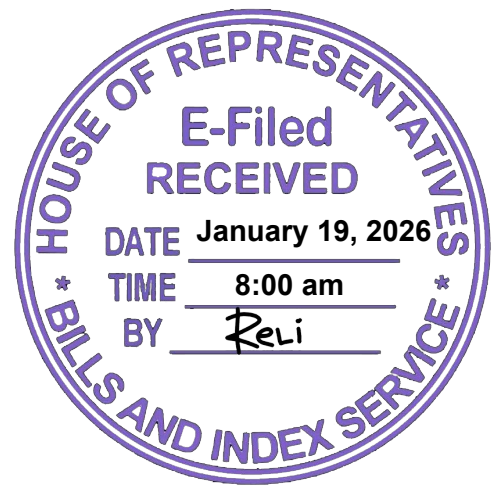




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 7173

Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representative
EDUARDO “BRO. EDDIE” C. VILLANUEVA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Barangay Skilled Workers Registry Act seeks to institutionalize a system at the barangay level to identify, document, and publicize the presence of skilled workers within every community.

Across the Philippines, households and local businesses regularly rely on skilled workers—such as plumbers, carpenters, electricians, welders, masons, and other tradespeople—to meet essential needs in construction, repair, and maintenance. However, in many communities, residents often face difficulty finding reliable and available skilled workers when needed. Conversely, many skilled workers struggle to secure consistent employment opportunities due to the lack of a centralized system where their skills and contact information can be easily accessed.

This bill addresses that gap by establishing a Barangay Skilled Workers Registry, a publicly available database that records the names, skills, and contact details of skilled workers residing within each barangay. Through this registry, local residents can readily find and contact qualified workers, while skilled individuals can promote their services and gain wider access to job opportunities.

Under the proposed measure, barangays will be tasked with maintaining and updating this registry every year. Skilled workers may voluntarily register by providing their personal details, description of services, and—if applicable—their Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) National Certificate numbers or relevant training credentials. Importantly, registration shall be free of charge, ensuring inclusivity for all workers regardless of economic status.

The registry will be posted publicly within the barangay hall and may also be made available online, subject to the barangay’s technical capacity. Reasonable fees may only be collected for copies of the registry or for optional IDs that barangays may issue, provided such IDs remain nonpartisan and purely informational.

By creating this system, the measure aims to:

- (a) Empower local skilled workers by giving them visibility and access to job opportunities;
- (b) Support residents and local enterprises in finding reliable and verified workers;
- (c) Enhance coordination between barangays, local government units, and TESDA in mapping the workforce; and
- (d) Promote inclusive economic growth by recognizing and organizing the country's informal and semi-formal labor force.

In sum, the Barangay Skilled Workers Registry Act strengthens grassroots economic participation by connecting local demand for skilled labor with the capable workers already within the community. It affirms the vital role of Filipino tradespeople in local development and ensures that their skills are acknowledged, organized, and accessible to all.

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


EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA



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HOUSE BILL NO. 7173

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF REGISTRIES OF SKILLED WORKERS REGISTRY ACT

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as "*The Barangay Skilled*
2 *Workers Registry Act*"

3
4 **SEC. 2. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act:

5
6 (a) Barangay refers to the smallest political unit into which cities and
7 municipalities in the Philippines are divided in accordance with the
8 provisions of the Local Government Code of the Philippines.

9
10 (b) Skilled workers refers to persons who regularly perform jobs that cater to
11 household needs which usually involve the use of physical strength or skills
12 such as plumbers, carpenters and electricians. The skilled workers referred
13 hereto shall in no case be limited to holders of national certificates issued by
14 the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

15
16 (c) Barangay skilled workers registry refers to the database of all skilled workers
17 who have registered information on their skills and qualifications at the
18 barangays where they reside to make their services readily available.

19
20 **SEC. 3. The Barangay Skilled Workers Registry.** - Every barangay shall create
21 and make public a registry that will serve as a database for all skilled workers who
22 voluntarily register and are willing to make their services available in the locality. These
23 skilled workers need to be residents of the barangay concerned. In addition, the
24 barangay shall be responsible for disseminating information on how skilled workers
25 may include details of their skills and qualifications in the said registry.

