



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9145

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BY REPRESENTATIVES YAP (M.), JAVIER, ANDAYA, HOFER, ZAMORA (M.C.), CASTRO (F.H.), ROA-PUNO, ORTEGA (V.N.), PALMA, NOEL, SALO, GONZALES (A.P.), PIMENTEL, SAVELLANO, GARIN (R.), GARCIA (J.E.), FORTUN, BRAVO (A.), BERTIZ, CAMPOS, SALON, BELARO, GULLAS, TEJADA, VIOLAGO, ZUBIRI, ALEJANO, GONZALES (A.D.), CHIPECO, BORDADO, GO (M.), MANGAOANG, CARI, TREÑAS, FERNANDO, NUÑEZ-MALANYAON, TUPAS, BATAOIL, CUARESMA, ROMUALDO, SILVERIO, DALIPE, CALDERON, MARCOLETA AND VERGARA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1303

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE CITY OF ESCALANTE, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE ESCALANTE CITY TESDA 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 “Escalante City TESDA Training and Assessment Center Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Establishment.* – There is hereby established a  
4 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)

1 Training and Assessment Center in the City of Escalante, Province  
2 of Negros Occidental, under the supervision of the TESDA, to be  
3 known as the Escalante City TESDA Training and Assessment  
4 Center.

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

15       The Center shall play a pivotal role in helping the students  
16 and citizens in the City of Escalante, Negros Occidental, and the  
17 adjacent areas and localities in the First Congressional District of  
18 the Province of Negros Occidental within the operational radius of  
19 the Center to become productive, self-reliant and to be developed  
20 into globally competitive middle to high-level skilled labor force to  
21 hasten the social and economic development of these areas, in  
22 particular, and enable the trained local residents to meet the  
23 manpower needs of both local and international labor markets, in  
24 general.

25       The Center shall consider in the design of relevant  
26 technical-vocational training programs to be offered thereat a  
27 competency assessment of the socioeconomic profile, employment

1 conditions and opportunities, business climate, market and industry  
2 potentials, resources available and presence of support structures,  
3 including the literacy level and skills readiness, and the overall  
4 development needs of the host area and adjacent communities  
5 within the operational radius of the Center established hereto. The  
6 Center shall also consider the relevant skills trade competencies,  
7 craftsmanship training programs and entrepreneurship activities  
8 needed to deliver the effective employment and development  
9 interventions required to make these areas as human resource and  
10 productivity hubs.

11 The Center shall also serve as a TESDA-accredited  
12 assessment center for acquired competencies in  
13 technical-vocational skills in the entire First Congressional  
14 District and, as far as necessary and practicable, of the whole  
15 Province of Negros Occidental.

16 Preference in admission, however, shall be given to the  
17 most disadvantaged citizens, including PWDs, and to the most  
18 economically depressed areas of Escalante City and the First  
19 Congressional District of the Province of Negros Occidental, within  
20 the operational radius of the Center.

21 The Center shall, in coordination with the Department of  
22 Education (DepEd) and the TESDA, render relevant teachers'  
23 training assistance and curriculum design to the secondary  
24 schools offering technical-vocational livelihood (TVL) track under  
25 the K to 12 Program of the DepEd in Escalante City and the  
26 other areas in the First Congressional District of the Province  
27 of Negros Occidental within the service radius of the Center.

1           SEC. 4. *Training Programs.* – The Center shall offer diverse  
2 short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in relevant  
3 technical-vocational skills and trades specialization to comply  
4 with employment standards in preferred market-driven labor  
5 opportunities, but shall likewise give premium efforts, however, to  
6 skills specialization for local market employment requirements  
7 geared towards achieving the development needs for a robust  
8 inclusive economy of the host area and each of the adjacent  
9 localities and communities within the operational radius of the  
10 Center, in consultation with the Department of Labor and  
11 Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI),  
12 Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG),  
13 Department of Science and Technology (DOST), National Economic  
14 and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners,  
15 and such other relevant agencies, both local and international.

16           The Center may establish, as deemed necessary and  
17 practicable, research and technology hubs, mobile training  
18 programs, and satellite or extension training centers in  
19 priority areas throughout Escalante City and in the First  
20 Congressional District of the Province of Negros Occidental  
21 within the service radius of the Center to strengthen linkages  
22 among the industry, the academe and the technology courses  
23 thereat.

