

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1009

Submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education and Appropriations on  
May 28, 2021

Re: House Bill No. 9495

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 8788

Sponsors: Representatives Mark O. Go, Eric Go Yap, and Mercedes C. Cagas

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Higher and Technical Education and Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 8788, introduced by Rep. Mercedes C. Cagas, entitled:


“AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL  
EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)  
TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE LONE DISTRICT OF  
DAVAO DEL SUR, WHICH SHALL BE LOCATED IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF DIGOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”


have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 9495, entitled:

“AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING IN THE CITY OF DIGOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL  
SUR, A PROVINCIAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT  
CENTER, TO BE KNOWN AS THE DAVAO DEL SUR TECHNICAL  
EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
PROVINCIAL TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 8788 and with Reps. Mercedes C. Cagas, Mark O. Go, Eric Go Yap, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Macnell M. Lusotan, Estrellita B. Suansing, France L. Castro, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Arlene D. Brosas, Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, Evelina G. Escudero, Dahlia A. Loyola, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Rufus B. Rodriguez, and Roman T. Romulo as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

  
**ERIC GO YAP**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Appropriations

  
**MARK O. GO**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Higher and Technical Education

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
QUEZON CITY

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

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**Second Regular Session**

**House Bill No. 9495**

*(in substitution of House Bill No. 8788)*

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Introduced by Representatives Mercedes C. Cagas, Eric Go Yap, and Mark O. Go, , Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Macnell M. Lusotan, Estrellita B. Suansing, France L. Castro, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Arlene D. Brosas, Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, Evelina G. Escudero, Dahlia A. Loyola, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Rufus B. Rodriguez, and Roman T. Romulo

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**AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING IN THE CITY OF DIGOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR, A PROVINCIAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, TO BE KNOWN AS THE DAVAO DEL SUR TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PROVINCIAL TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*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 “*Davao del Sur Technical*  
2 *Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center Act*”.

3           **SEC. 2. *Establishment.*** – There is hereby established a training and assessment  
4 center, under the supervision of the TESDA, to be known as the Davao del Sur TESDA  
5 Training and Assessment Center. It shall be located in a highly accessible area in the  
6 Municipality of Digos, Province of Davao del Sur, pursuant to the purposes of this Act and  
7 the agreement between the TESDA and the concerned local government units (LGUs).

8           **SEC. 3. *General Mandate.*** – The Davao del Sur TESDA Training and Assessment  
9 Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, shall primarily provide technical-vocational  
10 education and training (TVET) programs to students and local residents from low-income  
11 families and out-of-school youth, including persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples,  
12 to help them become productive, self-reliant and globally competitive labor assets.

13           The Center shall provide effective employment interventions through training  
14 programs on relevant skills in trade competencies, craftsmanship, and entrepreneurship  
15 activities that will help hasten the development of the host area and the adjacent localities  
16 into human resource and productivity hubs.

1 The Center shall serve as TESDA-accredited Assessment Center for acquired  
2 competencies in TVET programs. It shall also provide technical-vocational training for  
3 teachers and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools in the province offering  
4 the technical-vocational livelihood track under the K to 12 Program, in coordination with the  
5 Department of Education and the TESDA.

6 **SEC. 4. *Training Programs*** – The Center shall offer short-term certificate courses  
7 and modular training courses in preferred technical-vocational skills and trades  
8 specialization. To this end, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department  
9 of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of  
10 Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National  
11 Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other  
12 relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the  
13 necessary assistance to enable the Center to develop skilled manpower necessary for the  
14 achievement of a robust and inclusive economy.

15 The Center may establish research and technology hubs, technology development  
16 farms, satellite or extension training centers, and promote mobile training programs, and  
17 strengthen linkages among the industry partners, the academe, and the Center geared towards  
18 the acquisition by residents of practical livelihood, employable skills, gainful employment,  
19 and entrepreneurship capabilities.

20 The Center shall offer the following TVET programs with competencies assessment  
21 leading to National Certification Levels I-III:

- 22 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and  
23 steelwork, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation,  
24 automotive mechanic assembly, refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics,  
25 and operation of power tools and equipment for both medium skills grade and  
26 industrial purposes;
- 27 (b) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas  
28 as farming technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming and  
29 home-based aquaculture and propagation innovations, mechanized farming,  
30 fishing tools and equipment operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology  
31 and innovations, and relevant training seminars for farmers and fisherfolk to  
32 encourage entrepreneurship and thus increase their productivity;
- 33 (c) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-  
34 scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts,  
35 workmanship and design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring,  
36 horticulture, livestock raising and breeding, food processing technology, home

1 technology, culinary arts and commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and  
2 wellness training;

3 (d) Basic business literacy training in financial management and marketing, practical  
4 accountancy, bookkeeping and office procedures, business processes and  
5 application procedures, including registration, licensing, documentation, business  
6 patent and intellectual property regulation, business financing and investment  
7 opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, online home-based business  
8 operation and social media business marketing;

9 (e) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry, masonry,  
10 plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing,  
11 electronics servicing, personal computer servicing, and such other relevant  
12 practical skills courses;

13 (f) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, basic computer  
14 operation, web development, digital animation, game development, and computer-  
15 aided design application;

16 (g) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English and  
17 other languages for business process outsourcing employment and overseas job  
18 placement;

19 (h) Seminars on personality development, career counseling, job placement, and work  
20 ethic and values; and

21 (i) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the  
22 Province of Davao del Sur, and of adjacent localities to enhance their capacities  
23 for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial activities.

24 **SEC. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.-** The provisions of this Act  
25 notwithstanding, the Center shall become operational only upon the issuance by the TESDA  
26 of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance, attesting that the Center has  
27 satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of quality it has prescribed governing the  
28 following: (a) standard procedures and guidelines for the establishment and operation of a  
29 Center; (b) operational sustainability of the Center, in terms of licensed faculty-trainers and  
30 personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials, and other  
31 standard requirements of a Center; (c) sustainable funding source and allocation of the  
32 budgetary requirement; (d) full alignment of the training programs offered with the  
33 minimum standards of competency-based quality technical-vocational skills technology and  
34 the needs of the host area and adjacent communities served within the context of the  
35 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) integration and the Philippine

1 Qualifications Framework for TVET; and (e) compliance with such other TESDA  
2 conditionalities and standards as may be necessary and applicable in establishing a Center.

3 **SEC. 6. Administration.** – The Center shall be headed by a Technical-Vocational  
4 Administrator who shall render full-time service and be responsible for its administration and  
5 operation, under the supervision of the TESDA.

6 The Technical-Vocational Administrator shall be appointed by the TESDA Director  
7 General in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission and the  
8 qualification requirements for such office.

9 The Technical-Vocational Administrator may enter into agreements with locally-  
10 based private and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities or persons, and seek such  
11 assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement the provisions of this Act, subject to  
12 the approval of the TESDA Director General,

13 **SEC. 7. Appropriations.** – The Director General of the TESDA shall include in the  
14 Authority’s programs the operation of the Center, the funding of which shall be included in  
15 the annual General Appropriations Act.

16 The LGUs concerned, in consultation with the TESDA, shall set aside from any  
17 available local revenue an amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support  
18 the operation of the Center herein established.

19 **SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days after the  
20 approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DA,  
21 Department of Budget and Management, DILG, NEDA, concerned LGUs, and such other  
22 relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the host locality, prepare and issue the  
23 necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

24 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act  
25 shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not  
26 be affected and shall remain in force and in effect.

27 **SEC. 10. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules  
28 and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or  
29 amended accordingly.

30 **SEC. 11. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
31 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*