

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session**

House Bill No. 1161



Introduced by Representative Arturo B. Robes

**AN ACT MANDATING ALL BARANGAYS TO CREATE A REGISTRY OF
SKILLED WORKERS**

The Philippines is considered as one of the most viable source of skilled workers, not only locally, but internationally. A Hong Kong consulting firm gave the best overall score to Filipino workers based on quality, cost, availability and turnover among workers in East Asia.¹ English is also widely spoken in the country which diminishes the language barrier between Filipinos and foreign employers.

According to a study commissioned by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) however, an exodus of construction workers is inevitable. The study showed that respondents “attributed the low demand in the sector to unfavorable perceptions among construction jobs, viewed as dirty, lowly and dead-end jobs.”

It is high time that we see the importance of this industry as infrastructure, communication facilities and other basic services are built by our workers. This measure aims to create a registry of skilled workers in each barangay, to ensure that information will be available to employers and companies in need of skilled labor.

Additionally, this will also be a vital source of information for the establishment and implementation of training programs by the government and private institutions.

This bill has passed the third reading at the lower house during the 19th Congress.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is urged.

ARTURO B. ROBES

¹ <https://www.berthaphil.com/skilled-labor>

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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 Barangay Skilled Workers Registry Act”.

SEC. 2. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act

(a) *Barangay* refers to the smallest political unit into which cities and municipalities in the Philippines are divided in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Code of the Philippines.

(b) *Skilled workers* refer to persons who regularly perform jobs that cater to household needs which usually involve the use of physical strength or skills such as plumbers, carpenters and electricians. The skilled workers referred hereto shall in no case be limited to holders of national certificates issued by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

(c) *Barangay skilled workers registry* refers to the database of all skilled workers who have registered information on their skills and qualifications at the barangays where they reside to make their services readily available.

SEC. 3. *The Barangay Skilled Workers Registry.* – Every barangay shall create and make public a registry that will serve as a database for all skilled workers who voluntarily register and are willing to make their services available in the locality. These skilled workers need to be residents of the barangay concerned. In addition, the barangay shall be responsible for disseminating information on how skilled workers may include details of their skills and qualifications in the said registry.

SEC. 4. *Contents of the Registry.* – All skilled workers who want their names included in the skilled workers registry shall provide the following details or information, to be disclosed and made readily available to the public:

- (a) Name of the skilled worker;
- (b) Address;
- (c) Contact details;
- (d) Skills and nature of jobs or services offered;
- (e) TESDA National Certificate number and expiration date, if any or any other seminar or training attended relevant to the services offered
- (f) Photocopies of at least two (2) government-issued identity documents (IDs); and
- (g) Any other detail which the barangay deems necessary.

SEC. 5. Access to the Registry. – The barangay shall make the registry available to the public by posting a copy at the barangay's bulletin board or at a conspicuous place within the barangay hall. The same database may also be accessed by the public online should the barangay have its own website.

Any person may obtain or request a copy of the database in part or in whole by submitting a request in the form prescribed by the barangay. The barangay officer or employee having custody over the registry shall act on the request immediately upon receipt of the same.

SEC. 6. Prohibition on Collection of Registration Fees. – The inclusion of a skilled worker's name and corresponding details in the registry shall be free from any fee similar to or would partake in the nature of registration fees. However, constituents who request for a copy of the database may be charged a reasonable fee that would cover the actual cost of printing or photocopying of the information requested.

If the barangay decides to issue an ID pertaining to the skilled worker and the latter agrees to avail of one, the barangay may collect a reasonable fee that would cover the actual cost of the production of the ID. The ID shall only contain pertinent information about the skilled worker such as photo, name, address, contact details, skills and nature of jobs or services offered, and the TESDA National Certificate number and expiration date, if any. The same shall be in the nature of a government-issued ID. The barangay or any other person is prohibited from including logos, slogans and photos that are political in nature.

SEC. 7. Annual Updating of the Registry. – The barangay shall update the registry of skilled workers at the beginning of every year. This is without prejudice to the right of skilled workers to request the barangay to immediately reflect any significant change in any of the information required under Section 4 of this Act.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act or any part hereof be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.

SEC 9. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,