

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6824

BY REPRESENTATIVES ESTRELLA, GO (M.), YAP (E.), GUICO, AGABAS, CELESTE, DE VENEZIA AND ARENAS,
PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 315

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY (TESDA)-ADMINISTERED POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF ROSALES, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE
EASTERN PANGASINAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, 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 “Eastern Pangasinan Polytechnic
2 Institute (EPPI) Act.”

3 **SEC. 2. Establishment.** - There is hereby established a polytechnic institute in the
4 Municipality of Rosales, Province of Pangasinan, under the administration and supervision of the
5 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), to be known as the Eastern
6 Pangasinan Polytechnic Institute (EPPI), hereinafter referred to as the Institute. It shall be established
7 in a highly accessible location in the Municipality of Rosales, Province of Pangasinan, pursuant to the
8 purposes of this Act, and to the agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local government
9 units (LGUs).

10 **SEC. 3. General Mandate.** - In line with the adoption of the Philippine Qualifications
11 Framework (PQF) and the Senior High School Program of the Department of Education, the Institute
12 shall endeavor to restructure its technical-vocational education curricular programs to make them
13 responsive to the rapidly, changing demands of the industry and the labor market in both the domestic
14 and global fronts, and within the context of the mutual recognition arrangements embodied in the
15 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) economic integration framework and other relevant
16 international agreements for technical-vocational education.

17 The Institute shall endeavor to offer higher level competency qualifications in technical-
18 industrial education programs and technology and shall continue to upgrade its curricular standards as
19 a post-secondary TESDA polytechnic educational institution that caters to wide-ranging specialized

1 technical, creative and conceptual knowledge and skills demonstrating depth in the planning,
2 evaluation, initiation and management of approaches to competency compliant technical skills and
3 functional knowledge application.

4 The Institute shall offer a wide array of one (1)-year to three (3)-year TESDA-registered
5 technical-vocational curricular skills training programs and certificate courses, and shall aim to meet
6 the competency requirements under Level V of the PQF, which is the Diploma Level in technical-
7 vocational education. It shall primarily provide post-secondary undergraduate technical-vocational
8 education, and shall likewise ensure the provision of various skills trainings and trade specialization
9 courses relevant to the needs of the province, specifically geared towards the acquisition of
10 employable skills, gainful employment, practical livelihood and entrepreneurship.

11 The Institute shall play a lead role in helping students and out-of-school youths, residents from
12 low-income families and persons with disabilities in the Municipality of Rosales and adjacent
13 municipalities in the Province of Pangasinan to become productive and self-reliant, and part of a
14 globally competitive middle to high-level skilled labor force to hasten the social and economic
15 development of the Province of Pangasinan, in particular, as well as meet the manpower needs of both
16 local and international labor markets, in general.

17 The Institute shall consider in the design of relevant technical-vocational training programs and
18 courses to be offered thereat, a competency assessment of the socioeconomic profile, employment
19 conditions and opportunities, business climate, market and industry potentials, resources available and
20 presence of support structures, including the literacy level and skills readiness, and the overall
21 development needs of the Municipality of Rosales, and adjacent communities within the operational
22 radius of the Institute. It shall likewise consider the relevant skills and trade competencies,
23 craftsmanship training programs and entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective
24 employment and development interventions required to make the Municipality of Rosales and all
25 localities comprising the Province of Pangasinan resource and economic productivity hubs.

26 The Institute shall also serve as a TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired
27 competencies in technical-vocational skills in the entire Province of Pangasinan.

28 Priority admission to the Institute and availment of technical-vocational education and training
29 programs thereat, including scholarships, grants-in-aid and student financial assistance, however, shall
30 be given to the most disadvantaged citizens of the Municipality of Rosales and to the most
31 economically depressed areas in the province.

32 Further, as deemed necessary and practicable, in coordination with the DepEd and the TESDA,
33 the Institute shall render relevant teachers' training assistance and curriculum design offering the
34 technical-vocational livelihood track under the DepEd and TESDA in the communities and areas
35 within the operational radius of the Institute.

1 **SEC. 4. Curricular Offering/ Training Programs.** - The Institute shall offer one (1)-year to
2 three (3)-year diploma courses and undergraduate certificate, including short-term courses and
3 modular trainings in diverse relevant technical-vocational and industrial technology education to
4 comply with employment standards in preferred market-driven labor opportunities, but shall give
5 premium efforts to skills specialization for local market employment requirements geared towards
6 achieving the development needs for a robust inclusive economy of the Municipality of Rosales and
7 the other municipalities in the Province of Pangasinan, in coordination with the Department of Labor
8 and Employment (DOLE), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of the Interior
9 and Local Government (DILG), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA),
10 business-industry partners, and such other relevant agencies.

