

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5302



Introduced by Representative Sherwin N. Tugna

AN ACT
DECLARING THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF AUGUST EVERY YEAR AS THE
NATIONAL TECH-VOC DAY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

For the past six years, over 10,000,000 Filipinos graduated in various tech-voc courses, majority of them found employment locally and abroad. Since the creation of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) on August 25, 1994, technical vocational education and training (Tech-Voc) in the Philippines has undergone major transformation. Today, Tech-Voc is recognized as an important pillar in the country's overall human resources development strategy because it is rapid, flexible, jobs-oriented, competency-based and can easily lead people to find employment. In fact, Tech-Voc graduates are the face of highly competent, globally competitive and world-class Filipino workers. Hence, Tech-Voc can be the first option, not just the fallback choice, because graduates are trained with the relevant skills that businesses need right now. Not a long time ago, the "Tech-Voc lang" mentality caused a second-rate status to Tech-Voc graduates. But with the government's massive information campaign, expansion of scholarship programs, private sector engagement, and quality-assured systems, Filipinos have changed their outlook about Tech-Voc. Almost 2,000,000 Filipinos enrol in various Tech-Voc courses every year which opened up a lot of opportunities for them in terms of employment and livelihood.

Because there is a strong direct correlation between the proportion of Tech-Voc graduates and per capita income, the Philippine government should take further steps to promote technical and vocational training. To a country like the Philippines, tech-voc is undeniably a tool for productivity enhancement and poverty reduction.

Indeed, there should be an observance of a "National Tech-Voc Day" in the Philippines to give importance on the role of middle-level manpower and to uplift the dignity of our plumbers, carpenters, welders, household workers, drivers, seamen, cooks, dressmakers, graphic designers, call center agents, among others.

The immediate passage of the bill is earnestly sought.


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

1 **SECTION 1. National Tech-Voc Day.** – The twenty-fifth day of August every
2 year is hereby declared as the “National Tech-Voc Day”.
3

4 To ensure a meaningful observance of this special working holiday as herein
5 declared, all heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, including
6 government-owned and-controlled corporations, local government units, public and
7 private schools at the basic, technical-vocational, and tertiary education institutions,
8 employers in the private sector, industry associations, shall encourage and afford
9 sufficient times and opportunities for their employees to engage and participate in
10 any activity conducted within the premises of their offices or establishments in
11 celebration of the “National Tech-Voc Day”.
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14 **SECTION 2. Lead Agency.** – Pursuant to the “National Tech-Voc Day”, the
15 annual program of activities and advocacy campaign shall be prepared and
16 implemented with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
17 (TESDA) and the Department of Education (DepEd) as the lead agencies.
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20 **SECTION 3. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
21 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
22 general circulation, whichever comes earlier.
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25 **Approved,**