networks pursuant to Articles 34(2) and 37(1) of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization, the programs shall include matters related to improving information access and usage environment for the digitally vulnerable groups.

## CHAPTER V PROMOTION OF INCLUSIVE UTILIZATION OF INTELLIGENT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ETC.

Article 26 (Standardization of Digital Inclusion Technology and Services) (1) The government may promote the following projects to standardize intelligent information products and intelligent information services (hereinafter referred to as “digital inclusion technology and services” ) that improve convenience of use for digitally vulnerable groups:

1. Establishment, revision, and abolition of standards related to digital inclusion technology and services and their dissemination, provided, however, that matters covered by Korean Industrial Standards in accordance with the Industrial Standardization Act shall be subject to such standards;
2. Investigation, research, and development of domestic and international standards related to digital inclusion technology and services; and
3. Other projects necessary for standardization of digital inclusion technology and services.

(2) The government shall maintain and strengthen a cooperative system with international organizations for standardization or with international institutions for standardization in relation to digital inclusion technology and services standards.

(3) Matters necessary to promote the projects pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof and to maintain and strengthen the cooperative system pursuant to Paragraph (2) hereof shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 27 (Designation, etc. of Promising Digital Inclusion Technology and Services) (1) The Minister of Science and ICT may designate promising digital inclusion technology and services and provide support in order to promote the use of such technology and services.

(2) The Minister of Science and ICT may provide necessary support for the commercialization of promising digital inclusion technology and services designated pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof (referring to commercialization pursuant to subparagraph 3 of Article 2 of the Technology Transfer and Commercialization Promotion Act).

(3) The Minister of Science and ICT may recommend that state institutions, etc. get priority to utilizing promising digital inclusion technology and services pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof.

(4) Matters necessary for the designation criteria, methods, and procedures pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof, support for commercialization pursuant to Paragraph (2) hereof, and recommendations pursuant to Paragraph (3) hereof shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 28 (Research and Development of Technology and Services Related to Digital Inclusion)

(1) The government may promote the following projects to research, develop, and expand technology and services for digital inclusion:

1. Investigation and analysis of trends and levels of domestic and international digital inclusion-related technology and services;
2. Evaluation and utilization of digital inclusion-related technology and services;
3. Smooth distribution of information on digital inclusion-related technology and services;

4. Creation of a test bed and promotion of pilot projects for verification of digital inclusion-related technology and services;
5. Matters to promote public-private cooperation and participation of citizens in the development and use of digital inclusion-related technology and services; and
6. Other projects necessary for the development of digital inclusion-related technology and services.

(2) In order to efficiently promote the projects under Paragraph (1) hereof, the government may entrust any project under each subparagraph of Paragraph (1) to a specialized institution pursuant to Article 13, or a related institution or organization.

(3) The government may support all or part of the costs necessary for carrying out the project to the individual or organization entrusted with the project pursuant to Paragraph (2) within the scope of the budget.

(4) Matters necessary for the scope of work entrusted pursuant to Paragraph (2), and the method and procedure for selecting an entrusted organization, etc. shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 29 (Establishment of a Research and Development Base) (1) The government shall endeavor to establish an institutional base for utilizing human resources, facilities, materials and equipment, funds, and information, etc. to promote research and development of digital inclusion-related technology and services.

(2) The government may support all or part of the costs required for research and development to an individual who promotes the research and development of digital inclusion-related technology and services.

Article 30 (Support for Export of Digital Inclusion Technology and Services) (1) If it is necessary to promote the export of digital inclusion technology and services, the Minister of Science and ICT may take necessary measures to promote investment and expand export markets in accordance with the provisions as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(2) In cases where the Minister of Science and ICT deems it necessary to promote the export of digital inclusion technology and services, the Minister may provide financial support or support of material resources and personnel within the scope of budget as prescribed by Presidential Decree to any of the following individuals:

1. An individual who promotes the export of digital inclusion technology and services;
2. An individual who engages in the business of consulting, guidance, external publicity, exhibition, training, or consultation brokerage to promote export;
3. An individual who domestically or internationally establishes and operates an exhibition hall related to digital inclusion technology and services, etc. or exhibits digital inclusion technology and services, etc. at an exhibition hall; and
4. An individual who promotes international cooperation for export of digital inclusion technology and services, etc.

