



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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 4686

INTRODUCED BY TGP PARTYLIST REP. JOSE "BONG" J. TEVES, JR.

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE CABUGAO SCHOOL OF HANDICRAFT AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES (CSHCI) – CABUGAO CAMPUS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATO, CATANDUANES INTO A TESDA-SUPERVISED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CATANDUANES POLYTECHNIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to convert the Cabugao School of Handicraft and Cottage Industries (CSHCI) – Cabugao Campus in the municipality of Bato province of Catanduanes into a TESDA supervised school to be known as Catanduanes Polytechnic Skills Development Institute. The conversion shall establish the Institute as globally competitive by providing relevant technical and vocational programs that shall be made available to the people of Catanduanes. As a result of the conversion, the graduates thereof shall be exposed to diverse opportunities in domestic and international labor market. Further, it will highly contribute as economic stimulus in the province.

This Bill is in accordance with the Constitutional mandate of the State to establish and maintain a complete, adequate, and integrated educational system relevant to the goals of the national and provincial development.

In view of this, the passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.

JOSE "BONG" J. TEVES, JR.
Representative, TGP Partylist



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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 “Catanduanes Polytechnic Skills Development Institute Act”.

SECTION 2. *Conversion.* – The Cabugao School of Handicraft and Cottage Industries (CSHCI) – Cabugao Campus located in the Municipality of Bato, province of Catanduanes, is hereby converted into a polytechnic institute to be known as the Catanduanes Polytechnic Skills Development Institute (CPSDI), hereinafter referred to as the Institute, under the direct administration and supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

SECTION 3. *General Mandate.* - The development of the school has evolved from a Secondary Vocational High School to a Post Secondary School in 1970, and was later absorbed as a TESDA administered school in 1997.

With the recent major developments challenging the Philippines higher and technical skills education priorities and mandates, namely,; (a) the adoption of the Philippines Qualifications Framework (PQF); (b) the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) economic integration; and rapidly changing demands of the industry and the labor market at domestic and global market, it becomes imperative for the CSHCI – Cabugao Campus to convert into a technical-vocational education institute to effect a major curricular program shift towards the development of world-class Filipino workforce equipped with practical and technical skills of global competence in programs responsive to labor-driven skills demand at both the domestic and global market, and aligned with the ASEAN integration framework and other relevant international agreements for technical-vocational education.

The Institute shall continue to upgrade its curricular standards into a tertiary TESDA – polytechnic institution that shall cater to wide-ranging specialized technical skills courses and competency-compliant practical knowledge application that will cover 11 towns with 315 barangays in the province.

The Institute shall offer a wide-array of one (1)-year to three (3)- year TESDA- registered technical-vocational curricular skills training program and certificate courses including short term courses and modular trainings in relevant technical vocational and industrial technology education. It shall also aim to meet, as a long-term goal, the maximum competency requirements under Level V of the PQF, which is the Diploma Level in technical-vocational educational. It shall primarily provide tertiary undergraduate technical-vocational education, and shall likewise ensure to provide the various skills trainings and trade specialization relevant to the needs of the province as well as specifically geared towards the acquisition of employable skills, gainful employment, practical livelihood and entrepreneurship.

The Institute shall play a pivotal role in primarily helping the community provide services through technical vocational education which will cater to students, out-of-school youths, the women, unemployed adults, wage earners, returning Overseas Filipino Worker's, drug surrenderees, inmates and detainees among others, all aimed to uplift their welfare and economic well-being and to further developed globally competitive middle to high-level skilled labor force which will hasten the social and economic development of the province of Catanduanes, in particular, as well as meet the manpower placement needs of both local and international labor market, in general.

The Institute shall consider in the design of relevant technical-vocational training programs and courses that will be offered thereat a competency assessment of the socioeconomic profile, employment conditions and opportunities, business climate, market and industry potentials, resources available and presence of support structures, including the literacy level and skills readiness, and the overall development needs of the host area and the adjacent communities within the operational radius the Institute established hereto. It shall likewise consider the relevant skills and trade competencies, craftsmanship training programs and entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective employment and development interventions required to make the Municipality of Bato and all localities comprising the Province of Catanduanes as human resource capital and economic productivity hubs.

The Institute shall also serve as TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired competencies in technical-vocational skills in the entire Province of Catanduanes.

Preferential attention for the admission in the Institute and priority availment of technical-vocational education thereat, including scholarships and grants-in-aid, shall be given to the most disadvantaged citizens and to the most economically depressed areas in the province.

Further, the Institute shall continue its implementation, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd) and TESDA, to render relevant teachers' training assistance and curriculum design to the secondary schools offering technical-vocational livelihood (TVL), track under the K to 12 Program of the DepEd, particularly those who are handling Technical Education Skills and Development component of the program within the operational radius of the Institute.

SECTION 4. *Curricular Offering/Training Programs.* – The Institute shall offer one (1)-year to three (3)-year technical-vocational courses and undergraduate certificate, including short-term courses and modular trainings in diverse relevant technical-vocational and industrial technology education to comply with employment standards in preferred market-driven labor opportunities, but shall give premium efforts, however, to skills specialization for local employment requirements geared towards achieving the development needs for a robust inclusive economy of the province including other local governments in the province of Catanduanes within the operational radius of the Institute, in consultation with the Department of

Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and such other relevant agencies, both local and international.

The Institute may establish, as deemed necessary and practicable, research and technology hubs, mobile training programs, and satellite or extension training centers in priority areas throughout the Province of Catanduanes to strengthen linkages among the industry, the academe, and the technology programs thereat.

