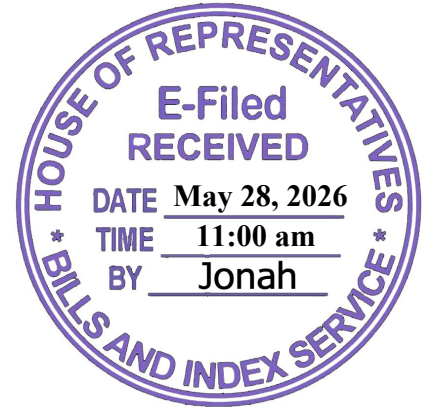




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9490



Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Andrew Julian K. Romualdez and Jude A. Acidre

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BARANGAY EMPLOYMENT
REGISTRY SYSTEM IN ALL BARANGAYS, PROVIDING FOR ITS
ADMINISTRATION AND UTILIZATION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines continues to face persistent challenges in unemployment, underemployment, and informal employment, particularly at the community level where many workers remain outside formal labor market systems. Despite existing employment and livelihood programs, the absence of a standardized and updated barangay-level employment database limits the government's ability to efficiently identify jobseekers, match workers with opportunities, and deliver targeted interventions.

Barangays, as the government units closest to the people, are in the best position to gather accurate and timely information on the employment status, skills, and livelihood needs of residents. Establishing a Barangay Employment Registry (BER) will strengthen grassroots labor market information systems and improve coordination among local government units (LGUs), Public Employment Service Offices (PESOs), and national government agencies.

This bill seeks to institutionalize a standardized Barangay Employment Registry nationwide to facilitate employment matching, skills training, livelihood

support, and evidence-based labor planning. It likewise promotes inter-agency coordination, digital integration with existing employment systems, and compliance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 to ensure responsible handling of personal information.

By creating a reliable community-based employment registry system, this measure aims to expand access to jobs and economic opportunities while strengthening inclusive and responsive local employment governance.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.



FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ



YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ



ANDREW JULIAN K. ROMUALDEZ



JUDE A. ACIDRE



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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 the “Barangay Employment Registry Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – Pursuant to Article II, Section 18 and Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote full, productive, and decent employment opportunities for all Filipinos and to ensure that employment facilitation, skills development, and livelihood interventions effectively reach communities and individuals in need.

Toward this end, the State shall institutionalize a community-based employment targeting and labor market information system through the establishment of a regularly updated Barangay Employment Registry that shall serve as the primary local database of employment profiles, skills, qualifications, and livelihood interests of residents.

The State likewise recognizes the role of local government units (LGUs), Public Employment Service Offices (PESOs), and community stakeholders in promoting inclusive economic participation and evidence-based labor planning.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms are hereby defined:

- a) “Barangay Employment Registry (BER)” refers to the official barangay-level database containing employment, skills, educational, and livelihood information of residents;
- b) “Underemployed” refers to employed persons who express the desire for additional hours of work in their present job, an additional job, or a new job with longer working hours;
- c) “Unemployed” refers to persons who are without work, currently available for work, and actively seeking work;
- d) “Informal Worker” refers to self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, or workers employed in enterprises not formally registered or regulated under existing laws;
- e) “Public Employment Service Office (PESO)” refers to the non-fee charging multi-employment service facility established or maintained pursuant to Republic Act No. 10691;

- f) “Labor Market Information” refers to quantitative and qualitative data and analyses related to employment, unemployment, skills demand, occupations, wages, and labor trends;
- g) “Barangay Employment Focal Person” refers to the designated barangay personnel or official responsible for the implementation and maintenance of the BER.

SEC. 4. *Objectives.* – This Act aims to:

- a) Establish a standardized and integrated employment registry system in every barangay;
- b) Identify and classify unemployed, underemployed, self-employed, and informally employed residents for purposes of employment facilitation and policy planning;
- c) Facilitate efficient job matching, skills training, entrepreneurship development, and livelihood support;
- d) Strengthen coordination among LGUs, PESOs, and national government agencies involved in labor and employment services;
- e) Generate reliable community-level labor market information to support evidence-based planning and policymaking; and
- f) Enhance access of residents to government employment, training, and livelihood programs.

SEC. 5. *Establishment of the Barangay Employment Registry (BER).* – Every barangay nationwide shall establish, maintain, and regularly update a Barangay Employment Registry (BER), which shall contain relevant employment and labor market information on residents, including but not limited to:

- a) Basic personal and demographic information;
- b) Educational attainment;

- c) Technical skills, certifications, and work experience;
- d) Employment status, including whether employed, unemployed, underemployed, self-employed, or engaged in informal work;
- e) Preferred occupation, industry, or training program;
- f) Availability for local employment, remote work, overseas employment, or relocation;
- g) Interest in livelihood, entrepreneurship, or enterprise development programs; and
- h) Such other information as may be determined necessary by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), subject to existing laws and regulations.

