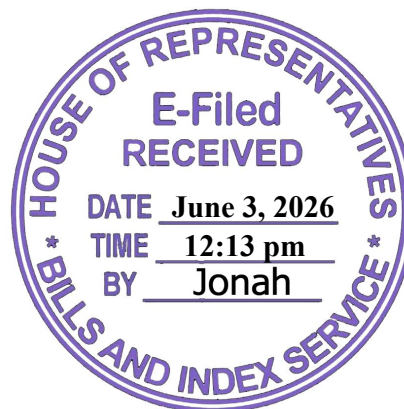




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



Committee Report No. 442

Submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education and Appropriations
on June 3, 2026

Re: House Bill No. 9703

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 897 and 898

Sponsors: Representatives Jude A. Acidre, Mikaela Angela B. Suansing, and Gerardo
“Gerryboy” J. Espina, Jr.

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Higher and Technical Education and Appropriations, to which were
referred House Bill No. 897, introduced by Representative Gerardo “Gerryboy” J.
Espina, Jr., entitled:

“AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND
ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAWAYAN,
PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE KAWAYAN,
BILIRAN TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 898, introduced by Representative Gerardo “Gerryboy” J. Espina, Jr.,
entitled:

“AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND
ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAVAL,
PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE NAVAL,
BILIRAN TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 9703,
entitled:

“AN ACT
ESTABLISHING TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PROVINCIAL TRAINING AND
ASSESSMENT CENTERS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF
KAWAYAN AND NAVAL, BOTH LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF
BILIRAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 897 and 898 and with Representatives Gerardo “Gerryboy” J. Espina, Jr., Jude A. Acidre, Henry “Indy” F. Oaminal, Jr., Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Jaime R. Fresnedi, Antolin A. Oreta III, Janice Degamo, Eulogio “Leo” R. Rodriguez, Charisse Ann C. Hernandez, Ustadz Yusop T. Alano, Steve Chiongbian Solon, Edwin L. Cruzado, M.D., Jose Manuel Tadeo “Chel” I. Diokno, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., M.D., FPSO-HNS, Mercedes K. Alvarez, Antonino B. Roman III, Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas, and Mikaela Angela B. Suansing as authors thereof.


MIKAELA ANGELA B. SUANSING
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

Respectfully submitted,


JUDE A. ACIDRE
Chairperson
Committee on Higher and Technical
Education

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9703
(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 897 and 898)

Introduced by Representatives Gerardo “Gerryboy” J. Espina, Jr., Jude A. Acidre, Henry “Indy” F. Oaminal, Jr., Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Jaime R. Fresnedi, Antolin A. Oreta III, Janice Degamo, Eulogio “Leo” R. Rodriguez, Charisse Ann C. Hernandez, Ustadz Yusop T. Alano, Steve Chiongbian Solon, Edwin L. Cruzado, M.D., Jose Manuel Tadeo “Chel” I. Diokno, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., M.D., FPSO-HNS, Mercedes K. Alvarez, Antonino B. Roman III, Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas, and Mikaela Angela B. Suansing

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
PROVINCIAL TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTERS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF
KAWAYAN AND NAVAL, BOTH LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Establishment of Provincial Training and Assessment Centers.* -

There are hereby established provincial training and assessment centers, under the supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in the Municipalities of Kawayan and Naval, both located in the Province of Biliran. They shall be known as the “Kawayan, Biliran TESDA Provincial Training and Assessment Center” and “Naval, Biliran TESDA Provincial Training and Assessment Center”, respectively. They shall be located in highly accessible areas in the Municipalities of Kawayan and Naval, Province of Biliran pursuant to the purposes of this Act and to the agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local government units (LGUs).

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

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

SEC. 3. *Training Programs.* – The Centers shall offer short-term certificate courses and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills and trades specialization. To

1 this end, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and
2 Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture
3 (DA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Economy,
4 Planning, and Development (DEPDev), business-industry partners, and other relevant
5 agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the necessary
6 assistance to enable the Centers to develop skilled manpower to achieve a robust and
7 inclusive economy in the host area and its adjacent localities.

