



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8915

BY REPRESENTATIVES CORTUNA, VILLARIN, JAVIER, ANDAYA,
ZAMORA (M.C.) AND HOFER, PER COMMITTEE REPORT
No. 1117

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATIONAL
AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)
REGIONAL TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN
THE MIMAROPA REGION SERVING THE PROVINCES
OF MINDORO (ORIENTAL AND OCCIDENTAL),
MARINDUQUE, ROMBLON AND PALAWAN, TO BE
KNOWN AS THE TESDA MIMAROPA REGIONAL
TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the
2 "TESDA MIMAROPA Regional Training and Assessment Center
3 (RTAC) Act".

4 SEC. 2. *Establishment.* - There is hereby established a
5 Technical Education and Skills Development Regional Training and
6 Assessment Center in the MIMAROPA Region serving the provinces
7 of Mindoro (Oriental and Occidental), Marinduque, Romblon and
8 Palawan, under the supervision of the Technical Education and

1 Skills Development Authority (TESDA), to be known as the TESDA
2 MIMAROPA Regional Training and Assessment Center. It shall be
3 established in the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro,
4 pursuant to the purposes of this Act and to the mutual agreement
5 between the TESDA and the concerned local government units
6 (LGUs).

7 SEC. 3. *General Mandate.* – The TESDA MIMAROPA
8 Regional Training and Assessment Center, hereinafter referred to
9 as the Regional Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational
10 training and skills development programs to students and residents
11 from low-income families and out-of-school youths, including college
12 dropouts and persons with disabilities (PWDs), in the MIMAROPA
13 Region, geared towards the acquisition of practical livelihood,
14 employable skills, gainful employment, and entrepreneurship.

15 The Regional Center shall help train local residents to become
16 productive, self-reliant and globally competitive middle to high-level
17 skilled labor force to hasten the social and economic development of
18 these areas, in particular, and to meet the manpower needs of both
19 local and international labor markets, in general.

20 The Regional Center shall consider in the design of relevant
21 technical-vocational training programs to be offered thereat a
22 competency assessment of the socioeconomic profile, employment
23 conditions and opportunities, business climate, market and industry
24 potentials, resources available and presence of support structures,
25 including the literacy level and skills readiness, and the overall
26 development needs of the host area and adjacent communities
27 within the operational radius of the Regional Center established
28 herein. The Regional Center shall also consider the relevant skills

1 trade competencies, craftsmanship training programs, and
2 entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective
3 employment and development interventions required to make these
4 areas as human resource and productivity hubs.

5 The Regional Center established herein shall likewise serve
6 as TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired competencies
7 in technical-vocational skills in the MIMAROPA Region.

8 Preference in admission shall be given to the most
9 disadvantaged citizens, including PWDs, and to the most
10 economically depressed areas in the provinces of MIMAROPA,
11 within the operational radius of the Regional Center.

12 The Regional Center, in coordination with the Department of
13 Education (DepEd) and TESDA, shall offer relevant teachers'
14 training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools
15 in the MIMAROPA Region which are providing the technical-
16 vocational livelihood (TVL) track under the K to 12 Program of the
17 DepEd.

18 SEC. 4. *Training Programs.* - The Regional Center shall
19 offer diverse short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in
20 relevant technical-vocational skills and trades specialization to
21 comply with employment standards in preferred and emerging
22 market-driven labor opportunities, but shall likewise give premium
23 efforts to skills specialization for local market employment
24 requirements geared towards achieving the development of a robust
25 inclusive economy within the host area and each of the adjacent
26 localities and communities within the operational radius of the
27 Regional Center, in consultation with the Department of Labor and
28 Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI),

1 Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and
2 Local Government (DILG), Department of Science and Technology
3 (DOST), the National Economic and Development Authority
4 (NEDA), business-industry partners, and such other relevant
5 agencies, both local and international-based.

6 The Regional Center may establish research and technology
7 hubs, technology development farms, mobile training programs, and
8 satellite or extension training centers in priority areas throughout
9 the MIMAROPA Region to strengthen the linkages among the
10 industry, the academe and the technology programs thereat.

