

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10367



Introduced by **HON. LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.**

**AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM AND PROVIDING JOB
OPPORTUNITIES TO INMATES IN DETENTION FACILITIES, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

This bill seeks to institutionalize this practice by mandating the establishment of a skills training program for inmates in all correctional facilities in the Philippines. The implementation of the Program shall be spearheaded by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and Department of Justice (DOJ). In addition, skills advancement or training inside prison will be matched with job search assistance to help ex-inmates find work once outside of prison.

Around 70,000 inmates in 989 jails nationwide are 18 to 39 years old. The skills they are able to acquire through skills and training programs can equip them to find work after their release. Equipping them with skills give them a better chance at functioning as normal citizens and abstaining from criminal activity.

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


LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

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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 “Kabuhayan for Offenders through Skills Advancement (KOSA) Act.”

SEC. 2. Establishment of Skills Training Program for Inmates. – The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and Department of Justice (DOJ) shall establish skills training program for all inmates in the Philippines.

In addition, a Job Search and Livelihood Assistance Desk shall be established inside prisons to help ex-offenders create sustainable employment once they are released from prison.

SEC. 3. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be sourced from the current budgets of TESDA, DepEd, DOLE and DOJ. Thereafter, the funds necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the TESDA, DepEd, DOLE and DOJ, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 5. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,