

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasang Pambansa, Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2879

INTRODUCED BY REP. JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create the Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute (BCTI) within the premises of the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa and Correctional Institution for Women (CIW) in Mandaluyong City.

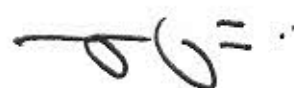
The proposed BCTI shall provide relevant and high-quality programs in skills development and technical and vocational training to all prisoners serving their sentences in the NBP and CIW.

Under this measure, the BCTI shall offer hard trade courses, which include metal craft, automotive welding, building wiring and electrical, refrigeration and air-conditioning, and computer technician services, which shall run from six (6) to twenty-four (24) months.

This proposed law likewise mandates BCTI to give utmost priority to repair training courses and projects involving government equipment and facilities, including vehicular plates for all registered vehicles which shall be manufactured by prisoners serving their prison sentence in the New Bilibid Prison.

This bill provides that from the total sales of the vehicular plates and other government amenities manufactured by the inmates as well as repair of government equipment and vehicles, twenty percent (20%) of which shall be allotted for the rehabilitation of the New Bilibid Prisons and Correctional Institution for Women, while the eighty percent (80%) shall be remitted to the National Treasury.

There is an imperative need to focus on rehabilitation of prisoners, and at the same time, cultivate their technical education and skills development. Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested



JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

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HOUSE BILL NO. _____

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AN ACT

CREATING A BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS TECHNICAL INSTITUTE WITHIN THE NATIONAL BILIBID PRISONS (NBP) RESERVATION AND THE CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION FOR WOMEN (CIW), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the “*Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute Act of 2010*”.

SEC 2. Declaration of Policy. – It shall be the policy of the State to promote and support technological capabilities and its application to the country's productive system, to attain national development and progress. The State shall encourage the active participation of various concerned sectors of the society in trained and skilled work force, in order to strengthen technical knowledge and opportunities as well as skills development.

SEC 3. Statement of Goals and Objectives. – It is the goal and objective of this Act to:

1. Promote and strengthen the quality of technical education and skills development programs now prevailing at the Bureau of Corrections, particularly at the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) in Muntinlupa and Correctional Institution for Women (CIW) in Mandaluyong City;
2. Focus on rehabilitation model of corrections, particularly technical education and skills development to restore national prisoners as fully functioning members of society;
3. Recognize and encourage the complementary roles of various concerned sectors in technical education and skills development and training systems to be implemented at the Bureau of Corrections and Correctional Institute for Women; and,

4. Inculcate desirable values through the development of positive social behavior with emphasis on work ethics, self-discipline, self-reliance and self-sufficiency.

SEC 4. *Creation of Technical Institute.* – To implement the policy declared in this Act, there is hereby created a Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute (BCTI) within the premises of the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) Reservation in Muntinlupa City and Correctional Institution for Women (CIW) in Mandaluyong City.

The BCTI shall provide relevant and high-quality programs in skills development and technical and vocational training to all prisoners serving their sentences in the NBP and CIW. It shall also develop projects where these technical skills would be put into service.

SEC 5. *Composition of the Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute Board.* – There shall be a Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute Board, herein referred to as the "Board". The said Board shall be composed of the following:

1. Secretary of the Department of Justice as Chairperson;
2. Secretary of Department of Labor and Employment as Member;
3. Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry as Member;
4. Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communications as Member; and,
5. Director of the Bureau of Corrections as Member.

The Board shall meet at least twice a year, or as frequently as may be deemed necessary by its Chairperson. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Co-Chairperson shall preside. In case any member of the Board cannot attend the meeting, he or she shall be regularly represented by an undersecretary or deputy director general, as the case may be, to be designated by such member for the purpose.

SEC 6. *Powers and Functions of the Board.* – The Board shall primarily be responsible for formulating, continuing, coordinating and fully integrating technical education and skills development policies, plans, programs and projects taking into consideration the following:

1. the State policy declared herein of giving new direction and thrusts to efforts in developing new paths of social behavior to restore national prisoners as fully-functioning members of society through technical education and skills development;
2. the implementation of the above-mentioned policy requires the coordination and cooperation of policies, plans, and programs of different concerned sectors of the society;
3. equal participation of representatives of industry groups, employers, workers and government shall be made the rule in order to ensure that urgent needs and recommendations are readily addressed; and,
4. improved linkages between industry, labor and government shall be given priority in the formulation of any program and project.