Article 31 (Training of Professionals) (1) The state and local governments shall endeavor to devise programs necessary to train, secure, and improve the qualifications of professionals in order to develop digital inclusion technology and services.

(2) The Minister of Science and ICT may recommend that intelligent information business operators expand the employment of professionals working in digital inclusion and provide administrative, technical, and management support necessary for expanding employment.

## CHAPTER VI SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS

Article 32 (Fundraising) (1) The state and local governments shall raise necessary funds to promote the programs, etc. stipulated in this Act.

(2) In order to implement programs in accordance with this Act, the state and local governments may support related projects with the state budget or local government budget.

Article 33 (Awards) (1) The state and local governments may select and award institutions, corporations, organizations, and individuals that have made outstanding contributions to the promotion of digital inclusion.

(2) Matters necessary for the award pursuant to Paragraph (1) hereof shall be prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 34 (International Cooperation) (1) In order to promote digital inclusion, the state and local governments shall actively strive to promote international cooperation, including information exchange and technological cooperation, with foreign governments, international organizations, etc.

(2) The state and local governments may provide administrative and financial support so that the Republic of Korea can play a leading role in establishing international standards for intelligent information technology, intelligent information services, and intelligent information products related to digital inclusion.

(3) The state and local governments may perform the following tasks to promote international cooperation on digital inclusion:

1. Support for international exchange of related technology and personnel;
2. Support for international joint research and development projects, etc.;
3. Cooperation with international organizations and foreign governments;
4. Support for international cooperation in the private sector; and
5. Other matters related to international cooperation as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 35 (Delegation and Entrustment) (1) Part of the authority of the Minister of Science and ICT in accordance with this Act may be delegated to the head of an organization under the Ministry of Science and ICT or a local government, or entrusted to the head of another administrative agency in accordance with provisions as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

(2) Part of the duties of the Minister of Science and ICT in accordance with this Act may be delegated to an institution, corporation, or organization established for the purpose of promoting digital inclusion in accordance with provisions as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

Article 36 (Legal Fiction as Public Officials in Applying Penalty Provisions) Employees of the institution, organization, or corporation engaging in entrusted tasks in accordance with Article 35 shall be considered public officials upon application of Articles 129 through 132 of the Criminal Act.

Article 37 (Fines) (1) An individual who fails to comply with the corrective order pursuant to Article 20(3) shall be subject to a fine of not more than KRW 30 million. However, the Minister of Science and ICT may reduce or exempt the fine by considering the type and degree of violation, the size and scope of the business establishment, the ability to pay the fine, whether or not the quality of accessibility has been certified, whether or not a fine has been imposed pursuant to Article 50 of the Act on Prohibition of Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities and Remedies for their Rights, etc.

(2) An individual who falls under any of the following subparagraphs shall be subject to a fine of up to KRW 5 million:

1. An individual who has obtained accessibility quality certification through false or other fraudulent means;
2. An individual who has been designated as a certification authority pursuant to Article 21(2) by false or other fraudulent means; and
3. An individual who has not obtained accessibility quality certification in violation of Article 22(3) but has displayed a mark indicating accessibility quality certification or a similar mark or publicized as if accessibility quality certification has been obtained.

(3) The Minister of Science and ICT shall impose and collect the fine pursuant to Paragraphs (1) and (2) in accordance with provisions as prescribed by Presidential Decree.

## Addenda

Article 1 (Enforcement Date) This Act shall enter into force one (1) year after the date of its promulgation.

Article 2 (Transitional Measures on Accessibility Quality Certification) If information and communication accessibility quality certification has been obtained pursuant to Article 47 of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization at the time of enforcement of this Act, it shall be deemed to have obtained accessibility quality certification pursuant to Article 21(1) of this Act. In this case, the validity period of the certification shall be the remaining period of validity according to the previous regulations.

