

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

2377
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



Introduced by Representative Florida P. Robes

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It cannot be argued that manpower resources play an integral part in the economic and social prosperity of a country. As human resource is considered as the country's strong economic foothold, the government must ensure that efficient plans and programs are properly instituted to develop and utilize the country's manpower. In fact, it has been stressed in many economic forum that human capital development is the country's "top strategy for economic growth. That is why there is a need to empower our people to make them competitive in the international labor market while ensuring that the labor force is protected from abuses. However, our country is weak in terms of harnessing the economic potential of our labor force. According to the 2016 Human Capital Index developed by the World Economic Forum, the Philippines ranked 49th out of 130 countries.

If our country would decide to invest on human capital, there must be institutional mechanisms that will develop and strengthen the labor force. Several studies delving with manpower development have concluded that quality education and proper training will open to better employment opportunities, greater earnings, and produce more output than those who are less educated. With this, our government shall invest on the development of human labor by equipping them with knowledge and skills that improve their employability and productive capacities. At present, only private manpower development agencies are doing this. Sometimes, many of our people who are sent abroad as skilled workers lack the necessary education as their credentials are fabricated. Due to this, they are either sent back home or face discrimination and abuse.

This proposed piece of legislation seeks to establish a manpower development center to be known as San Jose Del Monte Manpower Development Center. Unlike the training centers operated and accredited by the Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Center will aim to provide a systematic method of determining the needs of individuals to ensure continuous practice of promoting personnel progress of

skills and ability through modular trainings which include skills training, personality development, career counselling, job placements and financial management seminars. TESDA Centers can only offer basic trainings for certification purposes. The vision of the subject matter of this proposal is beyond basic trainings and certification-it is labor force empowerment.

Finally, the establishment of this manpower development center is suitable to the City of San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan which is a home of thousands of relocatees. The Center will be instrumental in enhancing and strengthening the residents' competencies to meet current and future employments, not just for overseas but also for local employment.

Considering the rationale stated above, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.



FLORENDA P. ROBES

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HOUSE BILL NO. **2377**

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) MANPOWER
DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTER IN THE LONE LEGISLATIVE
DISTRICT OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY, PROVINCE OF
BULACAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY
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:

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "San Jose Del Monte City TESDA Training and Assessment Center Act".

SEC. 2. *Establishment.* - There is hereby established a Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center in a highly accessible area in San Jose Del Monte City, Province of Bulacan, under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the San Jose Del Monte City TESDA Training and Assessment Center.

SEC. 3. *General Mandate.* - The San Jose Del Monte City TESDA Training and Assessment Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational training and skills development programs to students and residents from low-income families and out-of-school youths, including college dropouts and persons with disabilities in San Jose del Monte City and neighboring communities in the Province of Bulacan, geared towards the acquisition of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment and entrepreneurship.

The Center shall help train local residents to become productive, self-reliant and globally competitive middle to high-level skilled labor force to hasten the social and economic development of these areas, in particular and to meet the manpower needs both local and international labor markets, in general. The Center shall consider in the design of relevant technical-vocational training programs to be offered thereat a competency assessment of the socioeconomic profile, employment conditions and opportunities, business climate, market industry potentials, resources available and presence of support structures, including the literacy level and skills readiness, and the overall development needs of the host area and adjacent communities within the operational radius of the Center established herein. The Center shall also consider the relevant skills trade competencies, craftsmanship training programs, and entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective employment and development interventions required to make these areas as human resources and productivity hubs.

The center shall also serve as a TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired competencies in technical-vocational skills in San Jose Del Monte City and other municipalities of the Province of Bulacan.

Preference in admission, however, shall be given to the most disadvantaged citizens, including persons with disabilities, and to the most economically depressed areas of San Jose Del Monte City, Province of Bulacan, within the operational radius of the Center.

The Center shall, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the TESDA, render relevant teachers' training assistance and curriculum design to the secondary schools offering technical-vocational livelihood (TVL) track under the K-to-12 Program of the DepEd in San Jose Del Monte City, and the other municipalities in the Province of Bulacan.

SEC. 4. *Training Programs.* - The Center shall offer diverse short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in relevant technical-vocational skills and trades specialization to comply with employment standards in preferred market-driven labor opportunities, but shall likewise give premium efforts to skills specialization for local market employment requirements geared towards achieving the development of a robust inclusive economy within the host area and each of the adjacent localities and communities within the operational radius of the Center, in

consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies, both local and international.

The Center may establish, as deemed necessary and practicable, research and technology hubs, mobile training programs, and satellite or extension training centers in priority areas throughout San Jose Del Monte City within the service radius of the Center to strengthen linkages among the industry, the academe and the technology programs thereat.

To address the development and manpower needs of San Jose Del Monte City and the other adjacent localities of the Province of Bulacan, the Center shall offer the following TESDA-registered technical-vocational training programs with competencies assessment leading to National Certification Levels I-III:

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

(b) Agriculture-related trainings and farm skills development in such areas as farming technology and farm operations, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farm tools and equipment operations, agribusiness and agri-trade technology and innovations, and relevant farmers' trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;

(c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-scale entrepreneurship (including practical skills education in crafts and arts), workmanship and designing (such as fabric, woodworks, jewelry and metal works), high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, agriculture and farm technology, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking (such as baking), beauty culture (including cosmetology and hair and nail styling), and health and wellness training;

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

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

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

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

(g) Social communication skills development, language proficiency courses in English and other language for business process outsourcing (call center) employment and overseas job placement;

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

(i) Other preferred priority skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of San Jose Del Monte City and other areas in the Province of Bulacan to enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurship skills.

SEC. 5. *Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* – The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the Center established herein shall become operationally effective only upon the determination and declaration of the TESDA, through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance, that the Center has satisfactorily complied with the minimum requirements for quality standards prescribed by the TESDA governing the following competency assessment:

(a) standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the establishment and operation of a Center;

(b) operational sustainability of the Center established herein, in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard requirements as a Center;

(c) sustainable funding source and allocation of budget requirement of the

Center herein established; (d) assurance that the training programs offered are fully aligned with the minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the host area and adjacent communities served in the context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and Philippine Qualification Framework (PQF) for technical-vocational education; and

(e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards in establishing a Center as may be necessary and applicable.

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

The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall be appointed by the TESDA Director General in accordance with civil service rules and regulations and the qualification requirements for such office.

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

SEC. 7. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act, and its continued implementation thereafter, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The concerned local government unit (LGU), in consultation with the TESDA, shall likewise set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the San Jose Del Monte City TESDA Training and Assessment Center established herein.

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

SEC. 9. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any provision of this Act shall

be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and shall thereby remain in force and effect.

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

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

Approved,