



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Batasan Hills, Quezon City



Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5177

Introduced by: Representative Florencio Gabriel G. Noel

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE SKILLS CERTIFICATE
EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM (SCEP) OF THE CIVIL SERVICE
COMMISSION (CSC) AND THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 1080 or the Act Declaring the Bar and Board Examinations as Civil Service Examinations provides that civil service eligibility shall be issued to successful passers of the board and bar examinations and be considered as equivalent to the first-grade regular examination given by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Additionally, CSC Resolution No. 90-083 or the Electronic Data Processing Eligibility, specifies that passers of the proficiency test and training courses conducted by the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall also grant civil service eligibility.

Accordingly, this bill seeks to institutionalize the Skills Certificate Equivalency Program to allow technical and vocational graduates to have civil service eligibility, similar to the privilege granted by the regulations mentioned above. This bill shall provide an equal opportunity to individuals of certain trades and crafts positions to enter in the civil service and obtain security of tenure and retirement benefits.

CSC Resolution No. 072244 or the Grant of Eligibility; Revised Schedule of Skills Tests and Civil Service Eligibilities; Skills Certificate Equivalency Program (SCEP), provides that merit and fitness of individuals for trades and crafts positions in government cannot be determined through the regular tests given by the CSC because of the uniqueness of the skills and competencies involved in these positions. This matter governed the Technical Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and CSC to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) adopting the SCEP under which TESDA shall provide the test facility to gauge prospective appointees' fitness/capability in certain trades and crafts positions. TESDA's Philippine Technical and Vocational Educational Training Competency Assessment and Certification System (PTCACS) which is a quality-assured system, determines the qualification level of a person and assess an individual's skills, knowledge, attitude and work values relative to a unit or cluster of units of competency. Passers of the said skills tests shall be provided with a TESDA National Certificate (NC) or Certificate of Competency (COC) which under the SCEP, shall be convertible to an equivalent civil service eligibility.

This bill shall promote technical and vocational Filipino workers by way of improving their lives through better work opportunities and inclusive job growth. This shall also encourage advancement in their level of competence and enhance their area of expertise with the constant updating of competency standards and assessment tools.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



FLORENCIO GABRIEL G. NOEL
An Waray Party-list Representative



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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 “Skills Certificate Equivalency Program Act”.

SEC 2. Declaration of Policy. - The Constitution provides that appointments in the civil service shall be made only according to merit and fitness. Towards this end, it is hereby declared the policy of the state to institutionalize and enhance the Skills Certificate Equivalency Program (SCEP), and to give equal opportunity to certified technical-vocational education and training (TVET) graduates to enter the civil service, uplift the dignity of middle skill workers, and improve the image of technical and vocational education in the country.

SEC 3. Skills Certificate Equivalency Program. – There shall be established a Skills Certificate Equivalency Program (herein after referred to as, the Program), which shall grant civil service eligibility to holders of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) National Certificates (NCs).

The Program shall involve the issuance of NCs to individuals who shall successfully demonstrate the required competence in specific qualifications. For this purpose, an NC shall be provided equivalent civil service eligibility by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

SEC 4. Coverage. – The benefit under this Act shall apply to those currently working in the government or seeking entrance into the civil service for positions requiring eligibility thru an appropriate TESDA-issued NC.

SEC 5. Identification of Positions with Qualification Standards Requiring Eligibility Through TESDA-Issued National Certificates. – The CSC and TESDA, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall identify and regularly update the qualification standards requiring eligibility through an appropriate TESDA-issued NC, taking into account the changing requirements of the workplace and the needs of the government in ensuring the delivery of efficient and effective service to the public; *Provided*, That the NC remains in the roster of promulgated national qualifications of TESDA: *Provided, further*, That the grant of civil service eligibility shall be based on an unexpired NC.

SEC 6. Application for and Award of Eligibility. – Any holder of TESDA-issued NC shall file the application for civil service eligibility at any office of the CSC. For this purpose, the CSC shall ensure that there are designated personnel at its field offices nationwide who shall be responsible for the conversion of TESDA-issued NCs to appropriate civil service eligibilities.

SEC 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The CSC and the TESDA shall jointly issue the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC 8. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, memoranda, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC 9. Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC 10. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,