

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4762



Introduced by **Representative AGATHA PAULA “AGAY” A. CRUZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

If one recalls classic educational songs such as Sesame Street’s “People in Your Neighborhood” or Batibot’s “Ako ang Kapitbahay,” the central message is clear: every community is sustained by people with diverse skills who quietly keep it running. Carpenters, welders, beauticians, drivers, vendors, repairers, and countless others are the heartbeat of our barangays.

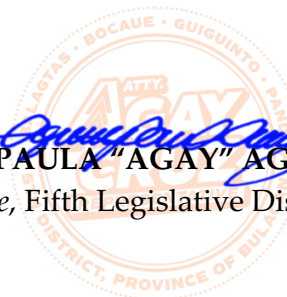
Unlike licensed professionals who appear in national registries, however, these everyday neighbors remain largely invisible in the formal employment processes. This measure seeks to give them a chorus line of their own — a simple, voluntary registry at the barangay level to map and recognize the talent present in our own communities, without having to create a new layer of licensing or impose new fees.

By focusing on skilled workers in both the formal and informal sectors and allowing professionals to register on an optional basis, the bill reduces administrative burdens and avoids duplication with national licensing bodies. It also safeguards the privacy of registrants, makes registration free, and mandates annual updates. In essence, this bill turns every barangay into a small but powerful employment exchange by connecting its skilled workers to local opportunities, linking investors to local talent, and allowing government programs to reach those who need them most.

By passing this bill, we hope that the skilled people in our own neighborhoods are not just a familiar tune we hum, but a workforce we recognize and celebrate.

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


AGATHA PAULA “AGAY” AGUILAR CRUZ
Representative, Fifth Legislative District of Bulacan



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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGISTRIES OF PROFESSIONALS
AND SKILLED WORKERS IN BARANGAYS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Barangay Skilled Workers
2 Registry Act.”
3

4 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to promote full
5 employment and ensure the availability of quality, local, and regular employment
6 opportunities for all Filipino, particularly those engaged in skilled work in both the formal
7 and informal economy. Pursuant to this policy, the State recognizes the role of barangays
8 in promoting job creation and economic development within their localities. Towards this
9 end, the State shall establish an employment information system at the barangay level,
10 targeting skilled workers residing therein for effective matching of the workforce to local
11 employment opportunities, and establish a database of available skilled workers in the
12 locality for investment promotion or generation.
13

14 **Section 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:
15

16 (a) *Barangay* refers to the smallest political unit into which cities and municipalities
17 in the Philippines are divided in accordance with the provisions of the Local
18 Government Code of 1991;
19

20 (b) *Barangay Skilled Workers Registry* refers to the database of a particular barangay
21 containing the information of all skilled workers residing therein who
22 voluntarily registered and declared their qualifications, skills, and/or prior
23 work experiences;
24

25 (c) *Skilled workers* refer to persons that possess some special skill, knowledge, or

ability, whether acquired through formal or informal education, prior work experience, and/or training, and possess a degree of expertise in the performance of a given job. The skilled workers referred hereto shall, in no case, be limited to holders of national certificates issued by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

For purposes of this Act, skilled workers shall likewise include individuals engaged in informal or non-traditional occupations, whether or not they possess formal certifications or credentials from any training institution, public or private, provided that such individuals voluntarily declare their qualifications, skills, and/or prior work experience for registration.

- (d) *Optional Registration of Professionals* refers to the voluntary inclusion of licensed professionals in the Barangay Skilled Workers Registry, without creating any obligation on the part of the barangay to verify professional licenses or credentials beyond what is voluntarily submitted by the registrant.

Section 4. The Barangay Skilled Workers Registry. – Every barangay shall create a registry that will serve as a database for all skilled workers who voluntarily register to offer their services and seek employment opportunities within the locality. The skilled workers must be residents of the barangay where they seek to be registered. Professionals may voluntarily register under this Act, subject to Section 3(d).

The registry shall be developed with the assistance of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), through the Public Employment Service Office (PESO), in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG). The registry shall be consolidated with registries of workers developed by the DOLE and other government agencies. For this purpose, it shall be compatible with the PESO - Employment Information System (PEIS).

Section 5. Contents of the Registry. – All skilled workers who want their names included in the registry and all professionals opting in under Section 3(d) shall provide the following information:

- (a) Name of the skilled worker or professional;
- (b) Home or business address;
- (c) Contact information, such as mobile number, landline number, or email address;
- (d) Nature of the services and/or skills offered;
- (e) Proof of qualifications (i.e. TESDA National Certificate (NC), Certificate of Competency (COC), or any other certificate of training or seminars attended), if any;
- (f) Prior work experience, if any; and,
- (g) Photocopy of Philippine Identification Card (Philippine ID) pursuant to

1 Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11055, otherwise known as the “Philippine
2 Identification System Act”, or photocopies of two (2) government-issued
3 identity documents.
4

5 Barangays shall not be required to verify any professional licenses or credentials
6 beyond what the registrant voluntarily provides.
7

8 **Section 6. Access to the Registry.** – The barangay shall make the registry available
9 to the public aggregated or anonymized data from the registry, such as the number and
10 types of skilled workers, as well as professionals who opted in, in the locality. Personal
11 identifiers such as names, contact details, and license numbers shall only be disclosed to
12 prospective employers or entities upon the express written consent of the registrant
13 concerned, using a form prescribed by the DOLE and the National Privacy Commission
14 (NPC).
15

16 All other access, consent, and privacy safeguards shall follow R.A. No. 10173,
17 otherwise known as the “Data Privacy Act of 2012”, and its implementing rules and
18 regulations.
19

