

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



23 MAY 10 P 4 :21

**SENATE**  
**S. No. 2175**

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Introduced by: Senator Raffy T. Tulfo

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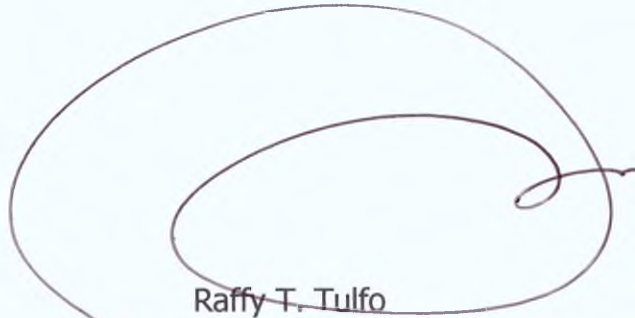
**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT**  
**AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE CITY**  
**OF MAASIN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE**  
**MAASIN CITY TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the 2020 census, the City of Maasin in Southern Leyte has a total population of 87,446 people and is home to 20, 206 households. Maasin City is the commercial and religious center of Southern Leyte and the south-western part of Leyte Island and is considered to be the Pilgrimage Hub of the entire Region VIII. Most of the people in Maasin City are farmers and fishermen who are noted for their hard work and frugality.

Republic Act No. 7796, or otherwise known as the Technical Education and Skills Development Act was signed into law in 1994 with the aim to strengthen the quality of the country's technical education and skills development programs in order to achieve world class competence of our country's workforce through providing quality technical-educational and skills development. In order to enhance the technical capabilities of the people of Maasin City, the purpose of this measure is to create a TESDA Training and Assessment Center in the City of Maasin, Southern Leyte

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



Raffy T. Tulfo  
Senator

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

1           Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Maasin City TESDA Training  
2 and Assessment Center Act".

3           Sec.2. *Establishment.* - There is hereby established a Technical Education and Skills  
4 Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center in a highly accessible area  
5 in the City of Maasin, Province of Southern Leyte, under the supervision of TESDA, to be  
6 known as the Maasin City TESDA Training and Assessment Center hereinafter referred to as  
7 the Center.

8           Sec.3. *General Mandate.* - The Center shall primarily provide technical-vocational  
9 training and skills development programs to students and residents from low-income families  
10 and out-of-school youths, including college dropouts and persons with disabilities (PWDs), in  
11 Maasin City and the neighboring communities in the Province of Southern Leyte, geared  
12 towards the acquisition of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment, and  
13 entrepreneurship.

14           The Center shall help train local residents to become productive, self-reliant and  
15 globally competitive middle to high-level skilled labor force to hasten the social and economic

1 development of these areas, in particular, and to meet the manpower needs of both local and  
2 international labor markets, in general.

3 The Center shall consider in the design of relevant technical-vocational training  
4 programs to be offered thereat a competency assessment of the socioeconomic profile,  
5 employment conditions and opportunities, business climate, market and industry potentials,  
6 resources available and presence of support structures, including the literacy level and skills  
7 readiness, and the overall development of the host area and adjacent communities within the  
8 operational radius of the Center established herein. The Center shall also consider the relevant  
9 skills trade competencies, craftsmanship training programs, and entrepreneurship activities  
10 needed to deliver the effective employment and development interventions required to make  
11 these areas as human resource and productivity hubs.

12 The Center shall also serve as a TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired  
13 competencies in technical vocational skills in Maasin City and other municipalities of the  
14 Province of Southern Leyte.

15 Preference in admission, however, shall be given to the most disadvantaged citizens,  
16 including PWDS, and to the most economically depressed areas of Maasin City, Province of  
17 Southern Leyte, within the operational radius of the Center.

18 The Center shall, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the  
19 TESDA, render relevant teachers' training assistance and curriculum design to the secondary  
20 schools offering technical-vocational livelihood (TVL) track under the K-to-12 program of the  
21 DepEd in Maasin City and the other municipalities in the Province of Southern Leyte.

22 *Sec.4. Training Programs.* - The Center shall offer diverse short-term certificates  
23 courses and modular trainings in relevant technical-vocational skills and trades specialization  
24 to comply with employment standards in preferred market-driven labor opportunities, but shall  
25 likewise give premium efforts to skills specialization for local market employment requirements  
26 geared towards achieving the development of a robust inclusive economy within the host area  
27 and each of the adjacent localities and communities within the operational radius of the  
28 Center, in consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department  
29 of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of  
30 Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority  
31 (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies, both local and international.

