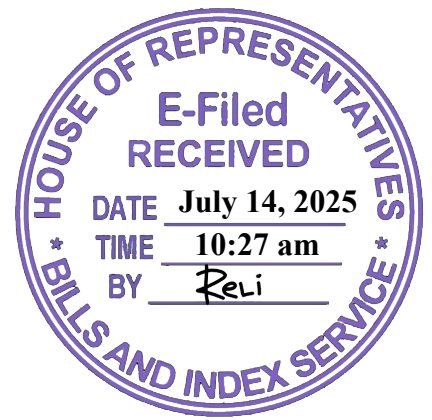


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1818**



Introduced by: **Representative Salvador A. Pleyto, Sr.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The rapid globalization and evolving economic landscape necessitate a workforce equipped with relevant and cutting-edge technical and vocational skills. While educational opportunities abound, there remains a significant gap in accessible, quality technical-vocational education and training (TVET) in many areas, particularly in developing municipalities.

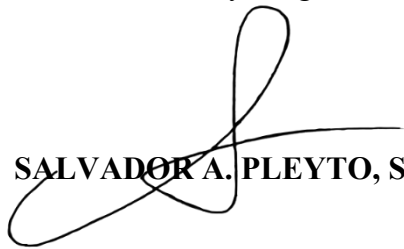
The Municipality of Santa Maria in the Province of Bulacan, a bustling and rapidly growing area, faces the challenge of matching its expanding population with adequate employment opportunities that require specialized skills. Many of its residents, especially the youth, could benefit immensely from practical, job-oriented training that directly addresses the demands of local industries and the broader national economy.

This proposed bill seeks to address this crucial need by establishing a Technical-Vocational Institution in the Municipality of Santa Maria, under the direct supervision and administration of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). TESDA, as the primary government agency responsible for TVET, possesses the expertise, standards, and network to ensure that the institution provides high-quality and industry-responsive programs.

The establishment of such an institution will serve as a vital catalyst for local development. It will provide Santa Maria residents, particularly the out-of-school youth, unemployed adults, and those seeking career advancement, with specialized skills, certifications, and entrepreneurial training, enhancing their employability and earning potential. This will also contribute to the overall development of human capital in the region, fostering a more competitive and productive workforce.

By appropriating the necessary funds for its establishment and continuous operation, this bill demonstrates a commitment to investing in the future of Santa Maria and its people. It is a proactive step towards building a more skilled, resilient, and prosperous community.

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


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **1818**

Introduced by: **Representative Salvador A. Pleyto, Sr.**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL INSTITUTION UNDER THE
SUPERVISION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STA.
MARIA, PROVINCE OF BULACAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 “*Sta. Maria, Bulacan Technical-Vocational Institute (SBTVI) Act*”.

SEC. 2. *Establishment.* – There is hereby established in the Municipality of Sta. Maria, Province of Bulacan, a technical-vocational institution under the supervision and administration of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) to be known as the “Sta. Maria, Bulacan Technical-Vocational Institute”.

SEC. 3. *General Mandate.* – The SBTVI shall offer technical-vocational education and training (TVET) programs as a tertiary educational institution and provide competency qualifications for instruction in TESDA-registered TVET programs and certificate courses. It shall provide a wide array of relevant skills training and trade specialization courses to facilitate the acquisition by the citizenry of the necessary technical skills that shall enhance their access to gainful employment, practical livelihood, and entrepreneurial opportunities, and thus hasten the development of the host area and the adjacent localities in the Province of Bulacan into human resource and productivity hubs.

Priority admission to the SBTVI, including availment of scholarships, grants-in-aid and other forms of student financial assistance, shall be given to the most economically disadvantaged students, out-of-school youths, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples of the Municipality of Sta. Maria and the adjacent localities to ensure their development into productive, self-reliant and globally competitive skilled labor assets.

SEC. 4. *Curricular Offerings and Training Programs.* –The SBTVI shall offer TESDA-registered TVET programs, undergraduate certificate courses, and short-term courses and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills specialization. It shall aim to meet the competency requirements under Level V of Republic Act No. 10968, otherwise known as the “Philippine Qualifications Framework Act”, which is the Diploma Level in TVET.

To this end, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the necessary assistance so the SBTVI can produce skilled manpower to supply the needs of a robust and inclusive economy.

Course completion at the SBTVI shall be credited through skills competency assessment under National Certification Levels III to V. When applicable, TVET competency shall qualify a student for academic degree recognition pursuant to Republic Act No. 10647, otherwise known as the “Ladderized Education Act of 2014”, provided that the requirements of the Commission on Higher Education are complied with.

The SBTVI shall offer skills development for competency qualifications in areas relating to technical industrial education, trade technology, tourism, agricultural technology, business literacy, and innovation in TESDA-registered skills

SEC. 5. *Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* - The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the establishment of the SBTVI shall become operational only upon the issuance by the TESDA of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance attesting that the SBTVI has satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of quality it has prescribed.

SEC. 6. *Administration.* – The SBTVI shall be headed by a Vocational School Superintendent, under the supervision of the TESDA, who shall render full-time service and be responsible for its administration and operation. The Vocational School Superintendent shall be appointed by the TESDA Director General in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the qualification requirements for such office.

The Vocational School Superintendent shall enter into agreement with locally-based private and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, and seek such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act, subject to the approval of the TESDA Director General.

The academic and administrative staff of the SBTVI shall be organized following the staffing pattern of the TESDA for such type of schools, pursuant to existing laws, rules and regulations of the CSC.

SEC. 7. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.* - All assets, fixed and movable, personnel, records and documents, as well as the liabilities or obligations of the SBTVI shall be titled or named after the SBTVI.

All parcels of land belonging to the government to be occupied by the SBTVI are declared as the property of the SBTVI and shall be titled under that name: *Provided*, That should the SBTVI cease to exist or such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the SBTVI, the same shall revert to the concerned local government unit (LGU), or to the Municipality of Sta. Maria or the Province of Bulacan, as the case may be.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DA, Department of Budget and Management, DILG, NEDA, the concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-

business partners of the host locality, prepare and issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected and shall remain in force and in effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,