Participation in the BER shall be voluntary and free of charge.

The BER shall be updated at least twice every year and may be updated more frequently as determined by the concerned LGU.

The BER shall, whenever practicable, be digitally maintained and integrated with the databases and information systems of the Public Employment Service Office (PESO), PhilJobNet, and other relevant government labor market information systems.

The DOLE shall ensure interoperability of the BER with existing national government databases and digital systems, consistent with applicable laws and regulations on data privacy, cybersecurity, and e-governance.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Agencies and Functions.* – The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), in coordination with the Department of the Interior and

Local Government (DILG), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and concerned LGUs, shall serve as the lead implementing agency of this Act. For this purpose, the DOLE shall:

- a) Develop standardized forms, data collection tools, digital platforms, and operational protocols for the implementation of the BER;
- b) Formulate guidelines for data gathering, validation, updating, sharing, and utilization;
- c) Provide capacity-building, technical assistance, and training to barangay personnel, PESO staff, and LGU implementers;
- d) Monitor and evaluate compliance, data accuracy, and operational effectiveness of the BER system;
- e) Ensure interoperability and integration of BER data with national employment and labor market information systems; and
- f) Establish a centralized monitoring and reporting system for BER implementation nationwide.

SEC. 7. *Responsibilities of Barangays and Local Government Units.* – Every Barangay Council shall:

- a) Designate a Barangay Employment Focal Person from among existing barangay personnel or officials;
- b) Conduct regular registration drives, community outreach activities, and information dissemination campaigns to encourage resident participation in the BER;
- c) Coordinate with the city or municipal PESO in the validation, management, and utilization of registry data;

- d) Assist residents in accessing employment opportunities, training programs, and livelihood interventions; and
- e) Submit periodic reports to the concerned city or municipal government and DOLE, in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations.

City and municipal governments shall provide technical and administrative support to barangays in the implementation of the BER.

Provincial governments shall monitor and coordinate BER implementation within their respective jurisdictions and may provide supplemental funding and technical assistance.

SEC. 8. *Use of Registry Data.* – Data gathered through the BER shall be used exclusively for legitimate governmental and public interest purposes, including:

- a) Employment facilitation and job matching;
- b) Skills training, scholarship, and competency development programs;
- c) Livelihood and enterprise development initiatives;
- d) Labor market research, planning, and policy formulation; and
- e) Targeting and implementation of social protection and economic inclusion programs.

No data collected under this Act shall be sold, transferred, disclosed, or used for commercial, partisan political, election, or unauthorized profiling activities.

SEC. 9. *Data Privacy and Confidentiality.* – The collection, processing, storage, sharing, and use of all personal information under this Act shall be subject to the provisions of Data Privacy Act of 2012 and other applicable laws, rules, and regulations.

Appropriate safeguards shall be adopted to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, accessibility, and security of all registry data.

Only authorized personnel and agencies shall have access to personally identifiable information contained in the BER.

SEC. 10. *Incentives and Program Convergence.* – Barangays and LGUs that maintain functional, updated, and compliant Barangay Employment Registries shall be prioritized, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations, in the allocation and implementation of employment, training, and livelihood programs, including but not limited to:

- a) DOLE employment facilitation and livelihood assistance programs;
- b) TESDA scholarship and skills training programs;
- c) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) livelihood and enterprise development assistance;
- d) Social protection and economic inclusion programs of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); and
- e) Other similar national government programs.

SEC. 11. *Annual Reporting to Congress.* – The DOLE shall submit an annual report to Congress on the implementation of this Act, which shall include:

- a) The status of BER establishment and functionality nationwide;
 - b) Statistics on registered residents and employment classifications;
 - c) Utilization of BER data for employment and livelihood interventions;
 - d) Challenges encountered and recommendations for policy improvement;
- and

- e) Such other information as may be necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the BER system.

SEC. 12. *Funding.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DOLE and DILG. Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

LGUs may appropriate additional funds from their respective local budgets for the implementation and enhancement of the BER.

SEC. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOLE, in coordination with the DILG, NEDA, TESDA, DTI, DSWD, the National Privacy Commission, representatives from LGUs, PESOs, and other relevant stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 14. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

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

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

Approved,