


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 21

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 2374

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR


EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines has a large (11.2 million) and rapidly increasing out-of school youth population. The major causes for this phenomenon are poverty-related.

The reach and scope of existing and government programs for youth are inadequate to meet the problem. In view of this, the attached bill seeks to optimize available resources by mobilizing non-profit private agencies to assist in addressing the problem of out-of-school youth population.

The primary purpose of this bill is to enable economically disadvantaged youth, especially youth who have not finished high school, to obtain the education, job skills training, personal counseling, leadership development skills training, job placement assistance, and long-term follow-up leading to economic self sufficiency. The mission is to provide effective learning system in lieu of the formal schooling system.

Accordingly, the urgent passage of this bill is hereby recommended.



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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM
BY QUALIFIED PRIVATE NON-PROFIT AGENCIES
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be^{it} enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Philippines in congress assembled:*

Section 1. There is hereby established a grant program for Youth Build. Said program shall be administered by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

Section 2. Purpose. – The purpose of the Youth Build Programs shall be:

(a) to enable economically disadvantaged youth, especially youth who have not finished high school, to obtain the education, job skills training, personal counseling, leadership development skills training, job placement assistance, and long-term follow-up leading to economic self sufficiency.

(b) to provide communities the opportunity to establish or rebuild neighborhood stability in economically depressed and low-income areas, as well as historic areas requiring restoration or preservation, while providing economically disadvantaged youth and youth who have not finished high school an opportunity for meaningful participation in society.

(c) to allow communities to maintain and expand the supply of affordable housing for homeless and other low-income individuals by utilizing the energies and talents of economically disadvantaged youth and young people who have not graduated from high school.

(d) to foster the development of leadership skills and a commitment to community development among youth.

Section 3: Definitions. In this Act:

"Applicant" - means a private non-profit agency eligible to provide education and employment training.

"Secretary – means the Secretary of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

"Youth Build" - is a program that provides disadvantaged youth with opportunities for comprehensive education, employment, leadership

development, and training in the construction or rehabilitation of housing for special needs populations, very low-income households and low-income households.

Section 4: Program requirements. - The Secretary is authorized to make grants to applicants for the purpose of providing Youth Build programs as approved under this Section. All programs funded pursuant to the provisions of this Section shall reflect strong youth and community involvement. In addition, funding provided under this Section shall be used by each Youth Build program to provide, at a minimum, the following services:

(a) Integrated education and job skills training services and activities which are evenly divided within the program, with 50% of students' time spent in classroom-based instruction, counseling, and leadership development instruction and 50% of their time spent in service learning experiences at construction sites. The programs shall include, at a minimum, the following elements:

(1) An education component which includes basic skills instruction, secondary education services, and other activities designed to lead to the attainment of a high school diploma or its equivalent. The curriculum for this component shall include math, language arts, vocational education, life skills training, social studies related to the cultural and community history of the students, leadership skills, and other topics at the discretion of the programs.

(2) A vocational learning experience and skills training component apprenticeship program that includes the construction and rehabilitation activities described in subsection (e). The process of construction must be coupled with skills training and with close on-site supervision by experienced trainers. The curriculum for this component shall contain a set of locally agreed upon skills and competencies that are systematically taught, with a student's mastery assessed individually on a regular, ongoing basis. Safety skills shall be taught at the outset. The vocational learning experience and skills training component shall be coordinated to the maximum extent feasible with pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs.

(3) Assistance in attaining post secondary education and required financial aid shall be made available to participants prior to graduation.

(b) Counseling services designed to assist participants to positively participate in society, which should include all of the following if necessary: outreach, assessment, and orientation; individual and peer counseling; life skills training, drug and alcohol abuse education and prevention; and referral to appropriate drug rehabilitation, medical, mental health, legal, housing, and other services and resources in the community.

(c) Leadership development training that provides participants with meaningful opportunities to develop leadership skills such as decision making, problem solving, and negotiating. The program must also encourage participants to develop strong peer group ties that support their

mutual pursuit of skills and values. All programs must establish a youth council in which participants are afforded opportunities to develop public speaking and negotiating skills, and management and policy-making participation in specific aspects of the program.

(d) Assist with the acquisition, rehabilitation, acquisition and rehabilitation, or construction of housing and related facilities which will serve as the vocational training sites and then to be used for the purpose of providing home ownership for disadvantaged persons, residential housing for homeless individuals, and low-income and very low-income families, or transitional housing for persons who are homeless, have disabilities, are ill, are de-institutionalized, or have special needs, and rehabilitation or construction of community facilities owned by private non-profit agencies.

(e) A stipend must be provided to participants to cover the costs associated with their full time participation in this program.

(f) Stipends may be distributed in a manner that offers incentives for good performance.

(g) Full time participation in a Youth Build program shall be offered for a period of not less than 6 months and not more than 24 months.

(h) A concentrated effort shall be made to find jobs for all graduates of the program who have performed well. The skills training curriculum shall provide participants with basic preparation for seeking and maintaining a job. Follow-up counseling and assistance in job-seeking shall also be provided to participants for the 12 months following graduation from the program.

(i) All programs serving 20 trainees or more are required to have a full-time director responsible for the coordination of all aspects of the Youth Build program.

Section 5. Eligible participants.- Eligible participants are youth 16 to 24 years and who are part of one of the following groups:

(a) economically disadvantaged; and

(b) persons who are not attending any school and have not received a secondary school diploma or its equivalent;

Section 6. Eligible Entities and Selection Criteria. - Those eligible to be awarded funds under this act are non-profit private agencies. Priority in the awarding of funds under this act shall be given to applicants with experience in operating Youth Build programs.

Section 7. Application requirements. The Secretary shall require that an application for Youth Build funds under this act contain at a minimum:

(1) a request for an implementation grant, specifying the amount of the grant requested and its proposed uses;

(2) a description of the applicant and a statement of its qualifications, including a description of the applicant's past experience

running a Youth Build program, and with housing rehabilitation or construction and with youth and youth education, youth leadership development and employment training programs and other relevant community organizations;

(3) a description of the educational and job training activities, work opportunities, and other services that will be provided to participants;

(4) A description of the proposed construction or rehabilitation activities to be undertaken and the anticipated schedule for carrying out such activities;

(5) a description of the manner in which eligible youths will be recruited and selected, including a description of the arrangements which will be made with community-based organizations, local educational agencies, public assistance agencies, the courts of jurisdiction for status and youth offenders, shelters for homeless individuals and other agencies that serve homeless youth, foster care agencies, and other appropriate public and private agencies;

(6) a description of the special efforts that will be undertaken to recruit eligible young women (including young women with dependent children) with plans for addressing appropriate supports they may need, especially childcare;

(7) a description of how the proposed program will be coordinated with other youth serving agencies in the service area;

(8) assurances that there will be a sufficient number of adequately trained supervisory personnel in the program who have attained the level of journeyman or its equivalent;

(9) a description of the applicant's relationship with any local building trade unions, which may exist, regarding their involvement in training, and the relationship of the Youth Build program with established apprenticeship programs;

(10) a description of activities that will be undertaken to develop the leadership skills of participants, including their role in decision making;

(11) a detailed budget and a description of the system of fiscal controls and auditing and accountability procedures that will be used to ensure fiscal soundness;

(12) a description of any contracts and arrangements entered into between the applicant and other agencies and entities including all in-kind donations and grants from both public and private entities that will serve to augment state Youth Build funds;

(13) the qualifications and past experience of the person who will fill the full-time program director position.

(14) other information/factors as deemed necessary by the Secretary.

Section 8. Outcomes and evaluation. -

Subsection (a) An applicant selected for funding under this act shall provide to the department information on program and participant accomplishments, including but not limited to: attendance, retention, high school diplomas issued, educational improvement levels, placement, construction outcomes and community service accomplishments.

Subsection (b) TESDA shall prepare an initial evaluation report which shall be made available to the President and appropriate legislative committees on the progress of individual programs funded under this act. A final evaluation report shall be prepared on individual programs at the times of their completion. The final evaluation report shall include, but not be limited to, information on the effectiveness of the program, the status of program participants and recommendations on program administration at the state and local level.”

Section 9. Any law, decree, order, rule or regulation or part thereof which is inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 10. This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved,