

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7513
(in substitution of House Bill No. 6296)

Introduced by Representatives Joseph "Jojo" L. Lara, 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 SOLANA, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SOLANA, CAGAYAN 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 "*Solana, Cagayan*
2 *TESDA Training and Assessment Center Act*".

3 **SEC. 2. Establishment.** - There is hereby established a Technical Education and
4 Skills Development Authority (TESDA) training and assessment center in the Municipality
5 of Solana, Province of Cagayan, under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the
6 Solana, Cagayan TESDA Training and Assessment Center. It shall be located in a highly
7 accessible location in the Municipality of Solana, Province of Cagayan, pursuant to the
8 purposes of this Act and to the agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local
9 government units (LGUs).

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

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

20 The Center shall serve as a TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired
21 competencies in TVET programs in the Municipality of Solana and adjacent localities in the

1 Province of Cagayan. It shall also provide technical-vocational training for teachers and
2 curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools offering the technical-vocational
3 livelihood track under the K to 12 Program, in coordination with the Department of
4 Education and the TESDA.

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

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

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

- 22 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and
23 steelwork, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation,
24 automotive mechanic, refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and
25 operation of power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and
26 industrial purposes;
- 27 (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas
28 as farming technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming and
29 home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farm, fishing
30 tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and
31 innovations, and relevant farmers and fisherfolk's trainings for increased
32 productivity and entrepreneurship;
- 33 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-
34 scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts,
35 workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring,
36 horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home

1 technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and
2 wellness training;

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

9 (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry, masonry,
10 plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing,
11 electronics servicing, personal computer servicing, and such other relevant
12 practical skills courses;

13 (f) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, digital technology,
14 web design, animation, photoshop/online photography, computer design and
15 advertising;

16 (g) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English and
17 other languages for business process outsourcing employment and overseas job
18 placement;

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

21 (i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the
22 Municipality of Solana and of the other localities of the Province of Cagayan to
23 enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and
24 entrepreneurial activities.

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

1 compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards, as may be necessary and
2 applicable, in establishing a Center.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved,