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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 9018

By Representatives Suansing (E.), Javier, Andaya, Zamora (M.C.) and Hofer, per Committee Report No. 1187

AN ACT ESTABLISHING TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTERS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF NAMPICUAN, CUYAPO, STO. DOMINGO, ALIAGA, LICAB AND QUEZON, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the
"Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon.

Nueva Ecija TESDA Training and Assessment Centers Act".

4 SEC. 2. Establishment. - There are hereby established

5 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)

6 Training and Assessment Centers in the six (6) municipalities of

7 Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon, all

8 in the First Congressional District of the Province of Nueva Ecija.

9 under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known individually as

10 follows: (a) Nampicuan Training and Assessment Center; (b)

Cuyapo Training and Assessment Center; (c) Sto. Domingo Training

12 and Assessment Center; (d) Aliaga Training and Assessment

Center; (e) Licab Training and Assessment Center; and (f) Quezon Training and Assessment Center.

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SEC. 3. General Mandate. — The six (6) TESDA Training and Assessment Centers, hereinafter referred to as the Centers, shall primarily provide technical-vocational training and skills development programs to students and residents from low-income families and out-of-school youths, including college dropouts and persons with disabilities, in the six (6) municipalities of Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon of the First Congressional District and the adjacent localities of the Province of Nueva Ecija geared towards the acquisition of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment, and entrepreneurship.

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

The Centers shall consider in the design of relevant technical-vocational training programs to be offered thereat a competency assessment of the socioeconomic profile, employment conditions and opportunities, business climate, market and industry potentials, resources available and presence of support structures, including the literacy level and skills readiness, and the overall development within the host areas and adjacent communities within the operational radius of the Centers established herein. The Centers shall also consider the relevant skills trade competencies, craftsmanship training programs, and

entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective employment and development interventions required to make these areas as human resource and productivity hubs.

The Centers shall also serve as TESDA-accredited Assessment Centers for acquired competencies in technical-vocational skills in the municipalities of Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon, and in the adjacent areas and localities in the Province of Nueva Ecija.

Preference in admission shall be given to the most disadvantaged citizens, including persons with disabilities, and to the most economically depressed areas of the municipalities of Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon of the First Congressional District, and of the adjacent localities of the Province of Nueva Ecija within the service area of the Centers.

The Centers shall, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the TESDA, offer relevant teachers' training assistance and curriculum design to the secondary schools providing the technical-vocational livelihood (TVL) track under the K to 12 Program of the DepEd in the municipalities of Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon, respectively, and in the adjacent areas and localities in the Province of Nueva Ecija within the service area of the Centers.

SEC. 4. Training Programs. — The Centers shall offer diverse short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in relevant technical-vocational skills and trade specialization to comply with employment standards in preferred and emerging market-driven labor opportunities, and shall likewise give premium

efforts to skills specialization for local market employment requirements geared towards achieving the development of a robust inclusive economy within the host areas and each of the adjacent localities and communities within the operational radius of the Centers, in consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and such other relevant agencies, both local and international. 

The Centers may establish, as deemed necessary and practicable, research and technology hubs, technology development farms, mobile training programs, and satellite or extension training centers in priority areas throughout the Province of Nueva Ecija within the service radius of the Centers to strengthen linkages among the industry, the academe and the Centers.

To address the development and manpower needs of the six (6) host municipalities and the adjacent localities and communities in the Province of Nueva Ecija within the Centers' service access, the Centers shall offer the following TESDA-registered technical-vocational training programs with competencies assessment leading to National Certification Levels I-III:

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

- (b) Agriculture-related trainings and farm skills development in such areas as farming technology and farm operations, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farm tools and equipment operations, agribusiness and agri-trade technology and innovations, and relevant farmers trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;
- (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in crafts and arts, workmanship and designing, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, health and wellness training;
- (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management and marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedures, business processes and application procedures including registration, licensing, documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, including online home-based business operation and use of social media business marketing;
- (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trade skills such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing, basic personal computer (PC) troubleshooting and servicing, and such other relevant practical skills courses;

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

- (g) Social communication skills development, language proficiency courses in English and other languages for business process outsourcing (call center) employment and overseas job placement;
- (h) Seminars in personality development, career counseling and job placement, work ethic and values; and
  - (i) Other preferred priority skills and trade training that may be needed by the people of the six (6) municipalities of Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon, and the adjacent localities of the Province of Nueva Ecija to enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial activities.
- SEC. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements. The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the establishment of the TESDA Training and Accreditation Centers in each of the six (6) municipalities of Nampicuan, Cuyapo, Sto. Domingo, Aliaga, Licab, and Quezon, respectively, all in the First Congressional District of the Province of Nueva Ecija, shall become effective only upon the determination and declaration of the TESDA through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance that the Centers have individually complied with the minimum requirements prescribed by TESDA governing the following competency assessment: (a) standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the establishment and operation of a TESDA-accredited

training and assessment center; (b) operational sustainability of the 1 2 Centers established herein, such as licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, and 3 4 instructional materials; (c) sustainable funding source and allocation for the budgetary requirement of the Centers herein 5 6 established; (d) assurance that the training programs offered are 7 fully aligned with the minimum standards of competency-based 8 quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the host sites and adjacent localities served in the context of the 9 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Philippine 10 Qualifications Framework (PQF) for technical-vocational education; 11 and (e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and 12 13 standards in establishing a TESDA-accredited Center as may be 14 necessary and applicable.

SEC. 6. Administration. — Each of the six (6) Centers shall be headed by a Technical-Vocational Administrator, under the supervision of the TESDA, who shall render full-time services and be responsible for the administration and operation of each of the Centers.

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The Technical-Vocational Administrator of each of the Centers shall be appointed by the TESDA Director General in accordance with Civil Service Commission rules and regulations and the qualification requirements for such office.

The Technical-Vocational Administrator of each of the Centers shall enter into mutual agreements with locally-based private and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, subject to approval by the TESDA Director General, for such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

SEC. 7. Appropriations. — The Director General of the TESDA shall include in the Authority's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government units (LGUs) concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall likewise set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the Centers established herein.

SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, NEDA, Department of Budget and Management, DILG, the concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host localities, prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

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

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

1 SEC. 11. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)

2 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of

3 general circulation.

Approved,

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