

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5989



Introduced by Representative Vincent J. Garcia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a Technical Education and Skills Development Center in Barangay Malabog, Paquibato District in the Second Congressional District of Davao City.

Paquibato District is home to indigenous tribes. It is also known as a rebel infested area where poverty incidence is very high. With no viable likelihood and economic opportunities, the residents have been rendered vulnerable to the advances of the communist rebels and other outlawed elements.

With intensified military operations, coupled with effective strategies promoting civilian-military relations, many rebels have come back to the folds of law to start new lives with their families. It is for this reason that the establishment of a TESDA training and assessment center in Paquibato District is doubly important.

Given proper skills training and government assistance, rebel returnees, the indigenous people and the unemployed youths can turn themselves into productive members of society that will contribute significantly to the attainment of Davao City's economic objectives while attaining peace and order that is conducive for growth and development.

Pursuant to the Government's thrust of increasing access to quality Technical-Vocational Education to the traditionally and perennially marginalized, the establishment of a TESDA Center in Paquibato District is highly necessary. It will significantly boost the City's development objectives by ensuring a steady pool of skilled workers for its industries while providing employment to residents.

In view of the above, the prompt approval of his measure is highly sought and recommended.

Vincent Garcia
VINCENT J. GARCIA

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“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN BRGY. MALABOG, PAQUIBATO DISTRICT LOCATED IN THE 2ND DISTRICT OF DAVAO CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Paquibato District, Davao City, TESDA Training and Assessment Center Act.”

SECTION 2. Establishment. – There is hereby established a Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center in Barangay Malabog, Paquibato District in Davao City under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the Paquibato District, Davao City TESDA Training and Assessment Center.

SECTION 3. General Mandate. – The Paquibato District, Davao City TESDA Training and Assessment Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational training and skills development programs to students and residents from low-income families and out-of-school youths, including college dropouts, indigenous people and persons with disabilities (PWDs) in Barangay Malabog and the other twelve (12) barangays comprising the Paquibato District of the Second Congressional District of Davao City and the neighboring barangays of Davao City, geared towards the acquisition of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment and entrepreneurship.

The Center shall help train local residents to become productive, self-reliant and globally competitive middle to high-level skilled labor force to hasten the social and economic development of these areas, in particular, and to meet the manpower needs of both local and international labor markets, in general.

The Center shall consider in the design of relevant technical-vocational training programs to 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 levels and skills readiness, and the overall development needs of the host area and adjacent communities within the operational radius of the Center established herein. The Center shall also consider the relevant skills trade competencies, craftsmanship training programs, and entrepreneurship activities needed to deliver the effective employment and development interventions required to make these areas as human resources and productivity hubs.

The Center shall also serve as a TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired competencies in technical-vocational skills in the City of Davao and its neighboring localities in the Province of Davao del Sur.

Preference in admission shall be given to the most disadvantaged citizens, including PWDs, and to the most economically depressed areas of Davao City, and the neighboring localities in the Province of Davao del Sur, within the operational radius of the Center.

In coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the TESDA, the Center shall offer relevant teachers' training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools providing the technical-vocational livelihood (TVL) track under the K to 12 Program of the DepEd in Davao City and the other localities in the Province of Davao del Sur.

SECTION 4. *Training Programs.* – The Center shall offer diverse short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in relevant technical-vocational skills and trades specialization to comply with employment standards in preferred and emerging market-driven labor opportunities, and shall likewise give premium efforts to skills specialization for local market employment requirements geared towards achieving the development of robust inclusive economy within the host area of Barangay Malabog and each of the adjacent barangays and communities within the operational radius of the Center, in consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment (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, both local and international.

The Center may establish research and technology hubs, technology development farms, mobile training programs, and satellite or extension training centers in priority areas throughout Barangay Malabog and other adjacent localities and communities of Paquibato District and the City of Davao within the operational radius of the Center to strengthen linkages among the industry, the academe, and the Center.

To address the development and manpower needs of Paquibato District and the City of Davao, as well as the neighboring localities of the Province of Davao del Sur, the Center shall

offer the following TESDA-registered technical-vocational training programs with competencies assessment leading to at least National Certifications Levels I-III:

(a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steel works, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanic, refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics and operation of power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;

(b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas as farming-fishing operations technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovation, mechanized farm and fishing tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovation, and relevant farmers' and fisher-folks' continuing training for increased productivity and entrepreneurship;

SECTION 5. *Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the Center established herein shall become operationally effective upon the determination and declaration of the TESDA, through the issuance of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance, that the Center has satisfactorily complied with the minimum requirements for quality standards prescribed by TESDA governing the following competency assessment: a) standard procedures and guidelines (SPGs) for the establishment and operation of a TESDA-accredited training and assessment center; b) operational sustainability of the Center established herein, such as licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, and instructional materials; c) sustainable funding source and allocation for the budgetary requirements of the Center herein established; d) assurance that the training programs offered are fully aligned with the minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the host area and adjacent communities served in the context of ASEAN and Philippine Qualification Framework (PQF) for technical-vocational education; and e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards in establishing a TESDA-accredited Center, as may be necessary and applicable.

SECTION 6. *Administration.* – The Center shall be headed by a Technical-Vocational Administrator, under the supervision of TESDA, who shall render full-time services and be responsible for the administration and operation of the Center.

The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall be appointed by the TESDA Director-General in accordance with Civil Service rules and regulations and the qualifications requirements for such office.

The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall enter into mutual agreements with locally-based private and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, subject to approval by the TESDA Director-General, for such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act.

SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* – The Director-General of the TESDA shall include in the Authority's program the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs concerned, in coordination with the TESDA, shall likewise set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the Center established herein.

SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, the DTI, the DOST, the DA, the DBM, the DILG, the NEDA, the concerned LGU 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.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any section of this Act shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections and provisions shall not be affected and shall remain in force and effect.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.