

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5352**



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Introduced by **CONGRESSMAN ALFRED VARGAS**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

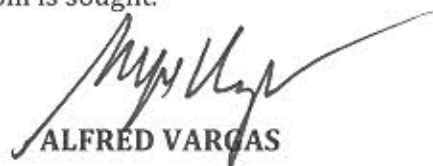
UNESCO defines “technical vocational education” as the education or training process which combines general education with the study of technologies and related sciences and the acquisition of practical skills<sup>1</sup>. Tech-voc prepares students for employment and also provides specific skills training for those who are already in the labor market and in need to upgrade new competencies to enhance their chances for employment and improve their productivity.

Since its creation, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) has been successful in harnessing tech-voc in developing human resources, creating jobs, reducing poverty, and facilitating inclusive growth and sustainable development. First, TESDA scholars have recorded an employment rate of 70%. Furthermore, 86.1% of employers have expressed satisfaction with the performance of tech-voc graduates. Lastly, with over 1.6 million enrollees every year, TESDA meticulously breaks the “second rate status” stigma attached to tech-voc.

Tech-voc plays a vital role in realizing the right to education and the right to work. It is also important in bridging the gap between the skills set of the Filipino workforce and the jobs available in the country. Thus, it is imperative for the State to recognize the contributions of tech-voc in the national development.

This bill seeks to declare August 25 of every year as the National Tech-Voc Day. Through this initiative, not only are we promoting tech-voc and its limitless benefits but we are also boosting the morale of blue-collar workers as we celebrate their immense contribution to the country.

In line of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is sought.

  
**ALFRED VARGAS**

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<sup>1</sup> Technical Education and Skills Development Authority. *TVET Information*. [online] Available at: <http://www.tesda.gov.ph/About/TESDA/28> [Accessed 20 March 2017]

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF AUGUST OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL**  
**TECH-VOC DAY**

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

**SECTION 1. *National Tech-Voc Day.*** – The twenty-fifth day of August of every year is hereby declared as the “National Tech-Voc Day.”

To ensure a meaningful observance of this special working holiday as herein declared, all heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned and –controlled corporations, local government units, public and private schools at the basic, technical-vocational, and tertiary education institutions, employers in the private sector, industry associations, shall encourage and afford sufficient time and opportunities for their employees to engage and participate in any activity conducted within the premises of their offices or establishments in celebration of the “National Tech-Voc Day.”

**Sec. 2. *Lead Agency.*** Pursuant to the observance of the “National Tech-Voc Day,” the annual program of activities and advocacy campaign shall be prepared and implemented with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and the Department of Education (DepEd) as the lead agencies.

**Sec. 3. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

*Approved,*