

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5904



Introduced by REP. FERJENEL G. BIRON, M.D.

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DUMANGAS, ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

EXPLANATORY NOTE

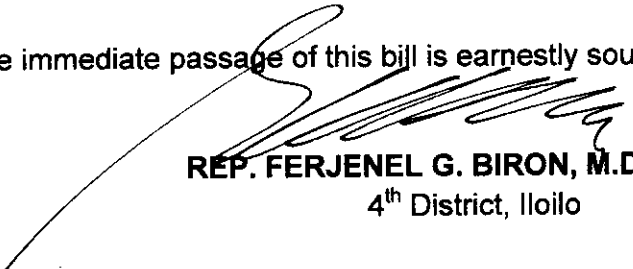
The Municipality of Dumangas, a first-class municipality in the Province of Iloilo, has the strategic location, expanding population, and evolving industries which underscore the importance of equipping its people with relevant skills and technical competencies. The municipality's demographic and economic profile, growth trajectory, and skills and industry gaps clearly demonstrate the need for localized technical and vocational education and training.

With the Port of Dumangas serving as a gateway for trade, commerce, and mobility, the town is positioned to become a major economic hub in the province. This growing activity presents significant opportunities for employment and livelihood, which can be maximized by an adequately trained local workforce to meet industry demands.

Dumangas' economy thrives primarily on agriculture and aquaculture, with emerging opportunities in coastal industries. However, the absence of a nearby Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center requires residents to travel far for training—incurring additional costs and time—which is generally discouraging. Establishing a TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Dumangas would therefore provide greater accessibility, convenience, and alignment of training programs with local industry needs not only for Dumangas but for the neighboring towns as well.

The proposed TESDA Center can develop programs tailored to the municipality's dominant industries and those of its neighboring towns—such as agriculture mechanization, aquaculture operations, salt processing, food technology, and coastal/marine trades. By providing accessible and industry-relevant training, the Center will strengthen the municipality's human resource base, improve resilience, and align the local workforce with the emerging employment and entrepreneurial opportunities in Iloilo.

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



REP. FERJENEL G. BIRON, M.D.
4th District, Iloilo

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**“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF DUMANGAS, ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Establishment of a Training and Assessment Center in**
2 **Dumangas, Iloilo.** – There is hereby established a training and assessment center,
3 under the supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
4 (TESDA), to be known as the “Dumangas TESDA Training and Assessment Center”. It
5 shall be located in a highly accessible area in the Municipality of Dumangas, Province of
6 Iloilo, pursuant to the purposes of this Act and the agreement between the TESDA and
7 the concerned local government units (LGUs).

8 **SEC. 2. General Mandate.** – The Dumangas TESDA Training and Assessment
9 Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, shall primarily provide technical-
10 vocational education and training (TVET) programs to students and local residents from
11 low-income families and out-of-school youths, including persons with disabilities and
12 indigenous peoples, to help them become productive, self-reliant, and globally
13 competitive labor assets.

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

1 The Center shall also provide technical-vocational training for teachers and
2 curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools in the town offering the
3 technical-vocational livelihood track under the K to 12 Program, in coordination with the
4 Department of Education (DepEd) and the TESDA.

5 **SEC. 3. Training Programs.** – The Center shall offer short-term certificate
6 courses and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills and trades
7 specialization. To this end, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE),
8 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology
9 (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local
10 Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-
11 industry partners, and other relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both local and
12 international, shall provide the necessary assistance to enable the Center to develop
13 skilled manpower to achieve a robust and inclusive economy in the host area and its
14 adjacent localities.

15 The Center may establish research and technology hubs, technology
16 development farms, satellite or extension training centers, promote mobile training
17 programs, and strengthen linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the
18 Center geared towards the acquisition by residents of practical livelihood, employable
19 skills, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial capabilities in priority areas in the
20 Municipality of Dumangas and adjacent localities in the Province of Iloilo.

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

23 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and
24 steelwork, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation,
25 automotive mechanical assembly, refrigeration and air conditioning,
26 electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment for both medium
27 skills grade and industrial purposes;

28
29 (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such
30 areas as farming technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming
31 and home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized
32 farming, fishing tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade

1 technology and innovations, and relevant training seminars for farmers and
2 fisherfolk to encourage entrepreneurship and thus increase their productivity;

3
4 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and
5 small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and
6 crafts, workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and
7 tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing
8 technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking,
9 cosmetology, and health and wellness training;

10
11 (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management and marketing,
12 practical accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedures, business
13 processes and application procedures, including registration, licensing,
14 documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation, business
15 financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation,
16 online home-based business operation and social media business marketing;

17
18 (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry,
19 masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive
20 servicing, electronics servicing, personal computer servicing, and such other
21 relevant practical skills courses;

22
23 (f) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, digital
24 technology, web design, animation, photoshop or online photography,
25 computer design and advertising;

26
27 (g) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English and
28 other languages for business process outsourcing employment and overseas
29 job placement;

30
31 (h) Personality development, career counseling, job placement, and work ethic
32 and values; and

33
34 (i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people
35 of Dumangas and of adjacent localities to enhance their capacities for
36 practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial activities.

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

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

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

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

26 **SEC. 6. Appropriations.** – The Director General of the TESDA shall include in
27 the Authority's program the operation of the Center, the funding of which shall be
28 included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs concerned, in
29 consultation with the TESDA, shall set aside from any available local revenue an
30 amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the
31 Center herein established.

1 **SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days after
2 the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST,
3 DA, Department of Budget and Management, DepEd, DILG, NEDA, the concerned
4 LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host
5 locality, prepare and issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this
6 Act.

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

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

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

15 Approved,