

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **1067**



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Introduced by: **HON ISIDRO T. UNGAB**

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

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to establish a Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) district office in Davao City to provide training programs and services to more clients in the region.

TESDA was established through the enactment of Republic Act No. 7796, otherwise known as the "*Technical Education and Skills Development Act of 1994*," to encourage the full participation of and mobilize the industry, labor, local government units and technical-vocational institutions in the skills development of the country's human resources.

TESDA has implemented various reforms on industry-based training programs, and provided assistance on apprenticeship, dual training system and other similar devices. Guided by its principle, "*TESDA Abot Lahat*", TESDA compassionately extended its reach to provide relevant, efficient, accessible and quality technical education and skills development programs and services through its regional and provincial offices. TESDA has consistently earned high trust and approval ratings from the people, through its uninterrupted services through the years.

However, as the population grows, more and more clients are seeking technical education and skills development programs and services, and TESDA acknowledges that it cannot accommodate all these clients due to lack of personnel, sheer volume of clients and the geographical size of the service area of provincial offices.

In Davao region, the TESDA Provincial Office of Davao del Sur covers the City of Davao, which is one of the service areas with the largest clients availing the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs and services. The number of training institutions registered under the Unified TVE Program Registration and Accreditation System (UPRAS), number of technical vocational and training institutions, and number of accredited assessment centers and competent assessors and trainers and targets are greater in Davao

del Sur compared to other provinces within the region. The purpose of TESDA Abot Lahat program to reach out and serve more clients may not be completely and effectively achieved in certain areas like Davao City, due to its geographical size and large population growth rate. Further, it is necessarily underscored that there are only seven (7) regular personnel that implement, coordinate and monitor the delivery of TVET programs both in Davao City and in the province of Davao del Sur. Most of the challenges are likewise felt and experienced in other provinces in the different regions in the country. Moreover, Davao City is now a highly urbanized city, which needs to be catered separately from the Provincial Office based in Digos, Davao del Sur.

Premises considered, the establishment of a district office in Davao City is clearly necessary in order to bolster TESDA *Abot Lahat* Program, in its aims to expand and strengthen its mandate and services to all, reach out and serve new partners and clients with a clear objective, and transform and improve the lives of poor Filipinos. Having a TESDA district office in Davao City will not only help the agency evolve into an organization that is responsive, effective, and efficient in delivering myriad services to its clients but will also accomplish its multi-pronged mission geared towards yielding the highest impact on manpower development in various areas, industry sectors and institutions. It is high time to allow TESDA to establish a district office in Davao City and upgrades its personnel for a seamless implementation, monitoring and coordination of all its programs and services.

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



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*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 (DBM) for approval.

**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. 7.** This act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*