

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 392



Introduced by **Representative FERDINAND L. HERNANDEZ**

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL AND LIVELIHOOD
CURRICULUM FOR THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the State's policy to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and to ensure that education aligns with the goals of national development and industrialization. In line with this expressed mandate, the proposed measure seeks to give senior high school diplomas and pertinent national certificates to graduates of the Technical, Vocational and Livelihood (TVL) Curriculum. This will allow graduates who are able to meet the requirements of the various industries to find decent employment without the need of a college degree.

Under this initiative, a TVL council shall be created to ensure that the TVL Curriculum is able to respond to the labor market's demand for skills and human resources and strengthen the eligibility and employability of the graduates. Government agencies will have their respective roles in formulating and implementing the TVL curriculum to equip the learners with the necessary skills and abilities to function effectively in the workplace and to be eligible for higher education in the event that the graduates choose to pursue the latter.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval 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 “TVL Curriculum Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The right to education shall be promoted with the end goal of producing graduates who are prepared to become civically active and economically productive members of society.

The State shall also ensure that education aligns with the goals of national development and industrialization. To this end, the State shall ensure access to affordable and competitive training of skilled graduates who are able to meet the requirements of various industries, and find decent employment without need of a college degree.

SEC. 3. *Objective.* – Graduates of the Technical, Vocational and Livelihood (TVL) Curriculum shall be given senior high school diplomas and pertinent national certificates for acquiring the competencies and skills necessary for employment, and the various industries shall have confidence in securing their employment and providing equitable compensation.

SEC. 4. *TVL Council.* – The TVL Council, herein referred to as the “Council”, is hereby created which shall be attached to the Department of Education (DepEd), and composed of seven (7) members, namely: (1) Secretary of DepEd, as Chairperson; (2) Director-General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), as

Vice-Chairperson; (3) Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE); (4) Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); (5) Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT); (6) President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI); and (7) President of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP).

Members of the Council shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses related to their participation in the official activities of the Council, in accordance with pertinent laws, rules, and regulations.

Members may designate a representative who shall be of rank no lower than that of an Undersecretary.

The Council shall regularly meet at least once every quarter of the academic year. The Chairperson or a majority of the Council's members may call a special meeting whenever necessary.

A meeting may be conducted virtually only in circumstances when meeting in person is impossible or impractical and when all the Council members are able to communicate adequately during the meeting.

SEC. 5. Duties and Functions of the Council. – The Council shall have the following duties and functions:

- a. Periodically consults with various industries to ensure that the programs, curriculum, courses, and other activities of the TVL Curriculum respond to their skills and human resource requirements to strengthen the eligibility and employability of the graduates;
- a. Ensures that the examinations or assessments for National Certification or Certificate of Competency for TESDA shall be included in the curriculum;
- b. Guarantees that the TVL Curriculum shall be in accordance with the qualification levels on terms of the three (3) Philippine Qualifications Framework domains: knowledge, skills, and values; application; and degree of independence;
- c. Encourages various industries to employ TVL graduates by raising awareness of their employment eligibility through information campaign and different programs such as job fairs;
- d. Calls upon the local government units (LGUs), their respective local school boards and other agencies, especially where schools with TVL curriculum are located, for assistance, coordination and collaboration in the alignment, synchronicity, and complementarity of plans, resources and efforts of the schools and the pertinent LGUs; and
- e. Undertakes other duties and functions that may be necessary or incidental to the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. *Roles of Government Agencies.* – To achieve the objectives of this Act, the following government agencies shall carry out their respective roles:

- a. DepEd – The DepEd shall formulate the academic curriculum to ensure that learners under the TVL Curriculum possess the knowledge and competencies required to function effectively in the workplace and to be eligible for higher education in the event that graduates choose the pathway. The DepEd shall appoint and designate the public school teachers who shall implement the academic curriculum and the qualified instructors who shall train the learners in accordance with the curriculum set by TESDA.
- b. TESDA – The TESDA shall formulate and implement the TVL curriculum for equipping the learners with the necessary skills and abilities to obtain the National Certifications or Certificates of Competency. It shall provide the qualifications of instructors for the effective implementation of this Act.
- c. DOLE – The DOLE shall, in consultation with the DepEd and TESDA, formulate guidelines for Work Immersion of the learners to protect their rights during the immersion and as workers upon their employment after graduation. The DOLE shall apprise the Council of the skills needed by various industries to prevent mismatch of jobs and skills.
- d. DTI – The DTI shall advocate for the employment of TVL graduates to different industries by linking them to schools with TVL curriculum for work immersion and eventual job posts.
- e. Other government agencies are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon the request of the DepEd or TESDA, such apparatus, supplies, and other properties as may be needed by the schools with TVL curriculum, and to detail employees for duty therein, when in the judgement of the head of the bureau or office, they can be spared without serious detriment to the public service. Employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required under such detail, and the time employed shall be counted as part of their regular official hours, all laws, rules and regulations limiting the detail of government employees notwithstanding.

SEC. 7. *Partnerships with the Private Sector.* – The PCCI and ECOP shall notify the Council of the skills and expertise needed by their members. They shall further encourage their respective members to participate in the Work Immersion as Partner Institutions who are able and willing to lend expertise and resources to the learners.

SEC. 8. *Tax Exemption on Donations.* – All grants, bequest, endowments, donations and contributions made to the Council and used actually, directly and exclusively for the effective implementation of this Act, shall be exempt from donor's tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deductions from gross income in the computation of the income tax of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

The payment of national taxes, including customs duties, of the Council shall be charged against the Tax Expenditure Fund provided for in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the DepEd budget in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days of the approval of this Act, the Secretary of DepEd shall, in consultation with the Director General of the TESDA, members of the Council, and other stakeholders, formulate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,