

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

SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 19 10:45

SENATE  
S. No. **1524**

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 3 of R.A. No. 7796, otherwise known as the TESDA Law states:

SEC. 3. *Statement of Goals and Objectives.* - It is the goal and objective of this Act to:

Promote and strengthen the quality of technical education and skills development programs to attain international competitiveness;

X X X

Recognize and encourage the complementary roles of public and private institutions in technical education and skills development and training systems;

X X X

In the continuous globalization of the economy, the Philippines has become a major player in the international labor market. This has been evident the incessant flow of manpower to other countries and the strong local outsourcing industry. As such, there is an increasing demand to certify the capabilities of our workers in order to assist overseas employers and outsourcing companies in investing on our manpower. Many of these skill certifications are done by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). However, there are several others which are maintained by private organizations to cover the skills that they need particular to their industry.

In order to develop further their reliability in terms of skill certification, TESDA should establish a continuing program that would allow them to look into the best practices of private entities and organizations. The result of this study would lead to possible development of more

certification programs by TESDA, or the recognition of TESDA of the reliability of certain programs in measuring and certifying certain other skills. In effect, we will be able to consolidate and rank the certification programs in terms of their reliability and recognition by the labor market. By doing so, we will be able to assist our workers by pointing out the industries in which certain skills are in demand and the certification program that would allow the industries to recognize such skills. As a country, it will allow us to be better players in the international labor market.

This bill seeks to mandate TESDA to undertake a continuing study on the skill certification programs across the country.<sup>1</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
*also*

---

<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

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

SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 19 10:45

SENATE  
S. No. **1524**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT  
2 TO EVALUATE CERTAIN SKILLS CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS  
3

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

6 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Skills Standard Certification  
7 Evaluation Act.”

8 SECTION 2. *Purpose.* – The purposes of this Act are—

9 A. to periodically evaluate skills certification programs that certify various employee  
10 skills and to determine which skills certifications are most desired by employers and  
11 employees; and

12 B. to make information, and materials if possible, about skills certification programs  
13 available to eligible entities providing job training.

14 SECTION 3. *Definition.* – The purpose of this Act the term –

15 A. SKILLS CERTIFICATION PROGRAM means an industry-led or industry-  
16 created program that--

- 17 1. is in existence as of the time that the evaluation under Section 3 is  
18 conducted;
- 19 2. delineates a skill set necessary for a career in a certain industry;
- 20 3. does not culminate in an associate or baccalaureate degree; and
- 21 4. is not portable or widely or nationally recognized.

1       SECTION 4. *Evaluation.* – Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this  
2 Act, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall-

- 3       A. conduct an evaluation of skills certification programs;
- 4       B. determine best practices models for skills certification programs; or
- 5       C. rank the skills certification programs available in an industry, based on the evaluation  
6       criteria described in Section 4; and
- 7       D. make recommendations on—
  - 8           1. the merits of a unified national approach to programs of skills certification, as  
9           compared to multiple regional and local skills certification programs; and
  - 10          2. ways to streamline, if possible, duplicative and similar skills certification  
11          programs into a single, widely recognized certification.

12       SECTION 5. *Criteria for Evaluation.* – The evaluation of the skills certification programs  
13 conducted under Section 3 shall include the following criteria:

- 14       A. Overall usefulness of the skills certification program for workers and employers.
- 15       B. The demand from industry for workers with the skills provided and certified through  
16       the skills certification program.
- 17       C. Industry involvement in the development of the skill standards included in the skills  
18       certification program.
- 19       D. Industry recognition of the certification awarded under the skills certification  
20       program.
- 21       E. The success of the skills certification program, based on criteria including—
  - 22           1. how many individuals have successfully completed the skills certification  
23           program;
  - 24           2. how many of such individuals are employed in a field utilizing the skills  
25           provided and certified through the skills certification program; and
  - 26           3. the length of time that such individuals have been so employed.
- 27       F. The level of recognition of the skills certification program as of the time of the  
28       evaluation, including an assessment of –

1. how widespread the skills certification program is used;
2. the number of entities, including employment agencies and institutions of higher education, that have used the skills certification program;
3. the number of foreign countries, if any, in which the certification is recognized; and
4. whether the skills provided and certified through the skills certification program are reasonably useful.

G. Cooperative creation in the development of the skills certification program, such as whether the standards of the skills certification program were created in consultation with relevant partners, including business, labor, and community organizations, and whether such partners still support and use the standards

H. The ease of sharing the skills certification program, including how portable the materials are, how versatile the materials are, and whether the certification programs requires the educator to have access to specific or extensive materials or equipment not usually found in a classroom.

SECTION 6. *Outreach and Information Campaign.* – Not later than 60 days after the evaluation described in Section 3 has been completed, TESDA shall-

A. post the results of the evaluation, the ranking of skills certification programs or the best practices of such programs, and the recommendations, as described in Section 3, on the Internet; and

B. make the information described in Paragraph A available in print form to Congress and to interested parties, including—

1. technical colleges;
2. community organizations; and
3. other groups providing worker training, in partnership and cooperation with industry.

1       SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* –The amount necessary for the initial implementation of  
2   this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of TESDA under the current General  
3   Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for its full implementation shall  
4   be included in the annual General Appropriations Act as a distinct and separate item.

5       SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or  
6   unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain  
7   valid and subsisting.

8       SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
9   order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent  
10   with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

11       SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
12   publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

13       Approved,

/apm120508