The Institute shall, as necessary and practicable, offer the following TESDA-registered technical-vocational courses and short-term training programs with regulations and competencies assessment leading to National Certification Level I to V, as applicable, to address to development and manpower needs of all localities in the entire Catanduanes within the operational radius of the Institute, while offering options for higher level competency qualifications in technical industry education, trade technology, and innovation, thereby increasing the livelihood assets and competitive productivity of the Province of Catanduanes, to wit:

- (a) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas as farming-fishing operations technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farm and fishing tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations, relevant farmers and fisherfolk continuing trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;
- (b) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steel works, machines fabrication and operation, and air conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and industrial preferred skills;
- (c) Tourism and hospitality-related courses relating to hotel, restaurant and tourism development and management, including personality development and social communication skills training, language competence for business outsourcing (call center) employment and overseas job placement.
- (d) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment, small-scale income generating opportunities and entrepreneurship training, including practical skills education in craft and arts, workmanship and designing (fabric, woodwork, jewelry and

metalwork), high speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing, technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, including baking, beauty culture (includes cosmetology, hair and nail styling,) health and wellness trainings;

- (e) Basic business literacy training in: financial management and marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedure, business processes and application procedures including registration, licensing, documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment and opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, including online home-based business operation and use of social media for business marketing;
- (f) Technical-vocational occupation and trade skills such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing, practical electricity and installation, automotive technician and servicing, electronics technician and servicing, welding technician, personal computer (PC) servicing, and such other relevant practical technical skills courses;
- (g) Computer literacy and information technology (IT)-related skills, digital technology, web design, animation, photoshop/online photography, computer design and advertising;
- (h) Seminars in personality development, career counseling and job placement, work ethics and values; and
- (i) Other preferred priority skills and trades training courses relevant to the people of Bato and the other localities served within the operational radius of the Institute and the whole Province of Catanduanes to enhance their capacities for livelihood, gainful employment and practical entrepreneurship skills.

SECTION 5. *Extension Campuses* – The Institute shall continue the operation of its three (3) existing campuses such as: the Viga Campus in the municipality of Viga; the Pandan Campus in the municipality of Pandan; and the San Andres Campus in the municipality of San Andres, and in addition thereto, shall be responsible for the establishment of additional two (2) campuses in the municipality of Virac and Baras in the province of Catanduanes.

To ensure efficiency of its operation, the Institute shall hereby create additional five (5) manpower complements for each campuses, subject to the existing rules of the government, and shall increase the Institute's MOOE budget allocation as well as the provision for capital outlay.

SECTION 6. *Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* – The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the conversion of the CSHCI – Cabugao Campus into the CPSI shall become operationally effective only upon the determination and declaration of the TESDA, through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certification of compliance, that the compliance, that the Institute has satisfactory complied with the minimum requirements and quality standards prescribed by TESDA governing the following: (a) standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the establishment, or conversion and operation of TESDA polytechnic institute of technical education and TESDA technology institute; (b) operational sustainability of the polytechnic institute established herein, such as, but not limited to, licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard requirements as TESDA-polytechnic institute; (c) sustainable funding source and allocation of budget requirements of TESDA polytechnic institute hereto established; (d) assurance that the training programs offered are fully aligned with the minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and needs of the Province of Catanduanes in the context of the ASEAN and PQF framework for technical-vocational education; as (e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities as may be necessary and applicable in the conversion establishing the herein TESDA-polytechnic institute.

The Institute, however, shall not offer undergraduate higher education courses without prior approval of the Commission of Higher Education (CHED) and upon its compliance with the minimum requirements of CHED Memorandum Order (CMO) No. 46, series of 2012, to operate as a college or higher education institute (HEI): Provided, That, the Institute shall remain under the supervision and administration of the TESDA and shall continue to offer one (1) to three (3)- year technical-vocational courses in the field of aquaculture, fisheries, industrial education and trade technology, and such other relevant courses to meet the needs of the province as a whole.

SECTION 7. *Administration.* – The Institute shall be headed by a School Superintendent under the supervision of the TESDA, and appointed by the TESDA Director-General in a accordance with civil service rules and regulations and the qualification requirements and standards for such office.

The School Superintendent shall render full-time service and shall be responsible for the administration and operation of the Institute. The duties and responsibilities of the School Superintendent shall follow the position qualification standard of TESDA for such office.

As necessary and practicable, and subject to approval by the TESDA Director-General, the School Superintendent herein appointed shall enter into mutual agreements with local-based counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, both private and government, for such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

The academic and administrative staff of the Institute shall be organized following the staffing pattern of TESDA for such type of schools pursuant to existing laws, rules and regulations.

SECTION 8. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.* – all assets, fixed and movable, personnel, records and documents of the CSHCI-Cabugao Campus as well as its liabilities or obligations shall be transferred to the Institute: Provided, That, the position, rights and security to tenure of faculty and personnel therein employed pursuant to existing laws prior to its conversion into the Institute shall not be impaired.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the CSHCI-Cabugao Campus are hereby declared property of the CPSDI and shall be titled under that name, provided that, should the Institute ceases to exist or such aforementioned parcels of land shall be no longer needed by the Institute, such ownership shall be reverted to the Provincial Government of Catanduanes.

SECTION 9. *Appropriation.* – The amount needed to initially implements the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Cabugao School of Handicraft and Cottage Industries (CSHCI) pursuant to Republic Act No. 6130. Thereafter, any such amount as may be necessary for the continued operation of the Catanduanes Polytechnic Skills Development Institute shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The local government unit (LGU), in consultation with the TESDA, shall likewise set aside, from any available local revenue, an amount deemed appropriate as support to the operation of the Institute established herein.

SECTION 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA, in coordination with the DOLE, the DTI, the DA, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) , the DILG, concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host locality shall prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 11. *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 in effect.

SECTION 12. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 13. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,