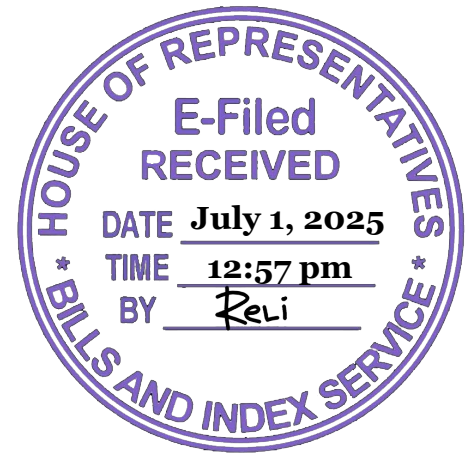


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 793

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

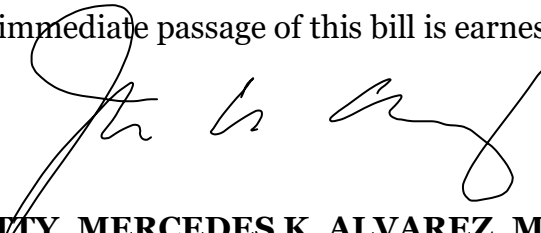
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The City of Sipalay in the Province of Negros Occidental faces persistent challenges in employment opportunities, especially for low-income residents, out-of-school youth, persons with disabilities, and indigenous communities. Addressing this socioeconomic gap requires targeted technical and vocational education and training (“TVET”) that equips individuals with relevant, in-demand skills.

This bill proposes the establishment of a Technical Education Skills and Development Authority (“TESDA”) Training and Assessment Center in the City of Sipalay to provide accessible, high-quality technical-vocational programs aligned with industry needs. The Center will serve as a key driver for local development by offering specialized training in areas such as industrial technology, agriculture, aquaculture, entrepreneurship, information technology, and business literacy. It will also support the K to 12 Curriculum of the Department of Education and contribute to the transformation of the Negros Island Region into a hub of skilled labor and productivity.

The bill ensures compliance with TESDA standards and mandates strong inter-agency and local government unit cooperation to guarantee sustainability, quality, and responsiveness to evolving labor demands. It reflects our commitment to inclusive growth, job creation, and capacity-building at the grassroots level.

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



ATTY. MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 793

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ, MNSA

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER
IN THE CITY OF SIPALAY, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 Section 1. *Establishment of a Training and Assessment Center.* – There is
2 hereby established a training and assessment center, under the supervision of the
3 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (“TESDA”), to be known as the
4 “Sipalay City, Negros Occidental TESDA Training and Assessment Center” (the
5 “Center”). It shall be located in a highly accessible area in the City of Sipalay, Province
6 of Negros Occidental, pursuant to the purposes of this Act and the agreement between
7 the TESDA and the concerned local government units (“LGUs”).

8
9 Sec. 2. *General Mandate.* – The Center shall primarily provide technical-
10 vocational education and training (“TVET”) programs to students and local residents
11 from low-income families and out-of-school youths, including persons with
12 disabilities and indigenous peoples, to help them become productive, self-reliant, and
13 globally competitive labor assets.

1 The Center shall provide effective employment interventions through training
2 programs on relevant skills in trade competencies, craftsmanship, and
3 entrepreneurship activities to help hasten the development of the host area and its
4 adjacent localities into human resource and productivity hubs.

5
6 The Center shall also provide technical-vocational training for teachers and
7 curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools in the province offering the
8 technical-vocational livelihood track under the K to 12 Program, in coordination with
9 the Department of Education (“DepEd”) and the TESDA.

10
11 *Sec. 3. Training Programs.* – The Center shall offer short-term certificate
12 courses and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills and trades
13 specialization. To this end, the Department of Labor and Employment (“DOLE”),
14 Department of Trade and Industry (“DTI”), Department of Science and Technology
15 (“DOST”), Department of Agriculture (“DA”), Department of the Interior and Local
16 Government (“DILG”), National Economic and Development Authority (“NEDA”),
17 business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both
18 local and international, shall provide the necessary assistance to enable the Center to
19 develop skilled manpower to achieve a robust and inclusive economy in the host area
20 and its adjacent localities.