1           The Center may establish, as deemed necessary and practicable, research and  
2 technology hubs, mobile training programs, and satellite or extension training centers in  
3 priority areas throughout Maasin City within the service radius of the Center to strengthen  
4 linkages among the industry, the academe, and the technology programs thereat.

5           To address the development and manpower needs of Maasin City and the other  
6 adjacent localities of the Province of Southern Leyte, the Center shall offer the following  
7 TESDA-registered technical-vocational training programs with the competencies assessment  
8 leading to National Certification Levels I-III:

9           (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steel works,  
10 machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanic,  
11 refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment for  
12 both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;

13           (b) Agriculture-related trainings and farm skills development in such areas as farming  
14 technology and farm operations, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and  
15 propagation innovations, mechanized farm tools and equipment operations, agribusiness and  
16 agri-trade technology and innovations, and relevant farmers' trainings for increased  
17 productivity and entrepreneurship;

18           (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small scale  
19 entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in crafts and arts, workmanship and  
20 designing (such as fabric, woodworks, jewelry and metal works) high-speed sewing,  
21 dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing  
22 technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking (such as baking), beauty  
23 culture (including cosmetology and hair and nail styling), and health and wellness training;

24           (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management and marketing, practical  
25 accountancy, bookkeeping, and office procedures, business processes and application  
26 procedures including registration, licensing, documentation, business patent and intellectual  
27 property regulation, business financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-export  
28 accreditation, including online home-based business operation and use of social media  
29 business marketing;

- 1 (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trade skills such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing,  
2 welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing,  
3 personal computer (PC) servicing, and such other relevant practical skills courses;
- 4 (f) Computer Literacy and Information Technology (IT)-related skills, digital technology, web  
5 design, animation, photoshop/online photography, computer design, and advertising;
- 6 (g) Social communication skills development, language proficiency courses in English and  
7 other language for business process outsourcing (call center) employment and overseas job  
8 placement;
- 9 (h) Seminars in personality development, career counselling and job placement, work ethic  
10 and values, and;
- 11 (i) Other preferred priority skills trades training that may be needed by the people of Maasin  
12 City and relevant as well to the needs of the areas in the Province of Southern Leyte to  
13 enhance their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurship  
14 skills.

15           *Sec.5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.* - The provisions of this Act  
16 notwithstanding, the Center established herein shall become operationally effective only upon  
17 the determination and declaration of TESDA, through the issuance of a formal  
18 recommendation and certificate of compliance, that the Center has satisfactorily complied with  
19 the minimum requirements for quality standards prescribed by the TESDA governing the  
20 following competency assessment:

- 21 (a) Standard Procedures and Guidelines (SPGs) for the establishment and operation of a  
22 TESDA Center;
- 23 (b) Operational sustainability of the Center established herein, in terms of licensed faculty-  
24 trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials,  
25 and other standard requirements as a TESDA Center;
- 26 (c) Sustainable funding source and allocation of budget requirement of the Center hereto  
27 established;
- 28 (d) Assurance that the training programs offered are fully aligned with the minimum standards  
29 of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and the needs of the host

1 area and adjacent communities served in the context of the Association of Southeast Asian  
2 Nations (ASEAN) and Philippine Qualification Framework (POF) for technical-vocational  
3 education; and

4 (e) Compliance with such other TESDA conditionality and standards in establishing a Center,  
5 as may be necessary and applicable.

6         *Sec. 6. Administration.* - The Center shall be headed by a Technical-Vocational  
7 Administrator, under the supervision of the TESDA, who shall render full-time services and be  
8 responsible for the administration and operation of the Center.

9 The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall be appointed by the TESDA Director General in  
10 accordance with civil service rules and regulations and the qualification requirements for such  
11 office.

12 The Technical Vocational Administrator shall enter into mutual agreements with locally-based  
13 private and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, subject to approval  
14 by the TESDA Director General, for such assistance as may be necessary to effectively  
15 implement this Act.

16         *Sec.7. Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act,  
17 and its continued implementation thereafter, shall be included in the annual General  
18 Appropriations Act.

19         The concerned local government units (LGUs), in consultation with TESDA, shall  
20 likewise set aside from any available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual  
21 counterpart fund to support the operation of the Maasin City TESDA Training and Assessment  
22 Center established herein.

23         *Sec.8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days after the  
24 approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, NEDA,  
25 Department of Budget and Management (DBM), DILG, the concerned LGUs and such other  
26 relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host locality, prepare and issue the  
27 necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

1            *Sec.9. Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared  
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain  
3 in force and effect.

4            *Sec. 10. Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order,  
5 letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby  
6 repealed or modified accordingly.

7            *Sec. 11. Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its  
8 complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

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*Approved,*