



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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2167



INTRODUCED BY REP. JOSE “BONG” J. TEVES, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the Cabugao School of Handicraft and Cottage Industries (CSHCI) in the Municipality of Bato, Province of Catanduanes, into a Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) supervised school to be known as the Catanduanes Polytechnic Skills Development Institute.

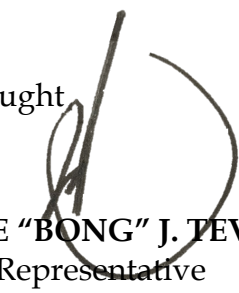
The conversion will enable our constituents in the Province of Catanduanes access to relevant and technical vocational programs that will enhance their skills and be globally competitive. As a result, they will be able to qualify for employment abroad and further help our country and our province through their foreign currency remittances.

This bill is likewise 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.

During the 18th Congress, this representation also filed the same bill through House Bill No. 4686 substituted by House Bill No. 8006 which was approved by the House of Representatives on third and final reading and was transmitted to the

Senate. However, the Senate failed to act on the said piece of legislation which resulted to the refiling of this bill.

In view of this, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought



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



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AN ACT
CONVERTING THE CABUGAO SCHOOL OF HANDICRAFT AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES (CSHCI) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATO, PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES, INTO A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)-SUPERVISED AND ADMINISTERED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CATANDUANES POLYTECHNIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (CPSDI), 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 “Catanduanes Polytechnic Skills Development Institute Act”.

SEC. 2. Conversion. - The Cabugao School of Handicraft and Cottage Industries (CSHCI) located in Barangay Cabugao in the Municipality of Bato, Province of Catanduanes, is hereby converted into the Catanduanes Polytechnic Skills Development Institute (CPSDI), and placed under the supervision and administration of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

SEC. 3. General Mandate. — The CPSDI, hereinafter referred to as the Institute, shall restructure its technical-vocational education and training (TVET) programs to effect a major curricular shift in response to the demand of the local and international

labor market for technical skills, and align them with the standards of the industry. To this end, the Institute shall upgrade its curricular standards as a tertiary TESDA polytechnic skills educational institution and provide higher level competency qualifications for instructors in TESDA-registered TVET programs and certificate courses. It shall provide a wide array of relevant skills trainings and trade specialization courses that will facilitate the acquisition by the citizenry of the necessary technical skills that will enhance their access to gainful employment, practical livelihood, and entrepreneurial opportunities, and thus hasten the development of the host area and the adjacent localities in the Province of Catanduanes into human resource and productivity hubs.

Priority admission to the Institute, including availment of scholarships, grants-in-aid and student financial assistance, shall be given to the most economically disadvantaged students, out-of-school youths, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples of the Municipality of Bato and the adjacent localities in the Province of Catanduanes to ensure their development into productive and globally competitive skilled labor assets.

The Institute shall serve as a TESDA-accredited assessment center for acquired competencies in TVET programs in the Province of Catanduanes. It shall also provide teachers' training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools offering the technical-vocational livelihood track under the IN to 12 Program in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), the TESDA, and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

SEC. 4. Curriculum Offerings and Training Programs – The Institute shall offer one-year to three-year TESDA-registered TVET programs and undergraduate certificate courses, including short-term courses and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills specialization. It shall aim to meet the competency requirements under Level V of the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF), which is the Diploma Level in TVET.

To this end, the DOLE, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the necessary assistance to enable the Center to develop skilled manpower to achieve a robust and inclusive economy in the host area and its adjacent localities.

The Institute may establish research and technology hubs, technology development farms, satellite or extension training centers, promote mobile training programs, and strengthen linkages with industry partners and the academe in order to better provide residents of the Municipality of Bato and the adjacent localities in the Province of Catanduanes with practical livelihood, employable skills, and entrepreneurial capabilities.

It shall also adopt the use of innovative training modes such as information technology-assisted instruction, dual learning system, open or distance education, community laboratory, and such other instructional programs that will allow local residents greater access to TVET program offerings of the Institute.

Course completion at the Institute shall be credited through skills competency assessment under National Certification (NC) Levels III to V. When applicable, TVET competency shall qualify for academic degree recognition under the ladderized interface system for tertiary education, provided that the requirements of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) are complied with.

The Institute shall offer skills development for higher competency qualifications in areas relating to technical industrial education, trade technology, tourism, agricultural technology, business literacy, and innovation in TESDA-registered skills courses as follows:

- (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steelwork, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanical assembly, refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;
- (b) Tourism and hospitality-related courses relating to hotel, restaurant and tourism development management;
- (c) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas as farming technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farming, fishing tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aquaculture technology and innovations, and relevant farmers and fisherfolk's trainings for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;
- (d) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts, workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and wellness training;
- (e) Basic business literacy training in financial management, marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping, office procedures, business processes and application procedures including registration, licensing, documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, online home-based business operation, and social media business marketing;

- (f) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing, personal computer servicing, and such other relevant practical skills courses;
- (g) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, digital technology, web design, animation, photoshop/online photography, computer design, and advertising;
- (h) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English and other languages for business process outsourcing employment and overseas job placement;
- (i) Seminars on personality development, career counseling, job placement, and work ethic and values; and
- (j) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the Municipality of Bato and the adjacent localities in the Province of Catanduanes to enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial activities.

SEC. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.- The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the conversion of the CSHCI into the CPSDI shall become operational only upon the determination and certification by the TESDA, through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance, that the Institute has satisfactorily complied with the minimum requirements for standards of quality prescribed by the TESDA governing the following :

- a) Standard procedures and guidelines for the conversion and operation of a TESDA polytechnic institute;

- b) Operational sustainability of the Institute in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard requirements of TESDA-accredited and supervised school;
- c) Sustainable funding source and regular allocation of budgetary requirement;
- d) Full alignment of the training programs offered with the minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational technology skills and the needs of the host area and adjacent localities served within the context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) integration and the PQF for TVET; and
- e) Compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards, as may be necessary and applicable, on the conversion of the CSHCI into the Institute.

SEC. 6. Administration. – The Institute shall be headed by a School Superintendent under the supervision of the TESDA, who shall render full-time service and be responsible for its administration and operation. The School Superintendent shall be appointed by the TESDA Director General in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission and the qualification requirements for such office.

The School Superintendent shall enter into agreement with locally-based private and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, subject to the approval of the TESDA Director General, 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.

SEC. 7. Assets, Liabilities and Personnel. - All assets, fixed and movable, personnel, records and documents, as well as the liabilities or obligations of the Cabugao School of Handicraft and Cottage Industries, shall be transferred to the Institute: Provided, That the positions, rights and security of tenure of faculty and personnel therein employed prior to its conversion into the Institute, shall not be impaired, pursuant to existing laws.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the defunct CSHCI are henceforth declared property of the Institute and shall be titled under that name: Provided, That, should the Institute cease to exist or such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the Institute, the same shall revert to the concerned local government unit (LGU), or to the Municipality of Bato, Province of Catanduanes.

SEC. 8. Appropriations. - The Director General of the TESDA shall include in the Authority's program the operation of the Institute, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DA, the Department of Budget and Management, DILG, NEDA, the concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host locality, prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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

SEC. 11. Repealing Clause. - All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or amended accordingly.

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

Approved,