

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

___ Regular Session

House Bill No. 6501



Introduced by Rep. **EVELIO R. LEONARDIA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a vocational and training program for prisoners by mandating all penal institutions to implement the same.

Prison inmates who receive general education and vocational training are less likely to return to prison after release and more likely to find employment than peers who do not receive such opportunities. Providing prisoners with education programs and vocational training helps keep them from returning to prison and improves their future job outlook. The prison-based education program prepares inmates to return to society and reduces recidivism.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this measure.


REP. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
Lone District, Bacolod City

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AN ACT
MANDATING ALL PENAL INSTITUTIONS TO IMPLEMENT A VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROGRAM FOR PRISONERS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

*Be 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 "Prisoner Vocational Education Act of 2016".

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the declared policy of the State to maintain peace and order, protect life, liberty and the promotion of the general welfare of every individual society.

Section 3. Rules and Regulations. The Secretary of Justice shall, in coordination with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), issue such rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act. The funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 4. Separability Clause. Any portion or provision of this Act which may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions and provisions hereof.

Section 5. Repealing Clause. All other laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent, with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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