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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES 1ST REGULAR SESSION

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RECEIVED BY:

SENATE S.B. NO. 1941

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MAGSAYSAY, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Cognizant of the tenet of the 1987 Philippine Constitution that, "[t]he State affirms labor as a primary social economic force" (Art. II, Sec. 18) which breathes fulfillment in the magnanimity of the hallmark of the supreme law that, "[t]he State shall promote social justice in all phases of national development" (Art. II, Sec. 10), this legislation is submitted.

The efforts to generate 6-10 million jobs in the next 6 years forms the core of the President's agenda as set out in her State of the Nation Address. In order to achieve this target, more intentive linkages among industry, government and the academe will be essential.

The different private organizations representing the human resources and the employers sectors have shown their keen interest in making Filipino human resources more marketable from the point of view of local and foreign business requirements. Amongst the factors identified to achieve this objectives include improving productivity in the workplace, promoting labor policies that encourage business creation, employee productivity and sustainable competitiveness, developing ethical leaders in all sectors of society, and creating a long-term strategy for human resources.

While the various departments of the government have elements, of a national human resource plan, these elements would have more potency if they are integrated of a national Human Resources Commission with multi-sectoral representation that will develop and oversee an integrated human resource plan.

Approval of this bill is therefore earnestly sought.

SEVATE OFFICE OF THE LEGITETARY

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AN ACT

PROMOTING FULL EMPLOYMENT AND EQUALITY OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL CREATING THEREBY THE HUMAN RESOURCES COORDINATING COMMISSION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Creation and Functions of the Human Resources Commission. There is hereby created a Human Resources Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission". The Commission shall have the following functions:

- a. To develop national integrated human resource plan;
- b. To oversee the implementation of the plan;
- c. To put in place a mechanism to ensure success in the implementation of the plan;
- d. To provide assistance and share expertise and technology and provide volunteers in government; and
- e. To assist in the development of competencies and provide other research and consulting assistance.

SEC. 2. Composition. The Commission shall be composed of a Chairman, who shall be appointed or designated by the President, and a sufficient number of members as may be determined by the Chairman who shall be selected from the staff of the Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Agriculture, Department of Education, National Economic Development Authority, from accredited personnel, employer, labor and school organization, and from other relevant government agencies and private sector organizations.

SEC. 3. *Powers and Functions of the Commission* - In pursuit of its functions as defined in Section 1 hereof, the Commission shall have the responsibility and authority to:

a. Formulate an integrated national human resource plan to support the President's vision of creating a just, self-reliant and prosperous society, including the generation of 6-10 million jobs in six years and the private business sectors of society and nongovernment organizations that can assist the government in improving the job and livelihood opportunities of the unemployed, underemployed and those engaged in small-scale industries and entrepreneurship.

- c. Provide job opportunities for students and out-of-school youths and coordinate various skills training programs and livelihood seminars which include data and programs for OFWs and their families
- d. Perform such other powers and functions as may be necessary for the effective discharge of its functions as may be directed by the Oversight Committee created in Section 5 hereof or the President.

SEC. 4. Oversight Committee and Office. - The Commission shall be under the Office of the President and shall have an Oversight Committee to be chaired by the Secretary of Trade and Industry to ensure the active participation and cooperation of government agencies and instrumentalities in generating jobs and livelihood opportunities. The members of the Oversight Committee shall be the representatives of Departments of Labor and Employment, Agriculture, the following: Commission on Higher Education, Education, National Economic Development Authority and five (5) representatives from the private sector nominated bv the employers confederation, personnel management, trade unions and labor organizations, and the chambers of commerce and industry.

SEC. 5. Assistance and Cooperation. - In addition to the above mentioned agencies, all other government agencies are hereby directed to actively cooperate and support the campaign to provide job and livelihood opportunities to the unemployed sector of society in cooperation with the business and NGO sectors. For this purpose, the Chairman of the Commission may call upon heads of such government agencies for assistance, as may be necessary from time to time.

SEC. 6. *Funding.* - The Human Resource Development Office under the Department of Labor and Employment is hereby abolished. Its present plantilla and set of personnel shall serve as the core agency to implement the provisions of this Act. Thereafter, the appropriation reserved for the agency shall be allotted to the Commission and the Department of Budget and Management shall source additional financial requirements that may be needed by the commission from available funds of concerned agencies involved in the job generation campaign of the government, subject to the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SEC. 7. *Repeal* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, letter of instruction, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,