

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**House Bill No. 7336**  
(in substitution of House Bill No. 6062)

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Introduced by Representatives Roger G. Mercado, Mark O. Go, and Eric Go Yap

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**  
**AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE CITY OF**  
**MAASIN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MAASIN**  
**CITY, SOUTHERN LEYTE 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 "*Maasin City, Southern*  
2 *Leyte TESDA Training and Assessment Center Act*".

3           **SEC. 2. Establishment.** - There is hereby established a training and assessment center,  
4 under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the Maasin City, Southern Leyte TESDA  
5 Training and Assessment Center. It shall be located in a highly accessible area in the City of  
6 Maasin, Province of Southern Leyte, pursuant to the purposes of this Act and to the agreement  
7 between the TESDA and the concerned local government units (LGUs).

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

14           The Center shall provide effective employment interventions through training programs  
15 on relevant skills in trade competencies, craftsmanship, and entrepreneurship activities to help  
16 hasten the development of the host area and the adjacent localities in the Province of Southern  
17 Leyte into human resource and productivity hubs.

18           The Center shall serve as a TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired  
19 competencies in TVET programs in the City of Maasin and adjacent localities in the Province  
20 of Southern Leyte. It shall also provide technical-vocational training for teachers and  
21 curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools offering the technical-vocational

1 livelihood track under the K to 12 Program, in coordination with the Department of Education  
2 and the TESDA.

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

12 The Center may establish research and technology hubs, technology development  
13 farms, satellite or extension training centers, promote mobile training programs, and strengthen  
14 linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the Center geared towards the  
15 acquisition by residents of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment, and  
16 entrepreneurial capabilities in priority areas in the City of Maasin and neighboring localities in  
17 the Province of Southern Leyte.

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

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

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

30 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-  
31 scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts,  
32 workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring,  
33 horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home  
34 technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and  
35 wellness training;

36 (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management and marketing, practical  
37 accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedures, business processes and

1 application procedures including registration, licensing, documentation, business  
2 patent and intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment  
3 opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, online home-based business  
4 operation and social media business marketing;

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

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

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

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

17 (i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the  
18 City of Maasin and of the other localities of the Province of Southern Leyte to  
19 enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and  
20 entrepreneurial activities.

21 **SEC. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.**- The provisions of this Act  
22 notwithstanding, the Center shall become operational only upon the determination and  
23 certification by the TESDA, through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate  
24 of compliance, that the Center has satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of  
25 quality prescribed by TESDA governing the following: (a) standard procedures and guidelines  
26 for the establishment and operation of a Center; (b) operational sustainability of the Center, in  
27 terms of licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities,  
28 instructional materials, and other standard requirements of a Center; (c) sustainable funding  
29 source and allocation of the budgetary requirement; (d) full alignment of the training programs  
30 offered with the minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills  
31 technology and the needs of the host area and adjacent communities served within the context  
32 of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) integration and the Philippine  
33 Qualification Framework for TVET; and e) compliance with such other TESDA  
34 conditionalities and standards, as may be necessary and applicable in establishing a Center.

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act  
20 shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof shall not  
21 be affected and shall remain in force and in effect.

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

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

*Approved,*