




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

23 MAY -3 A11 :42

RECEIVED BY: 

**SENATE**  
**S. No. 2115**

Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**  
**AUTHORITY TO INSTITUTIONALIZE A TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION**  
**AND TRAINING AND LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR**  
**REHABILITATED DRUG DEPENDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drug Act of 2002 declares it a policy of the State to "provide effective mechanisms or measures to reintegrate into society individuals who have fallen victims to drug abuse or dangerous drug dependence through sustainable programs of treatment and rehabilitation." Pursuant to this policy, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) has implemented "aftercare and follow-up programs" aimed at providing skills training and ensuring the long-term recovery of drug dependents.

As per consolidated reports from TESDA's regional offices, in 2017, 13,258 drug dependents benefitted from TESDA's Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and livelihood program.<sup>1</sup> According to TESDA, in 2021, 8,730 former drug dependents were awarded scholarships, with 8,257 of them successfully completing various courses initiated by the program. The success of TESDA's TVET and livelihood

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.tesda.gov.ph/Media/NewsDetail/17686>

program underscores the significance of providing opportunities and support for individuals to rebuild their lives after struggling with drug addiction.

This bill aims to institutionalize the program to ensure that this life-changing program can be sustainably implemented and effectively reach and support its target beneficiaries. This proposed measure also seeks to integrate other agencies like the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) to help achieve the goal of providing a more sustainable rehabilitation and reformation in our criminal justice system.

Institutionalizing the provision of TVET and livelihood programs designed for rehabilitated drug dependents can be a valuable component of their recovery journey, enabling them to rebuild their lives, remain engaged in the community, and find meaningful employment. Additionally, it can help promote a more inclusive and compassionate society where everyone has the opportunity to succeed and thrive. Such initiatives are essential for promoting social and economic development, reducing recidivism, and addressing the root causes of drug addiction in the country.

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



**SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO**

23 MAY -3 A11 :42

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

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. No. 2115

---

Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

---

**AN ACT**

**MANDATING THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO INSTITUTIONALIZE A TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR REHABILITATED DRUG DEPENDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** *TVET and Livelihood Program.* - The Technical Education and Skills  
2 Development Authority (TESDA), in coordination with the Department of Labor and  
3 Employment (DOLE), shall develop technical-vocational education and training (TVET)  
4 and livelihood programs designed specifically for rehabilitated drug dependents. The  
5 TVET and livelihood programs shall focus on competitive and employable skills that can  
6 be acquired and developed by rehabilitated drug dependents to further enhance their  
7 ability to find gainful employment and entrepreneurial livelihood opportunities.

8           The DOLE shall provide incentives to companies which shall employ rehabilitated  
9 drug dependents who have undergone the TVET and livelihood programs mandated  
10 under this Act.

1           **SEC. 2. Appropriations.** - The Director General of TESDA shall immediately  
2 include in the Authority's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which  
3 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

4           **SEC 3. Separability Clause.** - Any portion or provision of this Act that is declared  
5 unconstitutional shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions  
6 hereof as long as such remaining portions can still subsist and be given effect in their  
7 entirety.

8           **SEC 4. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, other  
9 issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or  
10 modified accordingly.

11           **SEC 5. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
12 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*