21
22 The Center may establish research and technology hubs, technology
23 development farms, satellite or extension training centers, promote mobile training
24 programs, and strengthen linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the
25 Center geared towards the acquisition by residents of practical livelihood, employable
26 skills, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial capabilities in priority areas in the
27 City of Sipalay and adjacent localities in the Province of Negros Occidental.

28
29 The Center shall offer the following TVET programs with competencies
30 assessment leading to National Certification Levels I to III:

- 31
32 a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and
33 steelwork, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment
34 operation, automotive mechanical assembly, refrigeration and air

1 conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment
2 for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;

3
4 b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in
5 such areas as farming technology, fishing operations technology,
6 backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation
7 innovations, mechanized farming, fishing tools and equipment
8 operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations,
9 and relevant training seminars for farmers and fisherfolk to encourage
10 entrepreneurship and thus increase their productivity;

11
12 c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment
13 and small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in
14 arts and crafts, workmanship and design, high-speed sewing,
15 dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding,
16 food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and
17 commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and wellness training;

18
19 d) Basic business literacy training in financial management and marketing,
20 practical accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedures, business
21 processes and application procedures, including registration, licensing,
22 documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation,
23 business financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-
24 export accreditation, online home-based business operation and social
25 media business marketing;

26
27 e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry,
28 masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation,
29 automotive servicing, electronics servicing, personal computer
30 servicing, and such other relevant practical skills courses;

31
32 f) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, digital
33 technology, web design, animation, photoshop or online photography,
34 computer design and advertising;

- 1
- 2 g) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English
- 3 and other languages for business process outsourcing employment and
- 4 overseas job placement;
- 5
- 6 h) Personality development, career counseling, job placement, and work
- 7 ethic and values; and
- 8
- 9 i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the
- 10 people of the City of Sipalay and of adjacent localities to enhance their
- 11 capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and
- 12 entrepreneurial activities.
- 13

14 *Sec. 4. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* – The provisions of this Act

15 notwithstanding, the Center shall become operational only upon the issuance by the

16 TESDA of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance attesting that the

17 Center has satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of quality it has

18 prescribed governing the following: (a) standard procedures and guidelines for the

19 establishment and operation of a Center; (b) operational sustainability of the Center,

20 in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and

21 laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard requirements of a

22 Center; (c) sustainable funding source and allocation of the budgetary requirement;

23 (d) full alignment of the training programs offered with the minimum standards of

24 competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the

25 host area and adjacent communities served within the context of the Association of

26 Southeast Asian Nations integration and the Philippine Qualifications Framework for

27 TVET; and (e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards as

28 may be necessary and applicable in establishing a Center.

29

30 *Sec. 5. Administration of the Center.* – The Center shall be headed by a

31 Technical-Vocational Administrator who shall render full-time service and be

32 responsible for its administration and operation, under the supervision of the TESDA.

33

1 The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall be appointed by the TESDA
2 Director General in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Civil Service
3 Commission and the qualification requirements for such office.

4
5 The Technical-Vocational Administrator may enter into agreements with
6 locally-based private and public counterpart agencies, instrumentalities or persons,
7 and seek such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act, subject
8 to the approval of the TESDA Director General.

9
10 Sec. 6. *Appropriations.* – The Director General of the TESDA shall include in
11 the program of the TESDA the operation of the Center, the funding of which shall be
12 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

13
14 The LGUs concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall set aside from any
15 available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to
16 support the operation of the Center herein established.

17
18 Sec. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days after
19 the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST,
20 DA, Department of Budget and Management, DepEd, DILG, NEDA, the concerned
21 LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host
22 locality, prepare and issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of
23 this Act.

24
25 Sec. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this
26 Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof
27 shall not be affected and shall remain in force and in effect.

28
29 Sec. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions,
30 rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are
31 repealed or amended accordingly.

32
33 Sec. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
34 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,