

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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4044



Introduced by **Representative RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN
BARANGAY PONSO, MUNICIPALITY OF POLANGUI, PROVINCE OF ALBAY,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) plays a crucial role in enhancing the employability and productivity of Filipinos through technical-vocational education and training (TVET). Expanding TESDA's reach to underserved communities is vital in ensuring that all Filipinos, particularly those in rural areas, have access to skills training that leads to decent work and livelihood opportunities.

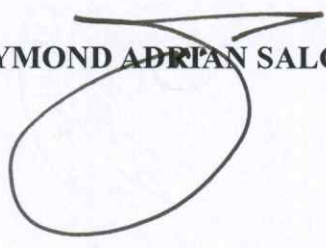
Barangay Ponso in the Municipality of Polangui, Province of Albay, is an ideal site for a TESDA Training and Assessment Center. A government-owned building already exists in the barangay that can be converted into a fully functional training facility. By equipping and institutionalizing this facility under TESDA's supervision, the government can rapidly deploy training programs that respond to the demands of the local economy.

Ponso is strategically located near Polangui's poblacion and serves as a hub for both agricultural and service-oriented livelihoods. A local TESDA Center in Ponso will empower residents of Polangui and neighboring municipalities by offering programs in agriculture, food processing, construction trades, welding, and information and communications technology. The Center will also provide assessment and certification opportunities, which are essential in securing better-paying jobs both within the province and beyond.

This measure seeks to establish a TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Barangay Ponso, Polangui, Albay, by placing the facility under TESDA's direct supervision, equipping it with the necessary tools and instructors, and ensuring its continued funding through the annual General Appropriations Act. The Local Government Unit of Polangui shall provide the site and facilities, while TESDA will oversee accreditation, program development, and staffing.

By institutionalizing this Center, the State affirms its commitment to inclusive and accessible technical education, which is a cornerstone of poverty reduction, rural development, and national competitiveness.

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


RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA

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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 “Ponso TESDA Training Center Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the policy of the State to promote technical education, vocational skills, and livelihood training in order to enhance employability, productivity, and competitiveness of the Filipino workforce, especially in rural areas. Toward this end, the State shall strengthen the role of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) in expanding access to quality technical-vocational education and training (TVET) in underserved communities.

SEC. 3. *Establishment of a TESDA Training and Assessment Center.* There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, a TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Barangay Ponso, Municipality of Polangui, Province of Albay.

SEC. 4. *Site and Facilities.* The Local Government Unit of Polangui shall provide the existing building in Barangay Ponso to house the Center. TESDA shall equip, staff, and operate the Center in coordination with the local government and other stakeholders.

SEC. 5. *Program Offerings.* The Center shall offer training and assessment programs responsive to the needs of the Municipality of Polangui and the Province of Albay, including but not limited to agriculture, food processing, construction, information and communications technology, and other priority sectors as determined by TESDA in consultation with the Local Government Unit and industry partners.

SEC. 6. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current budget of TESDA. Thereafter, the funds necessary for the continued operation of the Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, TESDA shall, in coordination with the Local Government Unit of Polangui and other concerned agencies, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed 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,