SEC. 4. Contents of the Registry. - All skilled workers who want their names included in the skilled workers registry shall provide the following details or information, to be disclosed and made readily available to the public:

- a) Name of the skilled worker;
- b) Address;
- c) Contact details;
- d) Skills and nature of jobs or services offered;
- e) TESDA National Certificate number and expiration date, if any or any other seminar or training attended relevant to the services offered;
- f) Photocopies of at least two (2) government-issued identity documents (IDs); and
- g) Any other detail which the barangay deems necessary.

SEC. 5. Access to the Registry and Information Contained Therein. - The barangay shall, upon a duly verified request, provide the following information to the requestor:

- a) Title or occupation of the skilled worker;
- b) Nature of the services and/or skills offered by the skilled worker;
- c) Proof of qualifications (i.e., TESDA National Certificate (NC), Certificate of
- d) Competency (COC), or any other certificate of training or seminars attended), if any; *Provided*, That license numbers or other similar control numbers shall be redacted, unless and until the potential employer has decided to conduct the pre-employment process for the engagement of the skilled worker; and
- e) Prior work experience of the skilled worker, if any, which shall be couched in general terms.

The request shall be made to the barangay through a form, which shall include the requestor's name, address, contact details, and reason for requesting the above information of the skilled worker; *Provided*, That prior consent from the skilled worker concerned shall be sought before the foregoing information shall be revealed; *Provided*, further, That in no case shall the name of the skilled worker be revealed except upon his/her specific consent with prior notice of the identity of the person or entity requesting his/her information; *Provided*, finally, That access to the registry shall, at all times, comply with the provisions of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 and its implementing rules and regulations.

The barangay secretary or employee having custody over the registry shall act on the request immediately upon receipt of the duly accomplished and verified form of the requestor.

SEC. 6. Prohibition on Collection of Registration Fees. - The inclusion of a skilled worker's name and corresponding details in the registry shall be free from any fee similar to or would partake in the nature of registration fees. However, constituents who request for a copy of the database may be charged a reasonable fee that would cover the actual cost of printing or photocopying of the information requested.

If the barangay decides to issue an ID pertaining to the skilled worker and the latter agrees to avail of one, the barangay may collect a reasonable fee that would cover the actual cost of the production of the ID. The ID shall only contain pertinent

1 information about the skilled worker such as photo, name, address, contact details,
2 skills and nature of jobs or services offered, and the TESDA National Certificate
3 number and expiration date, if any. The same shall be in the nature of a government-
4 issued ID. The barangay or any other person is prohibited from including logos,
5 slogans and photos that are political in nature.
6

7 **SEC. 7. Annual Updating of the Registry.** - The barangay shall update the
8 registry of skilled workers at the beginning of every year. This is without prejudice to
9 the right of skilled workers to request the barangay to immediately reflect any
10 significant change in any of the information required under Section 4 of this Act.
11

12 **SEC. 8. Support and Subsidy for Information and Communications**
13 **Technology (ICT) Infrastructure and Systems for Barangays.** - The DILG shall
14 include in its annual budget the necessary amount for the maintenance and operation
15 of the barangay registries, and the subsidy to capacitate the barangays with ICT
16 infrastructure and systems compatible with the PESO-PEIS.
17

18 Likewise, the barangay personnel tasked with the duties and responsibilities of
19 maintaining and updating the registry and coordinating with registrants and potential
20 clientele of skilled workers shall be provided the appropriate capacity-building and
21 training by the National Privacy Commission, DOLE, and DICT, in coordination with
22 the League of Provinces, League of Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities
23 of the Philippines, and Liga ng mga Barangay.
24

25 **SEC. 9. Roles of Government Agencies.** - The following agencies shall perform
26 the functions, duties, and responsibilities stated herein:
27

28 a) Barangay:

- 29 1) Disseminate information on the requirements and qualifications
30 needed for registration;
- 31 2) Ensure the protection of information submitted by skilled workers in
32 accordance with the provisions of the Data Privacy Act and its
33 implementing rules and regulations;
- 34 3) Coordinate with the PESO of the local government unit exercising
35 jurisdiction over it, or in the absence thereof, the regional PESO, for
36 the establishment of the registry, for job-matching opportunities
37 available within or near the locality, and extension of PESO programs
38 and activities that may be availed of by registered skilled workers;
- 39 4) Update the information contained in the registry, whether annually or
40 upon the request of the skilled worker; and
- 41 5) Process requests for information in accordance with the provisions of
42 the Data Privacy Act and other pertinent rules and regulations.
43

44 b) DILG:

- 45 1) Supervise and assist in the establishment and maintenance of the
46 registry, on-site or online, in the respective barangays; and
- 47 2) Integrate and consolidate the barangay registries with the Philippine
48 Identification System (PhilSys), the Community-Based Monitoring
49 System, and other existing registries, in coordination with the
50 Philippine Statistics Authority.

1
2 c) DOLE:

- 3 1) Through the PESOs, assist barangays in developing a registry, which
4 shall be compatible with the PEIS;
5 2) Provide technical assistance and allied support services to the
6 barangays, including, but not limited to, the training of personnel in the
7 various aspects of employment facilitation functions; and
8 3) Extend PESO programs under Republic Act No. 8759, as amended by
9 Republic Act No. 10691, otherwise known as the "Public Employment
10 Service Act of 1999," including, but not limited to, employment
11 information services, training, seminars, counseling, and career
12 guidance to registered skilled workers within the barangay.
13

14 d) National Privacy Commission (NPC):

- 15 1) Conduct training and capacity-building of barangay secretaries and/or
16 barangay employees having custody over the registries to ensure
17 compliance with the Data Privacy Act and its implementing rules and
18 regulations; and
19 2) Receive complaints, institute investigations, and/or impose sanctions
20 for any violation of the Data Privacy Act and its implementing rules and
21 regulations in the exercise of its quasi-judicial functions.
22
23

24 e) DICT:

- 25 1) Provide the relevant digital skills training and seminars to barangay
26 personnel tasked with maintaining and updating the registry; and
27 2) Devise and implement a centralized system harmonizing all existing
28 skilled workers registries.
29

30 f) TESDA:

- 31 1) Utilize the registry to offer technical education and skills development
32 programs, courses, and/or scholarships to registered skilled workers
33 that are non-holders of national certificates from TESDA; Provided,
34 That priority shall be given to those skilled workers that have no
35 certifications from any training institution, whether public or private;
36 and
37 2) Formulate a skills supply map to determine the available skills in each
38 city, province, and/or region.
39

40 **SEC. 10. Pilot Program.** - The DOLE and the DILG shall establish and
41 implement a pilot program in an appropriate number of selected barangays, which
42 shall last for a period of not more than three (3) years. The DOLE and the DILG, in
43 coordination with the barangays included in the initial pilot implementation, shall be
44 responsible for baselining, scoping, and research work prior to implementation, regular
45 monitoring, and evaluation. At the end of the pilot program, the DOLE and the DILG
46 shall submit a report on its findings to Congress.
47

48 **SEC. 11. Harmonization of the Barangay Skilled Workers Registry with**
49 **Other Existing Registries.** - All existing skilled workers registry, including, but not
50 limited, to TESDA's Registry of Certified Workers and DOLES Skills Registry System

1 database, shall be harmonized and consolidated into a single, centralized system, to
2 be made accessible to the original maintaining government agencies and the
3 barangays, but in all cases subject to the provisions of the Data Privacy Act and its
4 implementing rules and regulations. The DICT shall take charge in planning, devising,
5 and establishing a centralized system in preparation for the consolidation of registries.
6

7 **SEC. 12. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary for the initial implementation
8 of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the
9 departments concerned. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the
10 continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
11 Appropriations Act.
12

13 **SEC. 13. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within one hundred twenty
14 (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DILG, shall, in consultation with relevant
15 government agencies and stakeholders, promulgate the implementing rules and
16 regulations (IRR) to carry out the provisions of this Act.
17

18 Failure of the relevant government agencies to promulgate the IRR within the
19 specified period shall subject the heads of these government agencies to
20 administrative penalties under applicable civil service laws.
21

22 Should the IRR contain provisions that are contrary to this Act, the heads of the
23 government agencies responsible for such provision, when done in bad faith or with
24 gross negligence, shall be held administratively liable.
25

26 **SEC. 14. Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
27 unconstitutional, the remainder hereof or any provisions not affected thereby shall
28 remain in force and effect.
29

30 **SEC. 15. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
31 executive order, letter of instruction, rule, or regulation inconsistent with the provisions
32 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
33

34 **SEC. 16. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
35 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
36

37 *Approved,*