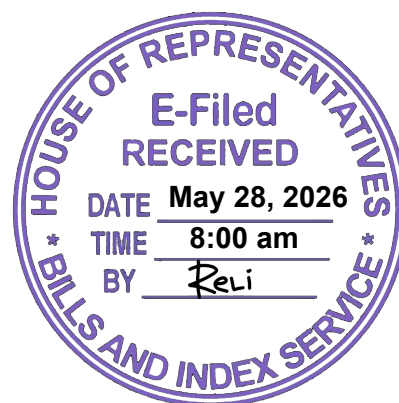


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9478



Introduced by **HON. BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN**

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM AND
PROVIDING JOB OPPORTUNITIES TO PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution recognizes the duty of the State to promote a just and humane society, where every person—regardless of status—has the opportunity for rehabilitation and reintegration. Internationally, Principle 8 of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the “Nelson Mandela Rules”) recognizes the need to enable prisoners “to undertake meaningful employment which will facilitate their reintegration into the country’s labour market and permit them to contribute to their own financial support and that of their families.”

Consistent with this clear policy of rehabilitation, this measure seeks to institutionalize a structured skills training program in jails and prisons across the country. It also mandates the establishment of Job Search and Livelihood Assistance Desks in jails and prisons nationwide to help formerly incarcerated persons access employment opportunities and livelihood programs upon their return to society.

In the Philippines, many rehabilitation-oriented initiatives have already demonstrated viability. At the Parañaque City Jail, women PDLs are provided training in arts and crafts, enabling them to produce items such as bags and painted pots which are sold in trade fairs through the efforts of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP). Proceeds from these sales help support their children outside, while the skills they acquire provide a viable livelihood pathway upon release, allowing them

institutionalize a structured skills training program in jails and prisons across the country. It also mandates the establishment of Job Search and Livelihood Assistance Desks in jails and prisons nationwide to help formerly incarcerated persons access employment opportunities and livelihood programs upon their return to society.

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The goal of this measure is practical: to reduce recidivism by equipping individuals with employable skills while strengthening their capacity to support themselves and their families once reintegrated into society.

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



BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN
Representative
2nd District of Parañaque

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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 “Kasanayan at Kabuhayan
para sa Oportunidad at Sariling Asenso (KaKOSA) Act.”

**SEC. 2. Establishment of Skills Training Program for Persons Deprived of
Liberty (PDLs).** – The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
(TESDA), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Labor and Employment
(DOLE), and Department of Justice (DOJ) and its relevant agencies, such as the
Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), and the Department of Interior and Local
Government (DILG) and its relevant agencies, such as the Bureau of Jail
Management and Penology (BJMP), shall establish skills training programs for all
PDLs in the Philippines.

In addition, the BuCor and the BJMP shall establish and maintain Job Search and
Livelihood Assistance Desks to help ex-offenders attain sustainable employment
once they are released from prison.

SEC. 3. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act
shall be sourced from the current budgets of TESDA, DepEd, DOLE, DOJ, and
DILG. Thereafter, the funds necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act

shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the TESDA, DepEd, DOLE, DOJ, and DILG, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 5. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,