

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. 450



Introduced by Representative OMAR S. DUTERTE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 7796, or the *Technical Education and Skills Development Act of 1994*, underscores the State's responsibility to deliver "relevant, accessible, high-quality, and efficient technical education and skills development" in support of producing a competitive and skilled Filipino workforce aligned with the nation's development goals.

In pursuit of this mandate, this measure proposes the establishment of a TESDA Central Office in Davao City. As one of the most populous and economically significant cities in Mindanao, Davao City serves as a strategic location for a central administrative hub that will oversee and coordinate the implementation of technical-vocational education and training (TVET) programs across the region.

Currently, the absence of a central TESDA administrative presence in the city poses limitations in terms of efficient program delivery, inter-agency coordination, and accessibility for constituents in the southern Philippines. A Central Office would address these gaps by serving as the primary command center for policy execution, monitoring and evaluation, and resource allocation for regional and district offices within Davao Region and nearby provinces.

More importantly, the proposed TESDA Central Office will expand access to quality training programs for marginalized sectors—including low-income families, out-of-school youth, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples—who are often left behind in economic growth. By equipping them with market-relevant technical skills and industry-based certifications, the office will enable them to become self-reliant, competitive, and productive members of society.

Beyond individual empowerment, the presence of a TESDA Central Office in Davao City will strengthen the region's human capital, support local industries, and foster inclusive development in Mindanao—helping bridge the socio-economic gap between urban centers and underserved communities.

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



HON. OMAR S. DUTERTE

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE CITY OF DAVAO AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a regular district office of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) in the City of Davao, to be known as the "TESDA-Davao City District Office". It shall be located in a highly accessible area in the City of Davao.

SEC. 2. The TESDA-Davao City District Office shall serve the City of Davao and its adjacent localities.

SEC. 3. The TESDA shall determine the organizational structure and staffing pattern for the TESDA-Davao City District Office and submit the same to the Department of Budget and Management for approval.

The Centers shall each serve as TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired competencies in TVET programs. They shall also provide technical-vocational training for teachers and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools offering the technical-vocational livelihood track under the K to 12 Program in coordination with the Department of Education and the TESDA.

SEC. 4. The Secretary General of TESDA shall immediately include the operationalization of the TESDA-Davao City District Office in the program of TESDA, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the existing TESDA Davao del Sur Provincial Office. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the TESDA-Davao City District Office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,