

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE BILL No. 6855**



INTRODUCED BY HON. RICARDO S. CRUZ, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Technical and vocational education has always played a crucial role in shaping a nation's workforce. Yet in our country, it has often been treated as a second option rather than a first choice. This bill seeks to change that. By strengthening the Technical-Vocational-Livelihood (TVL) curriculum in Senior High School, we aim to elevate the status of tech-voc education and give our young people the skills they need to succeed in industries that demand precision, expertise, and innovation.

The measure envisions producing a new generation of highly-skilled graduates who are not only employable but sought after in fields such as manufacturing, energy, machinery, mechatronics, telecommunications, and even indigenous local industries. These are sectors that drive economic growth, and our students deserve the chance to be part of them.

At its core, this measure is about giving our youth a fair shot at a better life. By strengthening the TVL curriculum, we are not just teaching skills, we are opening doors to employment, entrepreneurship, and self-reliance. We are building a workforce ready to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

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


RICARDO S. CRUZ, JR.

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AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL AND LIVELIHOOD
CURRICULUM FOR THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING
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 “TVL Curriculum Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The right to education shall be promoted with the end goal of producing graduates who are prepared to become civically active and economically productive members of society.

The State shall also ensure that education aligns with the goals of national development and industrialization. To this end, the State shall ensure access to affordable and competitive training of skilled graduates who are able to meet the requirements of various industries, and find decent employment without need of a college degree.

SEC. 3. Objective. – Graduates of the Technical, Vocational and Livelihood (TVL) Curriculum shall be given senior high school diplomas and pertinent national

certificate for acquiring the competencies and skills necessary for employment, and the various industries shall have confidence in securing their employment and providing equitable compensation.

SEC. 4. TVL Council. - The TVL Council, herein referred to as the "Council", is hereby created which shall be attached to the Department of Education (DepEd), and composed of seven (7) members, namely: (1) Secretary of the DepEd, as Chairperson; (2) Director-General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), as Vice-Chairperson; (3) Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE); (4) Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); (5) Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications Technology; (6) President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI); and (7) President of the Employers Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP).

Members of the Council shall serve without compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursement for expenses related to their participation in the official activities of the Council, in accordance with pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

Members may designate a representative who shall be of rank no lower than that of an Undersecretary.

The Council shall regularly meet at least once every quarter of the academic year. The Chairperson or a majority of the Council's members may call a special meeting whenever necessary.

A meeting may be conducted virtually only in circumstances when meeting in person is impossible or impractical and when all the Council members are able to communicate adequately during the meeting.

SEC. 5. Duties and Functions of the Council. – The Council shall have the following duties and functions:

(a) Periodically consults with various industries to ensure that the programs, curriculum, courses, and other activities of the TVL Curriculum respond to their skills and human resource requirements to strengthen the eligibility and employability of the graduates;

(b) Ensures that the examinations or assessments for National Certification or Certificate of Competency for TESDA shall be included in the curriculum;

(c) Guarantees that the TVL Curriculum shall be in accordance with the qualification levels in terms of the three (3) Philippine Qualifications Framework domains: knowledge, skills, and values; application; and degree of independence;

(d) Encourages various industries to employ TVL graduates by raising awareness of their employment eligibility through information campaign and different programs such as job fairs;

(e) Calls upon the local government units (LGUs), their respective local school boards and other agencies, especially where the schools with TVL curriculum are located, for assistance, coordination and collaboration in the alignment, synchronicity, and complementarity of plans, resources and efforts of the schools and the pertinent LGUs; and

(f) Undertakes other duties and functions that may be necessary or incidental to the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. Roles of Government Agencies. – To achieve the objectives of this Act, the following government agencies shall carry out their respective roles:

(a) DepEd – The DepEd shall formulate the academic curriculum to ensure that learners under the TVL Curriculum possess the knowledge and competencies required to function effectively in the workplace and to be eligible for higher education in the event that graduates choose the pathway. The DepEd shall appoint and designate the public school teachers who shall implement the academic

curriculum and the qualified instructors who shall train the learners in accordance with the curriculum set by TESDA.

(b) TESDA – The TESDA shall formulate and implement the TVL curriculum for equipping the learners with the necessary skills and abilities to obtain the National Certifications or Certificates of Competency. It shall provide the qualifications of instructors for the effective implementation of this Act.

(c) DOLE – The DOLE shall, in consultation with the DepEd and TESDA, formulate guidelines for Work Immersion of the learners to protect their rights during the immersion and as workers upon their employment after graduation. The DOLE shall apprise the Council of the skills needed by various industries to prevent mismatch of jobs and skills.

(d) DTI – The DTI shall advocate for the employment of TVL graduates to different industries by linking them to schools with TVL curriculum for work immersion and eventual job posts.

(e) Other government agencies are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon the request of the DepEd or TESDA, such apparatus, supplies, and other properties as may be needed by the schools with TVL curriculum, and to detail employees for duty therein, when in the judgment of the head of the bureau or office, they can be spared without serious detriment to the public service. Employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required under such detail, and the time employed shall be counted as part of their regular official hours, all laws, rules and regulations limiting the detail of government employees notwithstanding.

SEC. 7. Partnerships with the Private Sector. – The PCCI and ECOP shall notify the Council of the skills and expertise needed by their members. They shall further encourage their respective members to participate in the Work Immersion as Partner Institutions who are able and willing to lend expertise and resources to the learners.

SEC. 8. Tax Exemption on Donations. – All grants, bequest, endowments, donations and contributions made to the Council and used actually, directly and exclusively for the effective implementation of this Act, shall be exempt from donor's tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deductions from gross income in the computation of the income tax of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

SEC. 9. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the DepEd budget in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of the DepEd shall, in consultation with the Director General of the TESDA, members of the Council, and other stakeholders, formulate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 11. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 12. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 13. Effectivity. – Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the IRR, this Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,