

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



'22 JUL -4 A8 :30

SENATE

S. No. 7

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

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AN ACT

FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8759, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICE ACT OF 1999, AS AMENDED, TO INCLUDE ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE SCOPE OF THE LAW, TO RENAME THE PRESENT PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OFFICE (PESO) INTO THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP OFFICE (PEESO), AND TO ESTABLISH THE BARANGAY EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP OFFICES (BEESO) NATIONWIDE, DEFINING ITS ROLE WITHIN THE EXISTING NETWORK, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the policy of the State to provide adequate and quality employment and to promote equal employment opportunities for all Filipinos. The 1987 Constitution likewise recognizes the important role of entrepreneurs in achieving economic growth.

The Philippine Statistics Authority reported that about 2.87 million Filipinos were unemployed in March 2022. Meanwhile, the underemployment rate increased from 14% in February to 15.8% in March 2022.

Research group IBON even disclosed that while the Philippines is among the fastest-growing economies in Southeast Asia, it has, however, the worst unemployment rate in the region at the onset of this year.

The Department of Trade and Industry reported that entrepreneurs have managed to generate 62.4% of the country's employment or over five (5) million jobs. Inarguably, the entrepreneurs play a key role in creating job opportunities and consequently in stimulating the economic growth of the country.

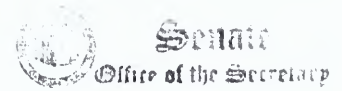
In this regard, this bill seeks to promote entrepreneurship by including it in the coverage of the current Public Employment Service Office (PESO) law. Under the proposed measure, the PESO shall be renamed to Public Employment and Entrepreneurship Office (PEESO), and a Barangay Employment and Entrepreneurship Service Office (BEESO) shall be created, which shall provide a more efficient system that would facilitate and regulate the labor market by bridging the gap between the job seekers and employers.

This measure further aims to offer employment and entrepreneurship opportunities tailored and suited to each job seeker through various training and consultations. Finally, this bill intends to not only educate the Filipino job seekers on the programs and services of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) but also on the importance of entrepreneurship.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
LOREN LEGARDA

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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1 Section 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8759, otherwise known as the 'Public  
2 *Employment Service Office Act of 1999*', as amended by Republic Act No. 10691, is  
3 hereby further amended to read as follows:

4 "SEC. 3. *Establishment of the Public Employment AND*  
5 *ENTREPRENEURSHIP Service Office AND THE BARANGAY*  
6 *EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP OFFICE.* - To carry out  
7 the above declared policy, there shall be established in all provinces,  
8 cities, and municipalities a Public Employment AND  
9 ENTREPRENEURSHIP Service Office, hereinafter referred to as  
10 'PEESO'.

11 TO SUPPORT THE PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL PEESO, A  
12 BARANGAY EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP OFFICE,

1           HEREIN REFERRED TO AS 'BEESO', SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN  
2           ALL BARANGAYS NATIONWIDE. THE BEESO SHALL EXTEND THE  
3           REACH OF THE MUNICIPAL PEESO TO THE RURAL AREAS  
4           WHERE THE BULK OF EMPLOYMENT MODE IS NOT WAGE-BASED  
5           BUT BASED ON SELF-EMPLOYMENT AND AVAILMENT OF  
6           LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES. THE CREATION OF THE BEESO  
7           SEEKS TO HELP IMPROVE THE ACCESS OF THE RURAL  
8           WORKFORCE TO EMPLOYMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
9           SERVICES.

10           THE PEESO AND THE BEESO shall be operated and maintained  
11           by local government units (LGUs). The PEESOs AND THE BEESOs shall  
12           be linked to the regional offices of the Department of Labor and  
13           Employment (DOLE) for coordination and technical supervision, and to  
14           the DOLE central office, to constitute the national public employment  
15           AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP service network.

16           The PEESO OR BEESO, AS THE CASE MAY BE, shall be under  
17           the office of the governor, city municipal mayor, and barangay  
18           chairman. The PEESO OR BEESO, AS THE CASE MAY BE, shall be  
19           initially organized by and composed of a PEESO OR BEESO manager  
20           and may be assisted by a labor and employment officer (LEO) as may be  
21           determined by the LGU.

22           Upon the request of accredited Non-Governmental  
23           Organizations (NGOs) or Educational Institutions (EIs), the DOLE may  
24           enter into a Memorandum of Agreement for the NGO and EI to  
25           establish, operate and maintain a PEESO AND BEESO and a job  
26           placement office, respectively.

27           To harmonize the provision of employment AND  
28           ENTREPRENEURSHIP services in a given territorial jurisdiction, the  
29           PEESO AND BEESO at the NGOs and the job placement office in EIs  
30           shall coordinate their activities with the appropriate LGU PEESO OR  
31           BEESO, AS THE CASE MAYBE."



