

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.¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
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¹ This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 23 1. technical colleges;
- 24 2. community organizations; and
- 25 3. other groups providing worker training, in partnership and cooperation with
- 26 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,

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