

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1880



Introduced by Hon. Alexandria P. Gonzales

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The future of our nation lies in the hands of our youth. However, many graduates today—both from senior high school and college—face persistent challenges in securing decent employment or starting their own businesses. The gap between academic instruction and practical employability or entrepreneurial capability remains wide.

This bill seeks to bridge that gap through the Employment Readiness and Entrepreneurship Act, which aims to:

1. Embed employment readiness programs in the senior high school and tertiary curriculum, including training in communication skills, resume-building, interview readiness, basic labor laws, financial literacy, and job-seeking strategies.
2. Promote entrepreneurship by incorporating modules on business ideation, marketing, operations, regulatory compliance, and digital entrepreneurship, with hands-on exposure and mentorship from business practitioners and agencies like DTI and TESDA.
3. Foster partnerships between schools, local government units, private enterprises, and government agencies to provide real-world experiences such as internships, on-the-job training, business simulations, and seed funding support.

Through this bill, we hope to nurture a generation that is both job-ready and enterprise-capable, equipping our youth not only to find jobs, but to create them—thus reducing unemployment, enhancing innovation, and accelerating inclusive economic growth.

Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ALEXANDRIA P. GONZALES

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AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING EMPLOYMENT READINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
TRAINING IN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND TERTIARY EDUCATION, AND PROVIDING
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 "Employment Readiness and Entrepreneurship Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to promote gainful employment, inclusive economic participation, and sustainable entrepreneurship by enhancing the practical skills and competencies of Filipino learners before they graduate from school.

SEC. 3. *Objectives.* - This Act shall:

- a) Institutionalize employment readiness and entrepreneurship training in senior high school and tertiary education;
- b) Strengthen collaboration between academe, industry, and government;
- c) Provide support mechanisms such as career coaching, business incubation, and start-up financing.

SEC. 4. *Curriculum Integration.* - The Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall jointly:

- a. Integrate employability skills and entrepreneurial education in Grades 11-12 and undergraduate programs;
- b. Develop and update training modules aligned with labor market demands and future job trends;
- c. Mandate participation in career immersion, job fairs, and mentorship sessions..

SEC. 5. *Entrepreneurship Lab and Simulation.* - Schools shall establish Entrepreneurship Laboratories where students can create, test, and implement business models through simulation, incubation, and actual practice, with the guidance of faculty and industry mentors.

SEC. 6. *Government and Private Sector Partnerships.* - DepEd, CHED, and TESDA shall collaborate with DTI, DOLE, DICT, LGUs, and private stakeholders to:

- a. Offer job readiness seminars and livelihood training;
- b. Provide internship placements, entrepreneurial mentoring, and seed grants.

SEC. 7. *Capacity Building for Teachers.* - Training programs for educators shall be provided to equip them with current labor market knowledge and entrepreneurial pedagogy.

SEC. 8. *Funding.* - The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of DepEd, CHED, TESDA, and other implementing agencies. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the implementing agencies shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for its effective implementation.

SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 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,