1           Sec. 2. Section 4 of RA 8759, as amended by RA 10691, is hereby  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           “SEC. 4. *Objectives of the PEESO AND BEESO.* - In general, the  
4 PEESO AND BEESO shall ensure the prompt, timely, and efficient  
5 delivery of employment AND ENTREPRENEURIAL services and  
6 provision of information on the other DOLE programs.

7 Specifically, the PEESO/BEESO shall:

- 8           (a) Provide a venue where people could explore simultaneously  
9           various wage employment AND ENTREPRENEURIAL option  
10           and [actually] seek the assistance they prefer;
- 11           (b) Serve as referral and information center for the various services  
12           and programs of DOLE and other government agencies present  
13           in the area;
- 14           (c) Provide clients with adequate information on  
15           ENTREPRENEURSHIP, employment, and labor market situation  
16           in the area;
- 17           (d) Network with other PEESOs AND BEESOs within the region on  
18           employment for job exchange purposes[.] AND WITH OTHER  
19           GOVERNMENT, NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AS WELL  
20           AS WITH THE PRIVATE AND BUSINESS SECTORS FOR  
21           INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND ENTREPRENEURIAL  
22           OPPORTUNITIES.”

23           Sec. 3. Section 5 of RA 8759, as amended by RA 10691, is hereby further  
24 amended to read as follows:

25           “SEC. 5. *Functions of the PEESO AND BEESO.* The PEESO and  
26 BEESO shall have the following functions:

- 27           (a) Encourage employers to REGULARLY submit to the PEESO  
28           AND BEESO [on a regular basis] a list of job vacancies in their  
29           respective establishments in order to facilitate the exchange of  
30           labor market information between job seekers and employers by  
31           providing employment information services to job seekers, both

1 for local and overseas employment, and recruitment assistance to  
2 employers;

3 (b) Develop and administer testing and evaluation instruments for  
4 effective job selection, training, and counselling;

5 (c) SERVE AS VENUE FOR CONVERGENCE BY THE  
6 APPROPRIATE AGENCIES TO [P]provide persons with  
7 [qualities] ENTREPRENEURSHIP ENHANCEMENT  
8 INTERVENTIONS, access to the various livelihood and self-  
9 employment and information programs offered by both  
10 government and non-governmental organizations at the  
11 provincial, city, municipal, and barangay levels by undertaking  
12 referrals for such program;

13 (d) Undertake employability enhancement training[s] or seminars  
14 for job seekers, as well as those who would like to change careers  
15 or enhance their employability;

16 (e) Provide employment or occupational counseling, career  
17 guidance, mass motivation, and values development activities;

18 (f) Conduct pre-employment counseling and orientation to  
19 prospective local and, most especially, overseas workers;

20 (g) Provide reintegration assistance services to returning Filipino  
21 migrant workers;

22 (h) Prepare and submit to the local Sanggunian an annual  
23 employment FACILITATION plan and budget including other  
24 regular funding sources and budgetary support of the PEESO  
25 AND THE BEESO; [and]

26 (i) REFER JOB APPLICANTS WHO MAY NEED FURTHER  
27 TRAINING OR RETRAINING TO THE TECHNICAL  
28 EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
29 (TESDA) COMMUNITY TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT  
30 COORDINATOR (CTEC) AND OTHER TRAINING OR  
31 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS; AND,

1 (j) "Perform such functions as to fully carry out the objectives of this  
2 Act."

3 Sec. 4. Section 6 of RA 8759, as amended by RA 10691, is hereby further  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "SEC. 6. *Other Services of the PEESO AND BEESO.* - In addition to  
6 the functions enumerated in the preceding section, THE PROVINCIAL  
7 PEESO SHALL CONDUCT PERIODIC JOB CLEARANCE MEETINGS  
8 WITH ALL THE MUNICIPAL AND CITY PEESOS WITHIN ITS AREA  
9 OF JURISDICTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELIMINATING  
10 DUPLICATIONS IN ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORTING TO THE  
11 DOLE AND THE LGUS. THE MUNICIPAL PEESO SHALL LIKEWISE  
12 EXERCISE THE ABOVE FUNCTION IN RELATION TO THE BEESOS.  
13 MOREOVER, every PEESO AND BEESO shall undertake holistic  
14 strategies, programs, and activities to transform the PEESO AND  
15 BEESO into a modern public employment AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP  
16 service intermediary that provides multi-dimensional employment and  
17 entrepreneurship facilitation services."

18 Sec. 5. Section 7 of RA 8759, as amended by RA 10691, is hereby further  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 "SEC. 7. *Role of the DOLE and the LGUs.* - The LGUs, in  
21 coordination with the DOLE, shall establish the PEESO AND BEESO.

