

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



Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2642

Introduced by Honorable Elenita Milagros Ermita-Buhain

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a Youth Development and Training Center in every city and municipality in the country, amending for the purpose Republic Act (RA) No. 8044 and appropriating funds therefor.

Section 13, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that "*The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being.*"

Pursuant to this, the government enacted in 1995 RA 8044, otherwise known as the "*Youth in Nation-Building Act.*" Said law created the National Youth Commission and established the "*National Comprehensive and Coordinated Program on Youth Development.*" The Commission is responsible for youth entrepreneurship guidance, career navigation, professional development, employment advancement, research, public participation and travel and voluntary service. In order to perform these duties, the Commission, under Section 10 of RA 8044, is mandated to "*establish such organizational structures including regional offices as may be required to carry out its functions.*" At present, the Commission has few area offices located in different regions in the country, with each office serving as many as two to three regions at the same time.

According to a report made by the Department of Labor and Employment in May 2013, majority of the Philippine population or 33% of the 92.34 Million Filipinos (2010 Census of Population and Housing) consists of the youth — those who are 30 years old and below. By 2015, the total number of young Filipinos is expected to rise to 61 Million. The National Statistical Coordination Board likewise stated that the Philippines has one of the youngest populations in Southeast Asia with a median age of 23 years. Given these numbers, the government must reiterate its declared policy as enshrined in the Constitution and provide more measures to effectively implement the objectives of RA 8044.

The existing area offices in every 2 to 3 regions are not enough to cater to the needs of the Filipino youth.

The National Youth Commission is the lead agency that is responsible for formulating, implementing and monitoring strategies and activities that respond to the youth's most pressing issues, concerns and needs. Establishing a Youth Development and Training Center in every city and municipality nationwide will make it easier for the Commission to effectively carry out its mandate and help increase the level of participation of youth in governance, nation-building and community development.

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


ELENITA MILAGROS ERMITA-BUHAIN

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

Sixteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2642

Introduced by Honorable Elenita Milagros Ermita-Buhain

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING
CENTER IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY IN THE COUNTRY,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8044,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "YOUTH IN NATION-BUILDING
ACT" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8044 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 10. *Functions of the Commission.* – The objectives of the Commission are:

a) To formulate and initiate the national policy or policies on youth;

xxx

xxx

xxx

i) To establish such organizational structures including [regional offices] A YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING CENTER IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY IN THE

COUNTRY [as may be required to effectively carry out its functions];

xxx

xxx

xxx”

SEC. 2. Section 19 of the same Act is also hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 19. *Presidential Land Grant.*

The provisions of any existing law to the contrary notwithstanding, the President may, upon the authority of Congress, grant by donation, sale, lease, or otherwise to the Commission, portion of the land of the public domain as may be necessary for the establishment of A youth development and training center[s] in [all regions of] EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY IN the country and for the accomplishment of any of its purposes.”

SEC. 3. A new section to be denominated as Section 19-A is hereby added after Section 19, to read as follows:

“SEC. 19-A. *YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING CENTERS.* – THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH A YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING CENTER IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY IN THE COUNTRY. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE COMMISSION SHALL ASSIGN, DESIGNATE, DETAIL OR APPOINT A CENTER COORDINATOR AND, WHENEVER NECESSARY,

ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL TO ASSIST THE CENTER COORDINATOR.

THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING CENTER SHALL OPERATE AS A MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER WHICH MAY SERVE AS FOLLOWS:

A. GENERAL INFORMATION AND LIAISON CENTER FOR THE YOUTH;

B. RECREATIONAL OR COMMUNITY SERVICE FACILITY;

C. LIVELIHOOD AND SKILLS TRAINING VENUE; OR

D. YOUTH DESK.

YOUTH AND DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CENTERS SHALL ALSO SERVE AS VENUE TO FACILITATE AND EXPEDITE THE DELIVERY OF YOUTH RELATED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES IN THE RESPECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS OR FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE NECESSARY TO ATTAIN THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT.”

SEC. 4. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations for the National Youth Commission. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be charged against the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. The National Youth Commission shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Social Welfare and Development and Secretary of the Interior and

Local Government, formulate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,