FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
    OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE
S. No. **2663**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 18 provides: "The State affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare."

In its 22-point labor and employment agenda, the government is prioritizing investments in the country's no. 1 resource, its human resource, in an atmosphere of industrial peace and social justice.
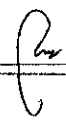
Hence, this bill seeks to direct the Secretary of Labor and Employment, subject to the availability of appropriations, to make grants to local government units to carry out employment training programs to aid unemployed individuals in securing employment in a new area of expertise, particularly in emerging markets and industries (such as green technologies).

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

Senate
(Office of the Secretary)

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SENATE
S. No. ___**2663**___

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1   AN ACT

2 AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO MAKE GRANTS

3   TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO CARRY OUT

4   EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS

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

5   SECTION 1. *Short Title.* -- This Act shall be known as the "New Jobs for Philippines

6 Act."

7   SECTION 2. *Compensated Employment Training Grants.* --

8   (a)   Authorization. -- Subject to the availability of appropriations for such funds, the

9 Secretary of Labor and Employment shall make grants to local government units to carry out the

10 activities described in subsection (b).

11   (b)   Use of Funds. -- A recipient of a grant under this Act shall use the grant for the

12 following purposes:

13   (1)   To seek out unemployed individuals struggling financially whose prior training

14   consisted of skills necessary for a faltering or dying industry.

15   (2)   To create compensated training programs that offer training in emerging markets

16   and industries (such as green technologies).

17   (3)   To partner with state universities and colleges to create innovative retraining

18   programs focused on retooling workers for jobs in the growth sectors of

19   healthcare, biotech, and information technology.

20   (4)   To partner with non-profit organizations to provide apprenticeships and

21   internships.

1   (5)   To provide compensation to participants in training programs to temporarily aid

2   in their financial distress.

3   (6)   To provide access to public healthcare programs for participants.

4   (7)   To create training programs for ex-offenders in an effort to reduce recidivism.

5   (8)   To aid newly trained participants in securing employment within the field of their

6   newly acquired expertise.

7   (c)   Conditions. – As a condition of receiving a grant under this Act, a grant recipient

8 shall allocate not less than eighty percent (80%) of the funding allocated under the grant to

9 wages, benefits, and support activities, including child care services to individuals receiving

10 compensated training under such a grant; and institute a program to aid newly trained

11 participants in securing employment in their new area of expertise.

12   SECTION 3. *Authorization of Appropriations.* – There are authorized to be appropriated

13 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

14   SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act shall be declared

15 unconstitutional or invalid, any other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and

16 effect.

17   SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or

18 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

19   SECTION 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication

20 in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

    Approved,

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