



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6087

BY REPRESENTATIVES TEJADA, GO (M.) AND UNGAB, PER COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 205

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND
ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN
MINDANAO (USM), LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
KABACAN, PROVINCE OF COTABATO, TO BE KNOWN AS THE
USM-KABACAN, COTABATO 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 “University of Southern Mindanao (USM)-Kabacan, Cotabato
3 TESDA Training and Assessment Center Act”.

4 SEC. 2. *Establishment.* – There is hereby established a
5 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)
6 Training and Assessment Center in the University of Southern
7 Mindanao (USM), Municipality of Kabacan, Province of Cotabato,
8 under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the
9 USM-Kabacan, Cotabato TESDA Training and Assessment Center.

10 SEC. 3. *General Mandate.* – The USM-Kabacan, Cotabato
11 TESDA Training and Assessment Center, hereinafter referred to as
12 the Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational education

1 and training (TVET) programs to students, local residents from
2 low-income families, and out-of-school youths, including persons with
3 disabilities and indigenous peoples, in the Municipality of Kabacan
4 and adjacent localities in the Province of Cotabato, to help them
5 become productive, self-reliant and globally competitive labor assets.

6 The University-based Center shall offer training programs on
7 relevant skills trade competencies, craftsmanship, and
8 entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective
9 employment interventions that will hasten the development of the
10 host area and adjacent localities in the Province of Cotabato into
11 human resource and productivity hubs.

12 The Center shall serve as a TESDA-accredited Assessment
13 Center for acquired competencies in TVET programs in the host
14 locality of Kabacan, its sixteen (16) adjacent municipalities, and the
15 capital city of Kidapawan, Province of Cotabato. It shall also provide
16 teachers' training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary
17 schools offering the technical-vocational livelihood track under the K
18 to 12 Program in coordination with the Department of Education and
19 the TESDA.

20 *SEC. 4. Training Programs.* - The Center shall offer
21 short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in preferred
22 technical-vocational skills and trades specialization. To this end, the
23 Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade
24 and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST),
25 Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and
26 Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development
27 Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant
28 agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall
29 provide the necessary assistance to enable the Center to develop

1 skilled manpower to achieve a robust and inclusive economy in the
2 host area and its adjacent localities.

3 The Center may establish research and technology hubs,
4 technology development farms, satellite or extension training
5 centers, and promote mobile training programs to strengthen
6 linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the Center
7 geared towards the acquisition of practical livelihood, employable
8 skills, gainful employment, and entrepreneurship in priority areas in
9 the Municipality of Kabacan and neighboring localities in the
10 Province of Cotabato.

11 The Center shall offer the following TVET programs
12 with competencies assessment leading to National Certification
13 Levels I-III:

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

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

26 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills
27 employment and small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical
28 skills education in arts and crafts, workmanship and design,
29 high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture,

1 livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home
2 technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and
3 health and wellness training;

4 (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management,
5 marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping, office procedures,
6 business processes and application procedures, including
7 registration, licensing, documentation, business patent and
8 intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment
9 opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, online home-
10 based business operation, and use of social media business
11 marketing;

12 (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as
13 carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and
14 installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing, personal
15 computer (PC) servicing, and such other relevant practical skills
16 courses;

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

20 (g) Social communication skills and language proficiency
21 courses in English and other languages for business process
22 outsourcing employment and overseas job placement;

23 (h) Seminars on personality development, career counseling,
24 job placement, and work ethic and values; and

25 (i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be
26 needed by the people of the Municipality of Kabacan and adjacent
27 localities of the Province of Cotabato to enhance their capacities for
28 practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial
29 activities.

1 SEC. 5. *Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* - The
2 provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the Center shall become
3 operational only upon determination and certification by the TESDA,
4 through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of
5 compliance, that the Center has satisfactorily complied with the
6 minimum requirements for quality standards prescribed by the
7 TESDA governing the following competency assessment:

8 (a) Standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the
9 establishment and operation of a Center;

10 (b) Operational sustainability of the Center, in terms of
11 licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and
12 laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard
13 requirements of a Center;

14 (c) Sustainable funding source and allocation of the budgetary
15 requirement;

16 (d) Assurance that the training programs offered are fully
17 aligned with the minimum standards of competency-based quality
18 technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the host area
19 and adjacent communities served in the context of the Association of
20 Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Integration and the Philippine
21 Qualifications Framework (PQF) for TVET; and

22 (e) Compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and
23 standards, as may be necessary and applicable in establishing a
24 Center.

25 The TESDA and the USM shall execute a Memorandum of
26 Agreement (MOA) authorizing the establishment and operation of
27 the Center inside the USM Campus: *Provided*, That the USM Board
28 of Regents will pass a resolution approving the Center: *Provided*,
29 *further*, That both the TESDA and the USM are in full accord with

1 their respective obligations pursuant to the purposes of the Center
2 under this Act.

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

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

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

16 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The TESDA Director General shall
17 include in the Authority's program the operation of the Center, the
18 funding of which shall be included in the annual General
19 Appropriations Act.

20 The USM and the local government units (LGUs) concerned, in
21 consultation with the TESDA, shall set aside from any available
22 revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund
23 to support the operation of the Center herein established.

24 SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within
25 ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in
26 coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DA, Department of Budget
27 and Management, DILG, NEDA, concerned LGUs, USM, and such
28 other relevant agencies and industry-business partners, prepare and

1 issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
2 implementation of this Act.

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

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

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

Approved,

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