The Board shall have the following powers:

- a) promulgate, after due consultation with industry groups, employers, workers, policies, plans, programs and guidelines as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Act;
- b) organize and constitute various standing committees, subsidiary groups, or technical working groups for efficient integration, coordination and monitoring technical education and skills development programs;
- c) enter into, make, execute, perform and carry-out contracts subject to existing laws, rules and regulations;
- d) restructure the present technical institution and programs enforced and implemented by the Bureau of Corrections in the promotion and development of national prisoners through upgrading, merger and/or phase-out;
- e) approve trade skills standards and trade tests as established and conducted by private industries;
- f) establish and administer a system of accreditation of both public and private institutions;
- g) establish, develop and support institutions' trainers' training and/or programs;
- h) allocate resources, based on the Secretariat's recommendations, for the programs and projects it shall undertake; and,
- i) perform such other duties and functions necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC 7. *The Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute Secretariat.* – There is hereby created a BCTI Secretariat which shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- 1. to establish and maintain a planning process and formulate a technical education and skills development plan in which the member-departments and other concerned entities of the Board at various levels participate;
- 2. to recommend measures, and implement the same upon approval by the Board, for the effective and efficient implementation of the technical education and skills development plan;
- 3. to submit to the Board periodic reports on the progress and accomplishment of work programs of implementation of plans and policies for technical education and skills development;
- 4. to prepare for approval by the Board an annual report to the President on technical education and skills development;
- 5. to prepare and implement upon approval by the Board a program for the consultants, trainers, supervisors, and planners as provided for in Section 8 of this Act;

6. to enter into agreement to implement approved plans, programs and projects and perform activities as shall implement the declared policy of this Act; and,
7. to perform such other functions and duties as may be assigned by the Board.

SEC 8. *Director-General.* – The Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute Secretariat shall be headed by a Director-General, who shall likewise be a member of the Board. As Chief Executive Officer of the Secretariat, the Director-General shall exercise general supervision and control over the technical and administrative personnel.

SEC 9. *Consultant and Technical Assistance.* – In pursuing its objectives, the Board is hereby authorized to set aside a portion of its appropriation for the hiring of services of qualified consultants, trainers, supervisors, and planners in the field of technical education and skills development. It shall avail itself of the services of other agencies of the Government as may be required.

SEC 10. *Programs in Skills Development and Technical and Vocational Training.* – To strengthen manpower education and training, the BCTI shall offer hard and soft or modular trade courses.

The so-called hard trade courses, which include metal craft, automotive welding, building wiring and electrical, refrigeration and air-conditioning, and computer technician services, shall run from six (6) to twenty-four (24) months.

Soft trade courses include audio-video technician, cosmetology, consumer electronics, dressmaking, food trades, industrial sewing, machine operation, and novelty accessories, paper craft and stuffed toy making, and shall be taught for only three (3) months.

Modular trade courses include reflexology, candle making, beads assembly, fossilized flower making, fresh flower arrangement, and soap making, and involve only three (3) to four (4) weeks of training.

However, the BCTI shall give utmost priority to repair training courses and projects involving government equipment and facilities, which shall include, but not limited to:

1. government motor vehicles;
2. computer units;
3. business license in tin plate;
4. mail boxes, street signs, garbage cans and other similar government amenities.

Likewise, vehicular plates for all registered vehicles shall be manufactured by prisoners serving their prison sentence in the New Bilibid Prison. To accomplish this purpose, the molding vehicular plate machines shall be acquired and kept in the New Bilibid Prison to be used by inmates in manufacturing the vehicular plates.

The BCTI shall be under the supervision of the Department of Justice.

SEC 11. *Compensation of Prisoners.* – Prisoner under this Act may receive commission for every government equipment assembled or repaired in accordance with the quality standards set forth by the government.

SEC 12. *Rehabilitation of the New Bilibid Prisons.* – From the total sales of the vehicular plates and other government amenities manufactured by the inmates as well as repair of government equipment and vehicles, twenty percent (20%) of which shall be allotted for the rehabilitation of the New Bilibid Prisons and Correctional Institution for Women, while the eighty percent (80%) shall be remitted to the National Treasury.

SEC 13. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Justice, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Transportation and Communications, Department of Labor and Employment, and Bureau of Corrections shall within thirty (30) days from effectivity of this Act, issue such rules and regulations necessary for the proper implementation of the provisions of this law.

SEC 14. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter. An initial amount of One Hundred Million Pesos (P100,000,000.00), shall be allocated for the first year of its implementation.

SEC 15. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree, issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule and regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed.

SEC 16. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provision not affected hereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC 17. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in any national newspaper of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved,