Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Ouezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESSFirst Regular Session

House Bill No. 6941

(in substitution of House Bill No. 3188)

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES EDGAR M. CHATTO, MARK O. GO, AND ERIC GO YAP

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALILIHAN, PROVINCE OF BOHOL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BALILIHAN, BOHOL 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:

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Balilihan, Bohol TESDA Training and Assessment Center Act".

SEC. 2. Establishment. - There is hereby established a Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center in the Municipality of Balilihan, Province of Bohol, under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the Balilihan, Bohol TESDA Training and Assessment Center. It shall be established in a highly accessible location in the Municipality of Balilihan, pursuant to the purposes of this Act and to the mutual agreement of the TESDA and the concerned local government units (LGUs).

SEC. 3. General Mandate. – The Balilihan TESDA Training and Assessment Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational education and training (TVET) programs to students, local residents from low-income families, and out-of-school youths, including persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, in the Municipality of Balilihan and the neighboring localities in the Province of Bohol, to help them become productive, self-reliant and globally competitive labor assets.

The Center shall provide effective employment interventions through training programs on relevant skills trade competencies, craftsmanship, and entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective employment interventions that will help hasten the development of the host area and the adjacent localities in the Province of Bohol into human resource and productivity hubs.

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The Center shall also serve as TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired competencies in TVET programs in the Municipality of Balilihan and adjacent localities in the Province of Bohol. It shall also provide teachers' training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools offering the technical-vocational livelihood track under the K to 12 Program in coordination with the Department of Education and the TESDA.

SEC. 4. Training Programs – The Center shall offer short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills and trades specialization. To this end, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the necessary assistance to enable the Center to develop skilled manpower to achieve a robust and inclusive economy in the host area and its adjacent localities.

The Center may establish research and technology hubs, technology development farms, satellite or extension training centers, and promote mobile training programs to strengthen linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the Center geared towards the acquisition of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment, and entrepreneurship in priority areas in the Municipality of Balilihan and neighboring localities in the Province of Bohol.

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

- (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steelwork, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanical assembly, refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;
- (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas as farming technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farming, fishing tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations, and relevant farmers and fisherfolks' trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;
- (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts, workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and wellness training;
- (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management, marketing, practical

accountancy, bookkeeping, 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, online home-based business operation, and use of social media business marketing;

- (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing, personal computer servicing, and such other relevant practical skills courses;
- (f) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, digital technology, web design, animation, photoshop/online photography, computer design, and advertising;
- (g) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English and other languages for business process outsourcing employment and overseas job placement;
- (h) Seminars on personality development, career counseling and job placement, and work ethic and values; and
- (i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the Municipality of Balilihan and the adjacent localities of the Province of Bohol 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 Center shall become operational only upon the determination and certification by the TESDA, through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance, that the Center has satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of quality prescribed by the TESDA governing the following: a) standard procedures and guidelines for the establishment and operation of a Center; b) operational sustainability of the Center, in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard requirements of a Center; c) sustainable funding source and allocation of the budgetary requirement; d) full alignment of the training programs offered with the minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the host area and adjacent communities served within the context of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) integration and the Philippine Qualifications Framework for TVET; and e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards, as may be necessary and applicable in establishing a Center.
- **SEC.** 6. Administration. The Center shall be headed by a Technical-Vocational Administrator who shall be under the supervision of the TESDA, render full-time service, and who shall be responsible for its administration and operation.

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

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

SEC. 7. Appropriations. - The Director General of the TESDA shall include in the Authority's program the operation of the Center, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The LGUs concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the Center herein established.

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, DA, Department of Budget and Management, DILG, NEDA, concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host locality, prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 9. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any section or provision 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 in 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 repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,