

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1390



Introduced by: Hon. Iris Marie D. Montes

AN ACT
MANDATING THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY TO DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL
EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMS SPECIFICALLY
FOR REHABILITATED DRUG DEPENDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002", declares the policy of the State to provide effective mechanisms or measures to re-integrate into society individuals who have fallen victims to drug abuse or dangerous drug dependence through sustainable programs of treatment and rehabilitation.

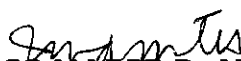
Pursuant to this, this bill seeks to institutionalize the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and livelihood programs for former drug dependents.

TVET is the education or training process of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). It involves, in addition to general education, the study of technologies and related sciences and acquisition of practical skills relating to occupations in various sectors of economic life and social life, comprises formal (organized programs as part of the school system) and non-formal (organized classes outside the school system) approaches.

In 2021, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has announced that "Almost half of over 1.2 million drug surrenderers are now back to their normal lives after undergoing rehabilitation programs."¹

This measure aims to give these former drug dependents a chance to rebuild their lives and provide them with opportunities to find employment or start their own businesses.

In view thereof, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


IRIS MARIE D. MONTES
Kababaihan Kabalikatan para sa Kapakanan
at Kaunlaran ng Bayan (4K) Party-list

¹ Nearly half of 1.2M drug surrenderers back to normal lives: DILG, Christopher Lloyd Caliwang, Philippine News Agency, July 21, 2021 (<https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1147764>)
Accessed on 24 June 2025

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

SECTION 1. The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in coordination with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), shall institutionalize the provision of technical-vocational education and training (TVET) and livelihood programs designed specifically for rehabilitated drug dependents. The TVET and livelihood programs shall focus on competitive and employable skills that can be acquired and developed by rehabilitated drug dependents to further enhance their ability to find gainful employment and entrepreneurial livelihood opportunities.

The DOLE shall provide incentives to companies which shall employ rehabilitated drug dependents who have undergone the TVET and livelihood programs mandated under this Act.

SEC. 2. The Director General of TESDA shall immediately include in the Authority's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, formulate the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instructions, rules or regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved.