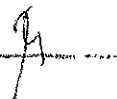


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 JUL -4 1902

SENATE
S. B. No. 1087

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create a Barangay Livelihood and Skills Training Center in every rural barangays in the country to provide skills training, livelihood skills development, self-enhancement skills and social communication skills development.

Section 21, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that the State shall promote comprehensive rural development and agrarian reform. Rural development is seen as a means to end poverty in this country.

The Philippine Governments' medium-term strategy for rural development emphasizes economic growth with social inclusion. This highlights the need to ensure that while the macro-economic indicators of our country is sound, government must endeavor to make the fruits of economic growth felt by our population, thru rural infrastructure and facilities for growth and self-sustainability.

To achieve this, this proposed measure ensures fund availability by requiring the Department of Interior and Local Government to set aside a portion of its annual appropriations for the operation and maintenance of said Centers all over the country while the Department of Labor shall render technical training and assistance

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

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

7 JUL -4 P3:07

SENATE
S. B. No. 1087

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A BARANGAY LIVELIHOOD AND SKILLS TRAINING
CENTER IN EVERY RURAL BARANGAY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Kabuhayan Act of 2007."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is declared a policy of the State that the diffusion and more equitable distribution of opportunities, income and wealth shall be the goals of the national economic development programs and that an expanding productivity, coupled with sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced for the direct benefit of the people, is the key to enhancement of the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged.

Consistent with the aforestated policy, the State shall to promote and support the establishment and maintenance of Barangay Livelihood and Skills Training Centers in every barangay in the country in order to enhance the productivity and uplift the economic status of the greater number of Filipino families.

SEC. 3. Establishment of a Barangay Livelihood and Skills Training Center. - A Barangay Livelihood and Skills Training Center, hereinafter referred to as the "Center", shall be established in every rural barangay in the country in accordance with such program established and determined by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), taking into account the socio-economic profile, literacy, employment conditions, health status of the residents of the barangays, the opportunities therein available, the presence of support mechanics/structures and skills craftsmanship training activities in the community, and such other factors indicative of the need for the Center: Provided, That priority shall be given to the most economically depressed areas with the highest percentage of disadvantaged and needy citizens.

Initially and within a period of one (1) year from the date of the effectivity of this act, at least one (1) Pilot Center shall be established in each of the fifteen (15) regions of the country, including the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao and the Cordillera Autonomous Region.

The Centers may be set up under the auspices of the local government units, particularly the barangay government, and/or non-government organizations tapped by DILG to assist in the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. Program and Service. - The Center shall offer support programs for the unemployed men and women and the out-of-school youth belonging to the most indigent families in the barangay, as determined by the barangay and municipal or city governments concerned based on the criteria prescribed in Section 3 hereof. The Center shall also serve as a "Drop-In and Information Center".

In particular, the Center shall provide, among others:

- (a) Skills training services to develop the individual skills of residents of the barangay for employment or for small-scale entrepreneurship;
- (b) Livelihood skills developments to provide opportunities for barangay residents to engage in productive undertakings and income generating projects either through open, sheltered-, or self-employment, including the development of practical skills for backyard gardening, home-based aqua culture and livestock raising, basic business management, technical-vocational occupations, etc.
- (c) Social communication skills development towards the enhancement of basic communication skills to enable those with less formal education to better express/communicate their thoughts, ideas and feeling;
- (d) Self-enhancement skills development, including the inculcation and value transformation programs to promote and advance people empowerment, self-reliance, self-help and similar values and enable barangay residents to discover their strengths and limitations, as well as develop and enrich their self-image;
- (e) Community participation skills development to promote and advance the barangay residents' awareness and application of community mobilization approach, systems and techniques to create opportunities, implementation programs and projects, to promote the general welfare and advance the common good.

The Center shall be assisted by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) by rendering technical assistance and training to the personnel of the Center and shall be supported by barangay officials in encouraging the participation of barangay residents in the programs and training offered by the Center.

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Agriculture (DA) and other government agencies shall gear their programs to support the activities and actions envisioned and implemented by the Center.

SEC. 5. Operation and Maintenance. -

- (a) Minimum Requirements - A center must be located in an area which is safe and accessible to the residents; if possible, within the barangay hall or near its premises.

- (b) Maintenance - The DILG shall ensure that a portion of its annual appropriation shall be allocated for the operation and maintenance of the centers all over the country, and that they are supported by Local Government Units (LGUs) the Sangguniang Kabataan, non-government organization (NGOs) and civic-minded individual residents of the barangay, with appropriate network of support systems and mechanisms, including volunteer manpower.
- (c) Overall Authority Activities - the DILG shall have overall authority over the activities/services offered by the Centers, but the department shall ensure that the activities and services recommended by the LGUs are considered and, if meritorious, included.

SEC. 6. Personnel. - The center shall be staffed with at least one (1) competent livelihood or skills training personnel prepared to execute and/or supervise the implementation or extension of the services offered by the Center. Further manpower support for the Centers may include the following:

1. Chairman and/or members of the Sangguniang Kabataan;
2. Volunteers from the private or public sector, including staff or the Sangguniang Barangay, members of socio-civic organizations, out of school youth or students on vacation;
3. Students enrolled in practicum courses majoring in cooperative work, commerce and business administration and other related fields.

SEC. 7. Sponsorship of Center/Barangay Livelihood and Skills Training Centers. - Any private person, group, organization or business entity may sponsor the establishment, operation and/or maintenance of a Barangay Livelihood and Skills Training Center: Provided, That the activities, programs and projects of the sponsored center remain consistent with the objectives of this Act and subject to the control and supervision of the DILG: Provided, further, That the DILG shall adopt appropriate guidelines and rules and regulations to implement these provisions.

SEC. 8 Donations. - The DILG may receive donations or bequest of property or services which shall be utilized only for the implementation of the program. Such donations or bequests of property shall be covered by the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) exempting such from taxes and other fees and/or procedures.

SEC. 9. Funding/Appropriations. - An initial outlay of One hundred million pesos (P100,000,000) for the first three (3) years of the program is hereby appropriated to implemented the provisions of this Act and the additional funding requirement for the program shall be included in the annual appropriations for the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

SEC. 10. Separability Clause. - if any provision of this Act shall be held invalid, the remaining provisions shall be given full force and effect as completely as of the provision held invalid had not been included herein.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation

Approved,