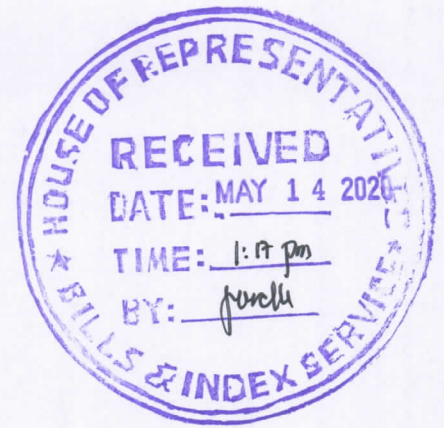


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6736



Introduced by Representatives Ria Christina G. Fariñas
and Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create the Ilocos Norte TESDA Training and Assessment Center in the Municipality of Piddig, Province of Ilocos Norte which aims to provide technical-vocational training programs to the constituents of the Municipality of Piddig and its adjacent localities with the end goal of developing and enhancing their skills.

In virtue of Republic Act No. 7796 or the "Technical Education and Skills Development Act of 1994," TESDA is mandated to manage and supervise technical education and skills development in the Philippines. Since its establishment, it has offered relevant programs and trainings with the goal of transforming the Filipino workforce to self-reliant and productive citizens. It continues to equip them with life-long learning and skills necessary for their future endeavors.

With the establishment of an accessible TESDA Training and Assessment Center in the Province of Ilocos Norte, it will serve a total of 21 municipalities and 2 cities. The programs and trainings will not only be beneficial to students of Grades 11 and 12 but to any interested individual who desires to develop and enhance their skills for their own development and future possible labor opportunities. Technical and vocational education is proven to be substantial in all labor aspects as they are also the building blocks of economic development. Especially now with the rapid developments in the Province of Ilocos Norte, it is more than substantial to establish a TESDA Training and Assessment Center that is par with international standards and boost the socio-economic status of its citizens.


RIA CHRISTINA G. FARIÑAS


RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)
TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PIDDIG, PROVINCE OF
ILOCOS NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS ILOCOS NORTE 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 "Ilocos Norte 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 the Municipality of Piddig, Province of Ilocos Norte, under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the Ilocos Norte TESDA Training and Assessment Center. It shall be established in a highly accessible location in the first legislative district of Ilocos Norte, pursuant of this Act and to the mutual agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local government units (LGUs).

Sec. 3. General Mandate. – The Ilocos Norte TESDA Training and Assessment Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational education and training (TVET) programs to students, local residents from low-income families, and out-of-school youths, including persons with disabilities and indigenous

peoples, in the Municipality of Piddig and neighboring municipalities of the Province of Ilocos Norte, to help them become productive, self-reliant and globally competitive labor assets.

The Center shall offer training programs on relevant skills trade competencies, craftsmanship, and entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective employment interventions that will hasten the development of the host area and adjacent localities in the Province of Ilocos Norte into human resource and productive hubs.

The Center shall also serve as TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired competencies in TVET programs in the Municipality of Piddig and its neighboring localities in the Province of Ilocos Norte. It shall also provide teachers' training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools offering the technical-vocational livelihood (TVL) track under the K to 12 Program in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the TESDA.

Sec. 4. Training Programs. – The Center shall offer short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills and trades specialization. To this end, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the necessary assistance to enable the Center to develop skilled manpower to achieve a robust and inclusive economy in the host area and its adjacent localities.

The Center may establish research and technology hubs, technology development farms, satellite or extension training centers, and promote mobile training programs to strengthen linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the Center geared towards the acquisition of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment, and entrepreneurship in priority areas in the Municipality of Piddig and its adjacent localities in the Province of Ilocos Norte.

The Center shall offer the following TVET programs with competencies assessment leading to National Certification Levels I-III:

- a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steelwork, 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 and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas as farming technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farm, fishing tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations, and relevant farmers and fisherfolk's trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;
- c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts, workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and wellness training;
- d) Basic business literacy training in financial management, marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping, 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, 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 and language proficiency courses in English and other languages for business process outsourcing employment and overseas job placement;

- h) Seminars on personality development, career counseling and job placement, and work ethic and values; and
- i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the Municipality of Piddig and adjacent localities of the Province of Ilocos Norte to enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial activities.

Sec. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements. – The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the Center shall become operationally effective only upon the determination and certification by 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, in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard requirements of a Center;
- c) Sustainable funding source and allocation of the budgetary requirement;
- 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) Integration and the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) for TVET; and
- e) Compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards, as may be necessary and applicable in establishing a Center.

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

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

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

Sec. 7. Appropriations. – The TESDA Director General shall include in the Authority's program the operation of the Center, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The LGUs concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the Center herein established.

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

Sec. 9. Repealing Clause. – All provisions of existing laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Sec. 10. Separability Clause. – If any portion of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions not affected thereby.

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,