

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5329



Introduced by AKBAYAN Representative Tomasito S. Villarín

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Southwestern Tagalog Region is home to around 2,963,000 residents spread over 2 cities and 71 municipalities. This population is what the national government agencies must serve in order to spur regional development.

One of the most important component of any economic development agenda is job generation. Technical and vocational education play a crucial role in the realization of this goal. Beneficiaries of the government's technical education programs have more chances of being employed because they have better manpower skill sets to market. Moreover, those who are already employed also benefit from technical training as they are able to upgrade their skills and in the process, advance their career opportunities.

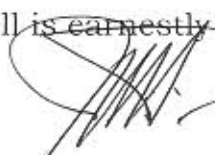
However, the Region has no regional technical and vocational training center.

In 2016, there were only 12 public technical training providers compared to 93 private sector providers in the Region.

As such, there is a need to create a regional training center for vocational and technical education in the Southwestern Tagalog Region. A regional vocational and technical center can significantly expand the number of available courses for the Region's adults and out-of-school youth who can be beneficiaries of the government's technical-vocational programs.

The training center will address the desire of the Region's constituents for accessible quality and affordable education that will make them self-reliant and economically viable citizens.

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


TOMASITO S. VILLARIN

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION
AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) REGIONAL TRAINING
CENTER IN THE MIMAROPA REGION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

Be it 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 “*TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center Act.*”

SECTION 2. Establishment. – A Regional Training Center is hereby established in the Southwestern Tagalog Region, under the supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), to be known as the TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center.

SECTION 3. General Mandate. – The TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center shall primarily provide technical-vocational training and skills development programs to students from low-income families and out-of-school youth in the Southwestern Tagalog Region. It shall also play a pivotal role in helping the students become productive, self-reliant and to develop them into becoming globally-competitive middle-level skilled labor force so as to hasten the social and economic development of Southwestern Tagalog Region, as well as meet the needs of both local and international labor markets.

The TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center shall also serve as the assessment center for acquired competencies in technical-vocational skills in the whole Southwestern Tagalog Region. Further, as deemed necessary and practicable, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), it shall render relevant teachers’ training assistance and curriculum design support to the secondary schools in the Region which are offering technical-vocational education and training (TVET) track under the K to 12 Program of the DepEd.

SECTION 4. *Curricular Offerings.* – The TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center shall offer short-term courses in preferred market-driven and relevant technical-vocational courses within its areas of specialization in consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and such other relevant agencies, both local and international.

The Regional Training Center may likewise establish research, service and training centers throughout the Southwestern Tagalog Region to strengthen linkages between the industry and the technology programs.

SECTION 5. *Regional Training Center Site.* – The TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center shall be established on a site in the Municipality of Sta. Cruz, Province of Occidental Mindoro to be donated by a concerned person, which is highly accessible pursuant to the purposes of this Act and to the mutual agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local government units.

SECTION 6. *Administration.* – The TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center shall be headed by a Chief Technical Education and Skills Development Specialist and to be assisted by a Supervising Technical Education and Skills Development Specialist and such other technical and administrative personnel under the supervision of the TESDA. The Chief of the TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center shall be appointed by the TESDA Director General. All other personnel shall be appointed in accordance with TESDA guidelines, the civil service rules and regulations and the qualification requirements of the TESDA.

The Chief Technical Education and Skills Development Specialist shall render full-time services and shall be responsible for the administration and operation of the TESDA Southwestern Tagalog Regional Training Center.

SECTION 7. *Staffing Pattern.* TESDA shall prepare the structure and staffing pattern of the Regional Training Center in accordance with existing guidelines of the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission.

SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* – An initial amount of One-Hundred Million Pesos (Php 100,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the construction of the Regional Training Center building, procurement of necessary tools and equipment and salary and compensation of its personnel. Henceforth, the TESDA Director-General shall include in the Authority's program the implementation of the law, the funding of its operations which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act as a separate line item budget under TESDA.

SECTION 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the TESDA, in coordination with the DOLE, the

Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the concerned Local Government Units (LGUs), and such other relevant agencies, shall formulate and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any section of this Act shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and shall thereby remain in force and effect.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All provisions of existing laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and regulations which are contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,