11 The Institute may establish, as deemed necessary and practicable, research and technology
12 hubs, mobile training programs, and satellite or extension training centers in priority areas throughout
13 the Province of Pangasinan to strengthen linkages between the industry, the academe, and the
14 technology programs thereat. It shall likewise adopt the use of innovative training modes such as
15 information technology-assisted instruction, dual learning system, open or distance education, and
16 community laboratory and such other instructional programs to afford the community greater access to
17 technical-vocational education and skills training.

18 The Institute shall, as far as necessary and practicable, offer TESDA-registered technical-
19 vocational courses and short-term training programs. Course completion in these programs shall be
20 credited through skills competency assessment under National Certification Levels I to V, as
21 applicable, and shall further qualify for academic recognition under the Ladderized Interface System
22 for tertiary education, if compliant with the requirements under said program.

23 The Institute shall, as necessary and practicable, offer skills development options for higher
24 competency qualifications in technical-industrial education, trade technology, tourism, agricultural
25 technology, business literacy, and innovation in TESDA-registered skills courses as follows:

26 (a) Industrial education and technology, including skills training in industrial trades, metal and
27 steelwork, machine fabrication, heavy equipment operations, automotive mechanic servicing,
28 refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment for
29 both light grade use and industrial purposes;

30 (b) Tourism and hospitality-related courses relating to hotel, restaurant and tourism
31 development management, including social communication skills training, language
32 proficiency courses in English and other languages for business outsourcing employment and
33 overseas job placement;

34 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for small-scale income generating opportunities and
35 entrepreneurship training, including practical skills education in crafts and arts, workmanship
36 and design (fabric, woodworks, jewelry and metal works), agriculture and farm technology,

1 backyard gardening and propagation, horticulture, home-based aquaculture, livestock raising,
2 food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts, beauty culture, health and
3 wellness trainings;

4 (d) Technical-vocational occupation such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing, practical
5 electricity, automotive technician and servicing, electronics technician and servicing, welding
6 technician, personal computer servicing, and such other related technical skills courses;

7 (e) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, digital technology, web
8 design, Photoshop/online photography, computer design and advertising;

9 (f) Seminars in personality development, career counseling and job placement, work ethics and
10 values;

11 (g) Other preferred priority skills that may be needed by the people of the Municipality of
12 Rosales and relevant to the needs of the other service areas in the Province of Pangasinan to
13 enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment and entrepreneurship
14 skills.

15 **SEC. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.** - The provisions of this Act
16 notwithstanding, the establishment of the Institute shall become operationally effective only upon the
17 determination and declaration of the TESDA through the issuance of a formal recommendation and
18 Certificate of Compliance that the Institute has satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of
19 quality prescribed by the TESDA governing the following:

20 (a) Standard procedures and guidelines for the establishment, or conversion and operation of
21 TESDA polytechnic institute of technical education and TESDA technology institution;

22 (b) Operational sustainability of the polytechnic institute established herein in terms of licensed
23 faculty/trainors and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional
24 materials, and other standard requirements as TESDA-accredited center;

25 (c) Sustainable funding source and allocation of budget requirement of the TESDA polytechnic
26 institute hereto established;

27 (d) Full alignment of the training programs offered with the minimum standards of
28 competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and needs of the host
29 Municipality of Rosales, and adjacent areas served in the context of the PQF and ASEAN
30 framework for technical-vocational education; and

31 (e) Compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities, as may be necessary and applicable,
32 in the establishment of the Institute.

33 **SEC. 6. Administration.** - The Institute shall be headed by a Technical-Vocational
34 Administrator who shall be under the supervision of the TESDA, shall render full-time services, and
35 be responsible for the administration and operation of the Institute.

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

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

7 The academic and administrative staff of the Institute shall be organized following the staffing
8 pattern of the TESDA for such type of schools pursuant to existing laws, rules and regulations.

9 **SEC. 7. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.*** - All parcels of land belonging to the government
10 occupied by the Institute, as well as all assets, fixed and movable, personnel, records and documents
11 of the Institute, are hereby declared to be the property of the Institute and shall be titled under its
12 name: *Provided, That*, should the Institute cease to exist or such aforementioned parcels of land be no
13 longer needed by the Institute, the same shall revert to the local government unit (LGU) concerned, or
14 to the Municipality of Rosales, Province of Pangasinan.

15 **SEC. 8. *Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall
16 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

17 **SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within ninety (90) days after the approval of
18 this Act, the TESDA, in coordination with the DOLE, the DTI, the Department of Budget and
19 Management, the DILG, the concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business
20 partners of the host locality, shall prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the
21 effective implementation of this Act.

22 **SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.*** - If, for any reason, any section of this Act shall be deemed
23 unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and shall
24 thereby remain in force and in effect.

25 **SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and
26 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or amended
27 accordingly.

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

30 *Approved,*