Article 3 (Transitional Measures Regarding Certification Authorities) An institution designated as a certification authority for information and communication accessibility quality certification pursuant to Article 47(2) of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization at the time of enforcement of this Act shall be deemed to have been designated as a certification authority for accessibility quality certification pursuant to Article 21(2) of this Act. In this case, the validity period shall be calculated from the date of enforcement of this Act, and the scope of certification work shall be limited to the scope designated pursuant to Article 47(2) of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization.

Article 4 (Transitional Measures for Intelligent Information Products Subject to Priority Purchasing) If a product has been verified as an intelligent information products subject to priority purchasing under Article 46(4) of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization at the time of enforcement of this Act, it shall be deemed to have been verified as an intelligent information product subject to priority purchase pursuant to Article 23(4) of this Act.

Article 5 (Transitional Measures on Application of Fines) Upon applying the fines to violation of Article 48(3) of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization before the enforcement of this Act, the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization shall apply.

Article 6 (Amendment to Other Acts) (1) Part of the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization shall be amended as follows:

Articles 46, 46-2, and 47 of the Partial Amendment to the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization (Law No. 20410) shall be deleted.

Articles 48 and 49 shall be deleted, and Article 50 shall be as follows:

Article 50 (Implementation of Education for Resolving Information Gap) The state and local governments shall establish and implement necessary educational programs to resolve information gap.

Subparagraph 3 of Paragraph (2) of Article 67 and subparagraph 4 of Paragraph (2) of Article 69 shall be deleted.

Paragraph (1) of Article 70 and subparagraph 2 of Paragraph (3) of the same Article of the Partial Amendment to the Framework Act on Intelligent Informatization shall be deleted, and “Paragraphs (1) through (3)” in Paragraph (4) of the same Article shall be changed to “Paragraphs (2) and (3).”

(2) The Special Act on Promotion of Information and Communications Technology, Vitalization of Convergence Thereof, etc. shall be partially amended as follows:

In Article 7(3), subparagraph 7-3 shall be added as follows:

7-3. Matters on the Basic Plan for Digital Inclusion in Accordance with the Digital Inclusion Act

### ◇ Reason for Enactment

This Act was made to contribute to improving the quality of life of individual members of society and social integration by regulating matters on the promotion of digital inclusion and fostering related industries.

### ◇ Highlights

- a. The term “digital inclusion” is defined as creating an economic, social, and cultural environment that allows all members of society to equally enjoy the benefits of intelligent information technology without discrimination or exclusion (Article 2).
- b. It is stipulated that the state and local governments shall establish programs to ensure that all individual members of society can smoothly access and use intelligent information services and intelligent information products, endeavor to provide alternative means that enable all members of society to use intelligent information services and intelligent information products substantially equally without using intelligent information technology (Articles 3 and 4).
- c. It is enforced that the state and local governments shall prepare measures to make private experts or relevant groups participate widely and collect a variety of opinions from people in general in the process of establishing and executing policies for digital inclusion; and where the head of a state institution, etc. intends to introduce, develop, or implement a new intelligent information service and an intelligent information product, or implement any plan and and project that may have a significant impact on digital inclusion, the head shall conduct a digital inclusion impact assessment in advance (Articles 10 and 12).
- d. The grounds are prepared for designation and support of digital competence centers to support the development of digital competence of local residents and the resolution of information gap, development and distribution of standard teaching materials and training programs, etc. to support digital competence training, and establishment and operation of a comprehensive digital competence development information system to systematically and efficiently manage information related to the development of digital competence (Articles 15 to 17).
- e. Those who install and operate unmanned kiosks and those who manufacture or lease kiosks are required to take measures to improve the convenience of access to and use of information for digitally vulnerable groups; and if such measures are not taken without a justifiable reason, the Minister of Science and ICT may issue a corrective order and if a corrective order is not followed, a fine of not more than KRW 30 million shall be imposed (Articles 20 and 37).
- f. It states that the government should establish a ground for entrusting specialized institutions, etc. with projects for research, development, and expansion of technology and services for digital inclusion, and strive to build an institutional base for promoting research and development, and establish a basis for the Minister of Science and ICT to provide financial, material, and human support for export promotion to those who intend to export digital inclusion technology and services (Articles 28 to 30).

[Provided by the Ministry of Government Legislation]