

Mabalacat is classified as an urban city in the First District of Pampanga. Politically, Mabalacat City is bounded by Bamban, Tarlac on the north, Porac-Zambales on the west, by Angeles City on the south, and the town of Magalang on the west. It has a total land area of 165.8kms - more than double to that of the land area of neighboring Angeles City. Roughly four-fifths of the land area of the

former Clark Air Base belongs to Mabalacat City whose boundary extends up to the Zambales ranges.

On June 15, 1991, Mount Pinatubo erupted and left the then Municipality of Mabalacat covered with volcanic ash and other pyroclastic debris destroying acres of farmlands, crops and livestock. The pulled-out US troops from Clark Air Base had left thousands of residents jobless instantly. The business in the area started to collapse particularly those establishments depending on the American servicemen and their dependents. Thousands of houses including schools and churches were also buried by ashes. And today, twenty-five years after the dreadful tragedy, Mabalacat is now a component city of the Province of Pampanga.

Tragedies and calamities like these make it important to prepare the people in Mabalacat City to know how to rise up and help themselves to survive productively when confronted with difficult situations in the future. Hence, the establishment of an accessible, high quality and efficient education and skills development training will be beneficial to the people of the City and will also equip them with basic practical knowledge and technical expertise geared towards a society that will be self-reliant and productive even in times of natural calamities and disasters. The establishment of a TESDA training and accreditation center in Mabalacat City will uplift the morale of the people in the City and its neighboring

municipalities by way of possible employment and livelihood opportunities that will further improve their quality of life.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is highly and earnestly recommended.


CARMELO B. LAZATIN II

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3631

Introduced by Honorable Carmelo B. Lazatin II

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TECHNICAL
EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)
TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION CENTER MABALACAT CITY,
PAMPANGA 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
“Mabalacat City TESDA Training and Accreditation Center Act”.

SEC. 2. *Establishment.* – There is hereby established the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Accreditation Center in the City of Mabalacat, Pampanga under the supervision of the TESDA, hereinafter referred to as the Training and Accreditation Center.

SEC. 3. *General Mandate.*– The Training and Accreditation Center shall primarily provide technical and vocational training and skills development programs to low-income families and out-of-school youth in the City of Mabalacat to make them productive, as well as to help them develop into middle-level skilled manpower, so as to hasten the social development of the City and to meet the

needs of both local and international markets. It shall also serve as the assessment center for technical and vocational skills in the City.

SEC. 4. *Curriculum Offerings.*– The Training and Accreditation Center shall offer short-term technical –vocational certificate courses within its areas of specialization.

SEC. 5. *Administration.* – The Training and Accreditation Center shall be headed by a Technical Vocational Administrator under the supervision of The TESDA.

SEC. 6. *Appropriations.* – The Director General of the TESDA shall include in the TESDA's program the establishment of the Mabalacat City TESDA Training and Accreditation Center, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The city government of Mabalacat City shall also set aside funds from any available local revenues in an amount deemed appropriate by the city officials concerned as subsidy for the operationalization of the Training and Accreditation Center.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The TESDA, in coordination with the Department of Trade and Industry, shall formulate and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts pr provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity Clause.*– This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,