



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2228



Introduced by **Representative Francisco Jose F. Matugas II**


EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill, which was approved by the House of Representatives on Third Reading during the 17th Congress, and transmitted to the Senate on 30 August 2018, seeks to establish the Siargao, Surigao del Norte TESDA Training Center in the Municipality of Dapa, Surigao del Norte.

In 2018 Siargao was named as the Best Island in Asia by Condé Nast Traveler. It received a total of around 163,000 local and foreign tourists in the first half of 2018 alone.

The influx of tourists in the island, and the consequent development, necessitates the establishment of a training center to equip its residents with the skills necessary in entrepreneurship and other forms of trade and industry. By properly training them, they will also learn about self-reliance, commitment and participation in community-oriented projects. This will also be a good avenue to equitably distribute opportunities, income and wealth as well as expand productivity and sustain the increase in the production of goods and services that will enhance the quality of life, especially of those belonging to the underprivileged sector in the community.

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


FRANCISCO JOSE F. MATUGAS II
Surigao del Norte, First District
(Siargao Island)



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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MANPOWER LIVELIHOOD AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DAPA, SIARGAO ISLAND, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE SIARGAO, SURIGAO DEL NORTE TESDA TRAINING CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Siargao,
2 Surigao del Norte TESDA Training Center Act.”

3 SEC. 2. *Establishment.* – There is hereby established a Manpower
4 Livelihood and Skills Development Center in the Municipality of Dapa, Siargao
5 Island, Province of Surigao del Norte, under the supervision of the Technical
6 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) to be known as the
7 Siargao, Surigao del Norte TESDA Training Center. It shall be established in a
8 highly accessible location in the Municipality of Dapa, Siargao Island, Province
9 of Surigao del Norte, pursuant to the purposes of this Act and to the mutual
10 agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local government units
11 (LGUs).

12 SEC. 3. *General Mandate.* – The Siargao, Surigao del Norte TESDA
13 Training Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, shall primarily provide
14 relevant, and quality technical and vocational education and training (TVET)

1 including practical short-term specialty courses and one (1)-year to three (3)-year
2 TESDA-registered technical-vocational skills training programs and certificate
3 courses, to out-of-school youth, high school students and graduates,
4 underemployed adults, other workers in the informal sector, and residents from
5 low-income families, including persons with disabilities, in the Municipality of
6 Dapa, Siargao Island, and the neighboring towns and localities of the Province of
7 Surigao del Norte, to help them become productive, self-reliant and globally
8 competitive. The Center shall also aim to meet the maximum competency
9 requirements under Level V of the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF),
10 as institutionalized by Republic Act No. 10968 ("PQF Act"), which is the Diploma
11 Level in technical-vocational education.

12 The Center shall help the students and citizens in the Municipality of
13 Dapa, Siargao Island, and the adjacent areas and localities in the Province of
14 Surigao del Norte become productive, self-reliant and to be developed into
15 globally competitive middle to high-level skilled labor force to hasten the social
16 and economic development of these areas and of the entire province, and the
17 whole of CARAGA Region, as well as enable the trained local residents to meet
18 the manpower needs of both local and international labor markets.

19 The Center shall design and offer technical-vocational training programs
20 for the nine (9) municipalities of Siargao and Bucas Grande Islands by taking
21 into account the socioeconomic profile, literacy, employment conditions, market
22 and industry potentials, and skills competencies of the residents of the host
23 island area and neighboring municipalities and communities served within the
24 operational radius of the Center.

25 The Center shall also serve as TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for
26 acquired competencies in technical-vocational skills in the entire Siargao Island
27 and its neighboring towns and communities in the Province of Surigao del Norte.

28 As deemed necessary and practicable, and in coordination with the
29 Department of Education (DepEd) and TESDA, the Center shall render relevant
30 teacher's training assistance and curriculum design to the secondary schools
31 offering technical-vocational livelihood (TVL) track under the K to 12 Program of
32 the DepEd in the communities and areas in the Province of Surigao del Norte.

1 SEC. 4. *Curricular Offering/Training Programs.* – The Center, in
2 consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the
3 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of Agriculture (DA),
4 the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the National
5 Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and
6 such other relevant agencies, both local and international, shall offer diverse
7 short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in relevant technical-
8 vocational skills and trades specialization to comply with employment standards
9 in preferred market-driven labor opportunities, but shall likewise give premium
10 effort to skills for local market employment requirements geared towards
11 achieving the development needs for a robust inclusive economy of the host area
12 and the adjacent localities within the operational radius of the Center.

13 The Center may establish research and technology hubs, mobile training
14 programs, and satellite or extension training centers in priority areas throughout
15 Siargao and Bucas Grande Islands, and the other adjacent localities and
16 communities of the Province of Surigao del Norte not only to serve the manpower
17 needs of these areas, but also to strengthen the linkages between the industry,
18 the academe, and the Center.

19 The Center shall, as far as necessary and practicable, offer the following
20 TESDA-registered technical-vocational training programs with competencies
21 assessment leading to National Certification Levels I-III, as applicable, to
22 address the development and manpower needs of Siargao and Bucas Grande
23 Islands, and the other municipalities of the province of Surigao del Norte to
24 increase the livelihood assets and competitive productivity of the host locality
25 and the entire Province of Surigao del Norte:

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

31 (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related training and skills
32 development in such areas, but not limited to, farming- fishing operations

1 (c) technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and
2 propagation innovations, mechanized farm and fishing tools and equipment
3 operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations, and
4 relevant farmers and fisherfolk continuing training for increased productivity
5 and entrepreneurship;

6 (d) Social communication skills development, language proficiency
7 courses in English and other languages for business outsourcing (call center)
8 employment and overseas job placement;

9 (e) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills
10 employment and small scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills
11 education in crafts and arts, workmanship and designing (fabric, woodworks,
12 jewelry and metal works), horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food
13 processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking,
14 including baking, beauty culture (includes cosmetology, hair & nail styling),
15 health and wellness trainings;

16 (f) Basic business literacy training in financial management and
17 marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedures, business
18 processes and application procedures including registration, licensing,
19 documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation, business
20 financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation,
21 including online home-based business operation and use of social media business
22 marketing;

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

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

30 (i) Seminars in personality development, career counseling and job
31 placements, work ethics and values; and

1 (j) Other preferred priority skills and trades training that may be
2 needed by the people of the Municipality of Dapa and relevant as well to the
3 needs of the other areas in the Siargao Island, and the entire Province of Surigao
4 del Norte to enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment
5 and entrepreneurship skills.

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

12 (a) standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the establishment
13 and operation of a TESDA-accredited training center; b) operational
14 sustainability of the Center established herein, in terms of licensed faculty-
15 trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities,
16 instructional materials, and other standard requirements as TESDA-accredited
17 Center; c) sustainable funding source and allocation of budget requirement of the
18 Center hereto established; d) assurance that the training programs offered are
19 fully aligned with the minimum standards of competency-based quality
20 technical-vocational skills technology and needs of the host area and adjacent
21 communities within the service area of the Center; e) program alignment in the
22 context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and PQF for
23 TVET; and f) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards
24 as may be necessary and applicable in establishing a TESDA-accredited training
25 center.

26 SEC. 6. *Administration.* - The Center shall be headed by a Technical-
27 Vocational Administrator, who shall be appointed by the TESDA Director-
28 General in accordance with civil service rules and regulations and the
29 qualification requirements for such office.

30 The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall render full-time services
31 and shall be responsible for the administration and operation of the Center. As
32 far as necessary and practicable, and subject to existing procedures and to the

1 approval of the TESDA Director-General, the Technical-Vocational
2 Administrator shall enter into mutual agreements with local-based counterpart
3 agencies, or instrumentalities and persons, both private and government, for
4 such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

5 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* - The Director General of TESDA shall include in
6 the Authority's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which
7 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGU concerned,
8 in consultation with TESDA, shall likewise set aside from any available local
9 revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support
10 the operation of the Center established herein.

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

17 SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any section of this Act
18 shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions
19 hereof shall not be affected and shall thereby remain in force and in affect.

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

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

25 *Approved.*