



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11151



Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the most recent data from the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, as of September 30, 2022, a total of 131,311 individuals are currently sentenced and incarcerated in its 477 facilities. More than 90% of the Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) fall within the age range of 18 to 59 years. In addition, there are 49,515 PDLs detained in the Bureau of Corrections' prisons and prison farms as of September 2022.

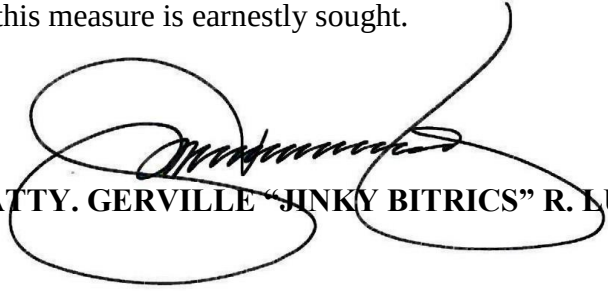
While various non-governmental organizations provide vocational training and livelihood assistance to PDLs, there remains a significant need to formalize and institutionalize such programs to ensure that inmates are equipped with the skills necessary to reintegrate into society and become productive citizens upon their release.

This proposed measure seeks to establish a structured skills training program for inmates, to be implemented through the collaborative efforts of key government agencies, including the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Department of Education (DepEd), the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and the Department of Justice (DOJ). The program would also encompass a livelihood assistance initiative, which would include job matching services and support for ex-PDLs seeking to establish new livelihoods.

This bill is a continuation of the efforts made in the 18th Congress, where a similar measure was filed by Representative Eduardo "Bro. Eddie" Villanueva. The current proponent acknowledges

and appreciates the contributions and hard work of his predecessors in advancing this important initiative.

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



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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 "Skills Training for Inmates Act".

SECTION 2. *Institutionalization 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.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. - Within ninety (90) 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.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity*. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.