Japan's AI Promotion Act — a Penalty-Free 'Fundamental Law' Steering AI Policy Through a Prime Minister-Led AI Strategy Headquarters

AI in the Public Sector · Good practice · Japan

Quality score: 40/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Passed 28 May 2025 and mostly in force from 4 June 2025, Japan's AI Promotion Act creates a PM-chaired AI Strategy HQ and a Basic AI Plan, obliges government to use AI in administration, but has no penalties or risk tiers, relying on guidance and investigation.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured public value	0/3
Transparency, fairness & accountability	1/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	1/3
Scalability beyond pilot	2/3
Governance, capability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-15

Cabinet Office of Japan — AI Strategy Headquarters — accessed 2026-11-15

Future of Privacy Forum — Understanding Japan's AI Promotion Act — accessed 2026-11-15

White & Case — Japan's first AI legislation becomes law — accessed 2026-11-15

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