

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1275

Introduced by REP. AUGUSTO BOBOY SYJUCO, Ph. D.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The attached bill seeks to establish livelihood and employment resource centers in every municipality and city of the Philippines. The centers will provide necessary knowledge, technology and training for the poor and unemployed populace geared towards the production of goods and services peculiar to a particular province or region and for employment generation for the people of the place.

Section 10, Article XIV of the Constitution declares that "The State shall give priority to research and development, invention and innovation, and their utilization, and to science and technology education, training and services.

The establishment of livelihood and employment resource centers in every municipality and city will open opportunities for the people of the rural areas to acquire knowledge and skills for livelihood that could well be integrated in the national program for industrialization and economic development.

The center will cover the production of goods that are not ordinarily included in industrial manufacturing. Among these aspects of production are furniture making, woodcarving, handicraft, garments, ceramics, pottery, ornamental products, hog raising, poultry, cattle and other agri-business activities. Support for crop protection activities, cottage and industry development and reforestation projects, are likewise necessary to give such programs added impetus for long term success.

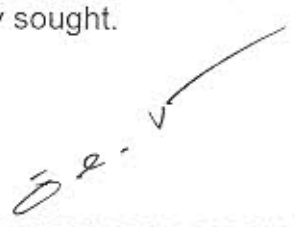
Since the key to raising the quality of life for all is an expanding productivity, the establishment of livelihood and employment resource centers will complement the struggle in the pursuit of this ideal.

Moreover, the great resources and support of the private sector have not been tapped even though it is very effective and available. What we need are centers that can reach out to the poor and unemployed in the countryside, where majority of unskilled populace reside.

Under the present circumstances, the government has encouraged foreign investment to establish industries to boost the industrialization of the country and provide employment to the growing unemployed manpower resource. Somehow the concentration towards industrialization has resulted in the failure of government to address other aspects of production that will serve the needs of the people and provide employment for the millions of unemployed or underemployed.

The livelihood and employment resource centers which shall be established throughout the country will help solve the growing unemployment problem and help produce goods and services that will meet local and international demands.

Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



AUGUSTO BOBOY SYJUCO, Ph. D.
2nd District, Province of Iloilo

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LIVELIHOOD AND EMPLOYMENT
RESOURCE CENTER IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY AND
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, in every city and municipality, a Livelihood and Employment Resource Center complete with facilities and equipment, hereinafter referred to as the Center, to be organized, managed and operated by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the local government units concerned and other government agencies.

SEC. 2. The Center shall have the following functions:

- a. To provide skills training services to develop the individual skills of residents of the municipality for employment and for small scale entrepreneurship;
- b. To provide necessary knowledge, technology and training that will cover all aspects of livelihood production such as furniture making, handicrafts, ceramics, garments, pottery, ornamental plants, décor making wood carving and agri-business production such as poultry, fishery, hog and cattle raising;
- c. To provide livelihood skills development to open opportunities for residents to engage in productive undertakings and income – generating projects either through open, sheltered or self-employment, including the development of practical skills for backyard gardening, home-based aqua culture and livestock raising, basic business management, technical-vocational occupation, among others;
- d. To provide coordination in extending government's priority support to livelihood and employment;
- e. To conduct special research relative to livelihood promotion and employment generation, in cooperation with other agencies, whether local, national or international, private or public, and to disseminate the results thereof; and
- f. To perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the city or municipal government concerned.

SEC. 3. The Center shall be the hub of production of goods for domestic consumption and eventually for export. It shall serve as model for livelihood projects.

SEC. 4. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. The city or municipality concerned shall set aside twenty-five percent (25%) out of the twenty (20%) Development Fund and make this amount available to the Center in order to provide the seed capital to livelihood projects it promotes: *Provided,* That the sum necessary to meet inadequacies in the aforementioned funding shall be charged for the appropriation of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the sum necessary for the continuous operation of the centers shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.