



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **2087**



Introduced by Representative Antonio “Tonypet” T. Albano

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution mandates the State to prioritize education and ensure an integrated system of learning that responds to the needs of the people, including technical-vocational education for adult citizens, persons with disabilities, and out-of-school youth (Article II, Sec. 17; Article XIV, Secs. 1–2).

In pursuit of this mandate, and recognizing the growing demand for skilled labor and livelihood opportunities in the region, the establishment of a TESDA Training and Assessment Center in the Municipality of Cabagan, Province of Isabela remains both timely and essential. This measure aims to deliver accessible technical-vocational education and training (TVET) to residents, especially those from low-income families, farm-based youth, and other marginalized sectors, empowering them to acquire practical, income-generating skills for gainful employment and enterprise development.

Passed by the House of Representatives in the 19th Congress, this bill was the result of the collaborative efforts of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, TESDA, and other stakeholders. The resulting version reflects not only expanded training offerings but also clear provisions for industry linkages, local development goals, and alignment with national standards and certification systems.

In strengthening the region’s human capital and promoting inclusive growth, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ANTONIO “TONYPET” T. ALBANO



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF CABAGAN, PROVINCE OF ISABELA AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Establishment of a Training and Assessment***

2 ***Center in Cabagan, Isabela.*** – There is hereby established a training
3 and assessment center, under the supervision of the Technical
4 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), to be known
5 as the “Cabagan, Isabela TESDA Training and Assessment Center”. It
6 shall be located in a highly accessible area in the Municipality of
7 Cabagan, Province of Isabela, pursuant to the purposes of this Act
8 and the agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local
9 government units (LGUs).

10 **SEC. 2. *General Mandate.*** – The Cabagan, Isabela TESDA

11 Training and Assessment Center, hereinafter referred to as the
12 Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational education and

1 training (TVET) programs to students and local residents from low-
2 income families and out-of-school, including persons with disabilities
3 and indigenous peoples, to help them become productive, self-reliant,
4 and globally competitive labor assets.

5 The Center shall provide effective employment interventions
6 through training programs on relevant skills in trade competencies,
7 craftsmanship, and entrepreneurship activities to help hasten the
8 development of the host area and its adjacent localities into human
9 resource and productivity hubs.

10 The Center shall also provide technical-vocational training for
11 teachers and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools
12 in the province offering the technical-vocational livelihood track
13 under the K to 12 Program, in coordination with the Department of
14 Education (DepEd) and the TESDA.

15 **SEC. 3. Training Programs.** – The Center shall offer short-
16 term certificate courses and trainings in preferred technical-
17 vocational skills and trades specialization. To this end, the
18 Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade
19 and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST),
20 Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local
21 Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority
22 (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies and

1 instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the
2 necessary assistance to enable the Center to develop skilled
3 manpower to achieve a robust and inclusive economy in the host area
4 and its adjacent localities.

5 The Center may establish research and technology hubs,
6 technology development farms, satellite or extension training centers,
7 promote mobile training programs, and strengthen linkages among
8 the industry partners, the academe, and the Center geared towards
9 the acquisition by residents of practical livelihood, employable skills,
10 gainful employment, and entrepreneurial capabilities in priority areas
11 in the Municipality of Cabagan and adjacent localities in the Province
12 of Isabela.

13 The Center shall offer the following TVET programs with
14 competencies assessment leading to National Certification Levels I-III:

- 15 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such
16 as metal and steelwork, machine fabrication and operation,
17 heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanical
18 assembly, refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and
19 operation of power tools and equipment for both medium
20 skills grade and industrial purposes;

1 (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills
2 development in such areas as farming technology, fishing
3 operations technology, backyard farming and home-based
4 aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized
5 farming, fishing tools and equipment operation,
6 agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations,
7 and relevant training seminars for farmers and fisherfolk to
8 encourage entrepreneurship and thus increase their
9 productivity;

10 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills
11 employment and small-scale entrepreneurship, including
12 practical skills education in arts and crafts, workmanship
13 and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring,
14 horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing
15 technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial
16 cooking, cosmetology, and health and wellness training;

17 (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management
18 and marketing, practical accountancy, bookkeeping and
19 office procedures, business processes and application
20 procedures, including registration, licensing,
21 documentation, business patent and intellectual property
22 regulation, business financing and investment opportunities

sourcing, import-export accreditation, online home-based
business operation and social media business marketing;

(e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as
carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity
and installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing,
personal computer servicing, and such other relevant
practical skills courses;

(f) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills,
digital technology, web design, animation, photoshop or
online photography, computer design and advertising;

(g) Social communication skills and language proficiency
courses in English and other languages for business process
outsourcing employment and overseas job placement;

(h) Personality development, career counseling, job placement,
and work ethic and values; and

(i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be
needed by the people of the Municipality of Cabagan and of
adjacent localities to enhance their capacities for practical
livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial
activities.

SEC. 4. Compliance with TESDA Requirements. – The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the Center shall become operational only upon the issuance by the TESDA of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance attesting that the Center has satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of quality it has prescribed governing the following: (a) standard procedures and guidelines for the establishment and operation of a Center; (b) operational sustainability of the Center, in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other standard requirements of a Center; (c) sustainable funding source and allocation of the budgetary requirement; (d) full alignment of the training programs offered with the minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the host area and adjacent communities served within the context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations integration and the Philippine Qualifications Framework for TVET; and (e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards as may be necessary and applicable in establishing a Center.

SEC. 5. Administration of the Center. – The Center shall be headed by a Technical-Vocational Administrator who shall render full-time service and be responsible for its administration and operation, under the supervision of the TESDA.

1 The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall be appointed by
2 the TESDA Director General in accordance with the rules and
3 regulations of the Civil Service Commission and the qualification
4 requirements for such office.

5 The Technical-Vocational Administrator may enter into
6 agreements with locally-based private and public counterpart
7 agencies, instrumentalities or persons, and seek such assistance as
8 may be necessary to effectively implement this Act, subject to the
9 approval of the TESDA Director General.

10 **SEC. 6. Appropriations.** – The Director General of the TESDA
11 shall include in the Authority’s program the operation of the Center,
12 the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
13 Appropriations Act.

14 The LGUs concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall set
15 aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed
16 appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of
17 the Center herein established.

18 **SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within
19 ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in
20 coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DA, Department of Budget
21 and Management, DepEd, DILG, NEDA, the concerned LGUs, and

1 such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the
2 host locality, prepare and issue rules and regulations for the effective
3 implementation of this Act.

4 **SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any section
5 or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid,
6 the other sections or provisions thereof shall not be affected and shall
7 remain in force and in effect.

8 **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders,
9 decrees, instructions, rules and regulations contrary to or
10 inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or amended
11 accordingly.

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

Approved,