20 **Section 7. Custodianship and Accountability of Data.** – The DOLE, through the
21 PESO, in coordination with the DILG, shall act as the personal information controller for
22 all consolidated registries established under this Act and shall be responsible for ensuring
23 compliance with R.A. No. 10173 and its implementing rules and regulations. The
24 barangay shall act as a personal information processor under the direct supervision of the
25 DOLE and DILG. The DOLE shall promulgate the necessary guidelines for secure storage,
26 processing, and disposal of personal data collected pursuant to this Act.
27

28 **Section 8. Prohibition on Collection of Registration Fees.** – The inclusion of the
29 name of a skilled worker or professional opting in and corresponding details in the
30 registry shall be free from any fee similar to or would partake in the nature of registration
31 fees. However, the constituents who request a copy of the database may be charged a
32 reasonable fee to cover the actual cost of printing or reproducing the details subject of the
33 request.
34

35 **Section 9. Updating of the Registry.** – The barangay shall update the registry at
36 the beginning of every year. This is without prejudice to the right of the skilled workers
37 or professionals opting in to request the barangay to immediately include and reflect any
38 significant change/s in any of the information mentioned under Section 5 of this Act,
39 including the withdrawal of his or her personal data from the registry upon a verified
40 written request submitted to the barangay.
41

42 Information not voluntarily updated and/or confirmed as unchanged by the
43 concerned professional or skilled worker for a period of three (3) consecutive years shall
44 be removed from the database.

Section 10. Monitoring and Evaluation. – Every barangay shall submit to the DOLE and the DILG an annual report, not later than March 31 of each year, containing the following:

- (a) Number of skilled workers registered during the preceding year;
- (b) Number of professionals who voluntarily registered;
- (c) Number of employers or requestors who accessed the registry;
- (d) Number of registrants who were referred for, or successfully placed in, employment, as may be determined through coordination with the PESO;
- (e) Such other information as may be necessary for program evaluation and improvement.

The DOLE and DILG shall consolidate these reports and submit to Congress an annual performance report on the implementation of this Act.

Section 11. Support and Subsidy for Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Infrastructure and Systems for Barangays. – The DILG shall include in its annual budget the necessary amount for the maintenance and operation of the barangay registries, and the subsidy to capacitate the barangays with ICT infrastructure and systems compatible with the PESO-PEIS.

Barangay personnel tasked with the duties and responsibilities of maintaining and updating the registry and coordinating with registrant and potential clientele of skilled workers shall be provided the appropriate capacity-building and training by the NPC, DOLE, and DICT, in coordination with the League of Provinces, League of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the Philippines, and *Liga ng mga Barangay*.

Section 12. Roles of Government Agencies. – The following agencies shall perform the functions, duties, and responsibilities stated herein:

- (a) Barangay:
 - (1) Disseminate information on the requirements and qualifications needed for registration;
 - (2) Ensure the protection of information submitted by registrants in accordance with the provisions of R.A. No. 10173 and its implementing rules and regulations;
 - (3) Coordinate with the PESO of the local government unit LGU exercising jurisdiction over it, or in the absence thereof, the regional PESO, for the establishment of the registry, for job-matching opportunities available within or near the locality, and extension of PESO programs and activities that may be availed of by registered skilled workers;
 - (4) Update the information contained in the registry, whether annually or upon the request of the registrant; and,

(5) Process requests for information in accordance with the provisions of R.A. No. 10173 and other pertinent rules and regulations.

(b) Department of the Interior and Local Government:

- (1) Supervise and assist in the establishment and maintenance of the registry, on-site or online, in the respective barangays; and
- (2) Integrate and consolidate the barangay registries with the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys), the Community-Based Monitoring System, and other existing registries, in coordination with the Philippine Statistics Authority, in accordance with R.A. No. 10173.

(c) Department of Labor and Employment;

- (1) Through the PESOs, assist barangays in developing a registry, which shall be compatible with the PEIS;
- (2) Provide technical assistance and allied support services to the barangays, including, but not limited to, the training of personnel in the various aspects of employment facilitation functions; and
- (3) Extend PESO programs under R.A. No. 8759, as amended by R.A. No. 10691, otherwise known as the "Public Employment Service Act of 1999", including, but not limited to, employment information services, trainings, seminars, counseling, and career guidance to registered professionals and skilled workers within the barangay.

(d) National Privacy Commission:

- (1) Conduct training and capacity-building of barangay secretaries and/or barangay employees having custody over the registries to ensure compliance with R.A. No. 10173 and its implementing rules and regulations; and
- (2) Receive complaints, institute investigations, and/or impose sanctions for any violation of R.A. No. 10173 and its implementing rules and regulations in the exercise of its quasi-judicial functions.

(e) Department of Information and Communications Technology:

Provide the relevant digital skills training and seminars to barangay personnel tasked with maintaining and updating the registry.

(f) Technical Education and Skills Development Authority:

Utilize the registry to offer technical education and skills development programs, courses, and/or scholarships to registered skilled workers that are non-holders of national certificates from TESDA: *Provided, That* priority shall be given to those skilled workers that have no certifications from any training institution, whether public or private.

Section 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from

1 the effectivity of this Act, the DILG, in coordination with DOLE, NPC, TESDA, and other
2 concerned agencies, and upon consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall formulate
3 the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

4
5 **Section 14. Congressional Oversight and Review.** – Congress shall review the
6 implementation and effectiveness of this Act three (3) years after its effectivity and every
7 three (3) years thereafter. The DOLE and DILG shall submit to Congress
8 recommendations for necessary amendments to enhance its implementation.

9
10 **Section 15. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is held
11 unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in
12 full force and effect.

13
14 **Section 16. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and
15 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
16 repealed or modified accordingly.

17
18 **Section 17. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the
19 completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

20
21 *Approved,*