24           The Center shall offer the following TESDA-registered  
25 technical-vocational training courses with competencies assessment  
26 leading to at least National Certification Levels I-III, as applicable,  
27 to address the development and manpower needs of Escalante

1 City and the other adjacent localities of the First Congressional  
2 District of the Province of Negros Occidental within the operational  
3 radius of the Center:

4 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard  
5 trades such as metal and steelworks, machine fabrication  
6 and operation, heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanic,  
7 refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and operation of  
8 power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and  
9 industrial purposes;

10 (b) Agriculture-related trainings and farm skills development  
11 in such areas as farming technology and farm operations, backyard  
12 farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations,  
13 mechanized farm tools and equipment operations, agribusiness  
14 and agri-trade technology and innovations, and relevant farmers  
15 trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;

16 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred  
17 skills employment and small-scale entrepreneurship, including  
18 practical skills education in crafts and arts, workmanship  
19 and designing, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring,  
20 horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing  
21 technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial  
22 cooking, beauty culture, health and wellness trainings;

23 (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management  
24 and marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping and office  
25 procedures, business processes and application procedures  
26 including registration, licensing, documentation, business patent  
27 and intellectual property regulation, business financing and

1 investment opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation,  
2 including online home-based business operation and use of social  
3 media business marketing;

4 (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such  
5 as carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and  
6 installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing, personal  
7 computer (PC) servicing, and such other relevant practical skills  
8 courses;

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

12 (g) Social communication skills development, language  
13 proficiency courses in English and other languages for business  
14 process outsourcing (call center) employment and overseas job  
15 placement;

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

18 (i) Other preferred priority skills and trades training  
19 that may be needed by the people of Escalante City and relevant  
20 as well to the needs of the other areas in the Province of Negros  
21 Occidental to enhance their capacities for practical livelihood,  
22 gainful employment, and entrepreneurship skills.

23 SEC. 5. *Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* - The  
24 provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the Center established  
25 herein shall become operationally effective only upon the  
26 determination and declaration of the TESDA, through the  
27 issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of

1 compliance, that the Center has satisfactorily complied with  
2 the minimum requirements for quality standards prescribed  
3 by the TESDA governing the following competency assessment:  
4 (a) standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the  
5 establishment and operation of a Center; (b) operational  
6 sustainability of the Center established herein, in terms of  
7 licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training  
8 and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other  
9 standard requirements as a Center; (c) sustainable funding  
10 source and allocation of budget requirement of the Center  
11 herein established; (d) assurance that the training  
12 programs offered are fully aligned with the minimum  
13 standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational  
14 skills technology and the needs of the host area and  
15 adjacent communities served in the context of the Association  
16 of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Philippine  
17 Qualifications Framework (PQF) for technical-vocational  
18 education; and (e) compliance with such other TESDA  
19 conditionalities and standards as may be necessary and applicable  
20 in establishing a Center.

21       SEC. 6. *Administration.* – The Center shall be headed by a  
22 Technical-Vocational Administrator, under the supervision of  
23 the TESDA, who shall render full-time service and be responsible  
24 for the administration and operation of the Center.

25       The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall be appointed  
26 by the TESDA Director General in accordance with Civil

1 Service Commission rules and regulations and the qualification  
2 requirements for such office.

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

8 *SEC. 7. Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to  
9 implement the provisions of this Act, and its continued  
10 implementation thereafter, shall be included in the annual  
11 General Appropriations Act.

12 The concerned local government unit (LGU), in consultation  
13 with the TESDA, shall likewise set aside from any available local  
14 revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund  
15 to support the operation of the Escalante City TESDA Training and  
16 Assessment Center established herein.

17 *SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within  
18 ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA  
19 shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, Department of  
20 Budget and Management (DBM), DILG, concerned LGUs, and such  
21 other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the  
22 host locality, prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations  
23 for the implementation of this Act.

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



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

5           SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
6 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper  
7 of general circulation.

Approved,

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