8
9 The Centers may establish research and technology hubs, technology development
10 farms, satellite or extension training centers, promote mobile training programs, and
11 strengthen linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the Center geared
12 towards the acquisition by residents of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful
13 employment, and entrepreneurial capabilities in priority areas in the Municipalities of
14 Kawayan and Naval and their adjacent localities.

15
16 The Centers shall offer the following TVET programs with competencies assessment
17 leading to National Certification Levels I-IV:

- 18
19 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steelwork,
20 machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation, automotive
21 mechanical assembly, refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and operation
22 of power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;
23
- 24 (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas
25 as farming technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming and home-
26 based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farming, fishing tools
27 and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and
28 innovations, and relevant training seminars for farmers and fisherfolk to encourage
29 entrepreneurship and thus increase their productivity;
30
- 31 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-
32 scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts,
33 workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring,
34 horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home
35 technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and
36 wellness training;
37
- 38 (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management and marketing, practical
39 accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedures, business processes and
40 application procedures, including registration, licensing, documentation, business
41 patent and intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment
42 opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, online home-based business
43 operation and social media business marketing;
44
- 45 (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry, masonry,
46 plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing,
47 electronics servicing, personal computer servicing, and such other relevant
48 practical skills courses;
49
- 50 (f) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, digital technology, web
51 design, animation, photoshop or online photography, computer design and
52 advertising;

- 1
2 (g) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English and other
3 languages for business process outsourcing employment and overseas job
4 placement;
5
6 (h) Personality development, career counseling, job placement, and work ethic and
7 values; and
8
9 (i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the
10 Municipalities of Kawayan and Naval and adjacent localities to enhance their
11 capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial
12 activities.
13

14 **SEC. 4. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.-** The provisions of this Act
15 notwithstanding, the Centers shall become operational only upon the issuance by the TESDA
16 of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance attesting that the Centers have
17 satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of quality it has prescribed governing the
18 following: (a) standard procedures and guidelines for the establishment and operation of a
19 Center; (b) operational sustainability of the Centers in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and
20 personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other
21 standard requirements of a Center; (c) sustainable funding source and allocation of the
22 budgetary requirement; (d) full alignment of the training programs offered with the minimum
23 standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs
24 of the host area and adjacent communities served within the context of the Association of
25 Southeast Asian Nations integration and the Philippine Qualifications Framework for TVET;
26 and (e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards as may be
27 necessary and applicable in establishing a Center.
28

29 **SEC. 5. Administration of the Centers.** – The Centers shall each be headed by a
30 Technical-Vocational Administrator who shall render full-time service and be responsible for
31 its administration and operation, under the supervision of the TESDA.
32

33 The Technical-Vocational Administrator of each Center shall be appointed by the
34 TESDA Director General in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Civil Service
35 Commission and the qualification requirements for such office.
36

37 The Technical-Vocational Administrator may enter into agreements with locally-based
38 private and public counterpart agencies, instrumentalities or persons, and seek such
39 assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act, subject to the approval of
40 the TESDA Director General.
41

42 **SEC. 6. Appropriations.** - The Director General of the TESDA shall include in the
43 Authority's program the operation of the Centers, the funding of which shall be included in
44 the annual General Appropriations Act.
45

46 The LGUs concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall set aside from any
47 available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support
48 the operation of the Center herein established.
49

50 **SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days after the
51 approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DA,
52 Department of Budget and Management, DILG, DEPDev, the concerned LGUs, and such

1 other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host locality, prepare and issue
2 rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

3
4 **SEC. 8. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act
5 is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof shall not be
6 affected and shall remain in force and in effect.

7
8 **SEC. 9. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, and
9 rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or
10 amended accordingly.

11
12 **SEC. 10. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
13 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,