22 It shall be the responsibility of the DOLE to:

- 23 (a) Provide technical supervision, coordination, and capacity  
24 building to the PEESO AND BEESO;
- 25 (b) Establish and maintain AN UPDATED computerized human  
26 resource and job registries to facilitate the provision and  
27 packaging of employment assistance to PEESO AND BEESO  
28 clients and the setting-up of intra- and inter[regional]-  
29 GEOGRAPHICAL job clearance systems as part of the overall  
30 employment network;
- 31 (c) Provide technical assistance and allied support services to the  
32 PEESO AND BEESO including, but not limited to, the training of

- 1 PEESO AND BEESO personnel in the various aspects of  
2 employment AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP facilitation functions;  
3 (d) Set standards for the establishment and operation of the PEESO  
4 AND BEESO office and qualification standards for the PEESO  
5 AND BEESO personnel;  
6 (e) Extend other packages of employment AND  
7 ENTREPRENEURSHIP services to the LGU, NGO or EI  
8 concerned, including the conduct of job fairs, career development  
9 seminars, ENTREPRENEURSHIP INTERVENTIONS, and other  
10 activities; and  
11 (f) Monitor, assess, and evaluate the performance of the PEESO AND  
12 BEESO, including the job placement offices in Els.

13 For their part, persons who are seeking employment, particularly  
14 the unemployed, shall register at the PEESO/BEESO for employment  
15 AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP facilitation assistance. The establishments,  
16 on the other hand, shall submit their job vacancies as well as applicants  
17 hired to the PEESO AND BEESO to ensure the availability of accurate  
18 information on supply and demand situation for various  
19 OCCUPATIONS AS WELL as skills in the labor market.

20 The LGU shall establish a monitoring system wherein  
21 establishments operating in the locality shall report the following  
22 relevant labor market information to the concerned office of the LGU:

- 23 (a) Present number and nature of jobs[;], SELF-EMPLOYMENT,  
24 LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES; and,  
25 (b) Projection of jobs that the establishment will provide or offer in  
26 the next five (5) years;

27 PROVIDED THAT, [T]the information shall be submitted to the  
28 PEESO AND BEESO for job matching and to Els for career guidance of  
29 the students.

30 PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, [I]it shall be the responsibility of  
31 the concerned LGU to:

- 32 (i) Operate and maintain the PEESO AND BEESO;



- 1 (ii) Ensure compliance with the operational standards set by the  
2 DOLE;
- 3 (iii) Extend such assistance and services as may be necessary in the  
4 promotion of employment AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP within  
5 the area of jurisdiction; and,
- 6 (iv) Submit to the DOLE periodic performance and accomplishment  
7 reports.”

8 Sec. 6. Section 8 of RA 8759, as amended by RA 10691, is hereby amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 SEC. 8. *Administration of the PEESO AND BEESO Program.* - The  
11 DOLE shall be primarily responsible for the administration of the  
12 PEESO AND BEESO Program through its Bureau of Local Employment,  
13 as well as its regional offices throughout the country. The Secretary of  
14 Labor and Employment, in coordination with the Department of the  
15 Interior and Local Government and in consultation with the presidents  
16 of the various local government leagues, namely the League of  
17 Provinces, the League of Cities, the League of Municipalities, and the  
18 League of Barangays, AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE  
19 DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, DEPARTMENT OF  
20 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND SUCH OTHER GOVERNMENT  
21 AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES WHICH OFFER  
22 PROGRAMS ON EMPLOYMENT, LIVELIHOOD, AND  
23 ENTREPRENEURSHIP, shall accordingly promulgate, within ninety  
24 (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the necessary rules and  
25 regulations for the effective implementation of the [Program] ACT.”

26 Sec. 7. Section 9 of RA 8759, as amended by RA 10691, is hereby further  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 “SEC. 9. *Funding.* - The funding for the operation and  
29 maintenance of the PEESO AND BEESO shall be provided by the LGU  
30 from its internal revenue allotment and other internally generated  
31 income of the LGU concerned. Likewise, the operation and maintenance

1 of the NGO PEESO AND BEESO and job placement offices of Els shall  
2 be charged against their internally generated income.

3 Funds for the provision of technical assistance, training, and  
4 supervision of the PESO shall be included in the budget of the DOLE in  
5 the annual General Appropriations Act.

6 The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act  
7 shall be included by the Department of Budget and Management in the  
8 annual General Appropriations Act.”

9 *Sec. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Secretary of Labor and  
10 Employment shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective  
11 implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days after its effectivity.

12 *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any section or provision of this  
13 Act or any part thereof, or the application of such section, provision or portion is  
14 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder thereof shall not be affected by  
15 such declaration.

16 *Sec. 10. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations,  
17 rules and regulations or any part thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions  
18 of this Act, are hereby deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

19 *Sec. 11. Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from the  
20 date of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of  
21 general circulation.

Approved,