11 To address the development and manpower needs of the
12 provinces of MIMAROPA, the Regional Center shall offer the
13 following TESDA-registered technical-vocational training programs
14 with competencies assessment leading to National Competency
15 Certification Levels I-III to increase the livelihood assets and
16 competitive productivity of the MIMAROPA Region:

17 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades
18 such as metal and steel works, machine fabrication and operation,
19 heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanic, refrigeration and
20 air conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and
21 equipment for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;

22 (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills
23 development in such areas as farming-fishing operations
24 technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and
25 propagation innovations, mechanized farm and fishing tools and
26 equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and
27 innovations, and relevant farmers' and fisherfolks' continuing
28 trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;

1 (c) Social communication skills development, language
2 proficiency courses in English and other languages for business
3 process outsourcing (call center) employment and overseas job
4 placement;

5 (d) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills
6 employment and small-scale entrepreneurship (including practical
7 skills education in crafts and arts), workmanship and designing
8 (such as fabric, woodworks, jewelry and metal works), high-speed
9 sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, agriculture and farm
10 technology, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food
11 processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and
12 commercial cooking (including baking), beauty culture (such as
13 cosmetology, hair and nail styling), and health and wellness
14 trainings;

15 (e) Basic business literacy training in financial management
16 and marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping and office
17 procedures, business processes and application procedures including
18 registration, licensing, documentation, business patent and
19 intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment
20 opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, online home-
21 based business operation and social media business marketing;

22 (f) Technical-vocational occupation and trade skills such as
23 carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and
24 installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing, basic
25 personal computer (PC) troubleshooting and servicing, and such
26 other relevant practical skills courses;

1 (g) Computer literacy and information technology (IT)-related
2 skills, digital technology, web design, animation, photoshop/online
3 photography, computer design and advertising;

4 (h) Seminars in personality development, career counseling
5 and job placement, and work ethic and values; and

6 (i) Other preferred priority skills and trade trainings that
7 may be utilized by the people in the MIMAROPA Region for
8 practical livelihood, gainful employment and entrepreneurial
9 activities.

10 SEC. 5. *Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* - The
11 provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the Regional Center
12 established herein shall become operationally effective only upon
13 the determination and declaration of the TESDA, through the
14 issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance,
15 that the Regional Center has satisfactorily complied with
16 the minimum requirements for quality standards prescribed by
17 the TESDA governing the following competency assessment:

18 (a) standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the
19 establishment and operation of a TESDA-accredited regional
20 training and assessment center; (b) operational sustainability
21 of the Regional Center established herein, such as licensed
22 faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory
23 facilities, and instructional materials; (c) sustainable funding source
24 for the budgetary requirement of the Regional Center hereto
25 established; (d) assurance that the training programs offered are
26 fully aligned with the minimum standards of competency-based
27 quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the
28 localities and provinces in the MIMAROPA Region; (e) program

1 alignment and benchmarking in the context of the Association of
2 Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) framework and the Philippine
3 Qualifications Framework (PQF) for technical and vocational
4 education and trianing (TVET); and (f) compliance with other
5 TESDA conditionalities and standards as may be necessary in
6 establishing a TESDA-accredited regional training and assessment
7 center.

8 SEC. 6. *Administration.* - The Regional Center shall be
9 headed by a Technical-Vocational Administrator, or appropriate
10 position title and rank following existing TESDA staffing pattern,
11 who shall be appointed by the TESDA Director General in
12 accordance with civil service rules and regulations and the
13 qualification requirements for such office.

14 The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall render full-time
15 service and shall be responsible for the administration and
16 operation of the Regional Center. As far as necessary and
17 practicable, and subject to existing procedures and approval of the
18 TESDA Director General, the Technical-Vocational Administrator
19 shall enter into mutual agreements with local-based counterpart
20 agencies, or instrumentalities and persons, both private and
21 government, for such assistance as may be necessary to effectively
22 implement this Act.

23 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* - The Director General of TESDA
24 shall include in the Authority's program the implementation of the
25 Regional Center under this Act, the funding of which shall be
26 included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs
27 concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall likewise set aside
28 from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as

1 annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the Regional
2 Center established herein.

3 SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within
4 ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in
5 coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DA, Department of Budget and
6 Management (DBM), DILG, DOST, NEDA, the concerned LGUs,
7 and other relevant agencies and industry-business partners in the
8 MIMAROPA Region, prepare and issue the necessary rules and
9 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

10 SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any section
11 or provision of this Act shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid,
12 the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and
13 shall remain in force and effect.

14 SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders,
15 decrees, instructions, and rules and regulations contrary to or
16 inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or amended
17 accordingly.

18 SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
19 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of
20 general circulation.

Approved,

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