



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9334

BY REPRESENTATIVES BASCUG, GO (M.) AND YAP (E.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 954

AN ACT

CONVERTING THE AGUSAN DEL SUR SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES (ASSAT) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PROSPERIDAD, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR, INTO A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)-SUPERVISED AND ADMINISTERED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE AGUSAN DEL SUR POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION (ADSPITE), 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 "*Agusan Del Sur Polytechnic*
2 *Institute for Technical Education (ADSPITE) Act*".
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4 **SEC. 2. Conversion.** - The Agusan Del Sur School of Arts and Trades (ASSAT) located in
5 the Municipality of Prosperidad, Province of Agusan Del Sur, is hereby converted into the Agusan
6 Del Sur Polytechnic Institute for Technical Education (ADSPITE), and placed under the supervision
7 and administration of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).
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9 **SEC. 3. General Mandate.** - Recent global and regional developments provided the impetus
10 to re-engineer the state of technical-vocational education to accelerate the country's response to the
11 fast changing standards and requirements of the domestic and international job market, namely: 1)
12 the adoption of Republic Act No. 10968, or the "Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) Act";
13 2) the ASEAN Economic Integration; 3) the global changes in technology and industry demands that
14 have created a major need for skilled workforce and technical-vocational competency trainings; 4)
15 the poverty reduction, livelihood and employment convergence for community-based livelihood and
16 "techno-preneurial" skills development; and 5) the imperative to produce world-class Filipino
17 "knowledge workers" whose skills are aligned with ASEAN integration goals and other international
18 frameworks that respond to the challenges in the job market.
19

20 The ADSPITE, as a technical-vocational education institution, shall restructure its technical-
21 vocational education and training (TVET) programs to effect this major curricular shift as provider
22 of leading edge technical skills for the local and international labor market, and aligned in accord
23 with the standards of the industry.
24

25 To this end, the ADSPITE shall upgrade its curricular standards as a tertiary TESDA-
26 polytechnic skills educational institution and provide higher level competency qualifications for

1 instruction in TESDA-registered TVET programs and certificate courses. It shall provide a wide
2 array of relevant skills training and trade specialization courses to facilitate the acquisition by the
3 citizenry of the necessary technical skills that shall enhance their access to gainful employment,
4 practical livelihood, and entrepreneurial opportunities, and thus hasten the development of the host
5 area and the adjacent localities in the Province of Agusan Del Sur into human resource and
6 productivity hubs.
7

8 Priority admission to the ADSPITE, including availment of scholarships, grants-in-aid and
9 other forms of student financial assistance, shall be given to the most economically disadvantaged
10 students, out-of-school youths, persons with disabilities, and indigenous peoples of the Municipality
11 of Prosperidad and the adjacent localities to ensure their development into productive, self-reliant
12 and globally competitive skilled labor assets.
13

14 The ADSPITE shall serve as a TESDA-accredited assessment center for acquired
15 competencies in TVET programs in the Province of Agusan Del Sur. It shall also provide teachers'
16 training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools offering the technical-vocational
17 livelihood track under the K to 12 Program in coordination with the Department of Education, the
18 TESDA, and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).
19

20 **SEC. 4. Curricular Offerings/Training Programs** –The ADSPITE shall offer TESDA-
21 registered TVET programs, undergraduate certificate courses, and short-term courses and modular
22 trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills specialization. It shall aim to meet the competency
23 requirements under Level V of RA No. 10968, or the “Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF)
24 Act”, which is the Diploma Level in TVET.
25

26 To this end, the DOLE, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Science and
27 Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of the Interior and Local
28 Government (DILG), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), business-industry
29 partners, and other relevant agencies and instrumentalities, both local and international, shall
30 provide the necessary assistance so the ADSPITE can produce skilled manpower to supply the needs
31 of a robust and inclusive economy.
32

33 The ADSPITE may establish research and technology hubs, technology development farms,
34 satellite or extension campuses, as recommended by ASSAT & TESDA, promote mobile training
35 programs, and strengthen linkages with industry partners and the academe.
36

37 It shall also adopt the use of innovative training modes such as information technology-
38 assisted instruction, dual training system pursuant to Republic Act No.7686 or the “Dual Training
39 System Act of 1994”, open distance learning pursuant to Republic Act No. 10650 or the “Open
40 Distance Learning Act”, community laboratory, virtual and blended learning modes, and such other
41 instructional programs that shall allow local residents greater access to the TVET program offerings
42 of the ADSPITE.
43

44 Course completion at the ADSPITE shall be credited through skills competency assessment
45 under National Certification Levels III to V. When applicable, TVET competency shall qualify for
46 academic degree recognition pursuant to Republic Act No. 10647 or the “Ladderized Education
47 Act”, provided that the requirements of the Commission on Higher Education are complied with.
48

49 The ADSPITE shall offer skills development for higher competency qualifications in areas
50 relating to technical industrial education, trade technology, tourism, agricultural technology, business
51 literacy, and innovation in TESDA-registered skills, as follows:
52

- 1 (a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and steelwork, machine
2 fabrication and operation, heavy equipment operation, automotive mechanical assembly,
3 refrigeration and air conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment
4 for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;
5
- 6 (b) Tourism and hospitality-related courses relating to hotel, restaurant, and tourism development
7 management;
8
- 9 (c) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in such areas as farming
10 technology, fishing operations technology, backyard farming and home-based aquaculture
11 and propagation innovations, mechanized farming, fishing tools and equipment operation,
12 agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations, and relevant training seminars for
13 farmers and fisherfolk to encourage entrepreneurship and thus increase their productivity;
14
- 15 (d) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment and small-scale
16 entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in arts and crafts, workmanship and
17 design, high-speed sewing, dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and
18 breeding, food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and commercial
19 cooking, cosmetology, and health and wellness training;
- 20 (e) Basic business literacy training in financial management, marketing, accountancy,
21 bookkeeping, office procedures, business processes and application procedures including
22 registration, licensing, documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation,
23 business financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-export accreditation, online
24 home-based business operation, and social media business marketing;
25
- 26 (f) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing,
27 welding, practical electricity and installation, automotive servicing, electronics servicing,
28 personal computer servicing, and such other relevant practical skills courses;
29
- 30 (g) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, web development, animation
31 (3D Digital), game development, and computer-aided design application;
32
- 33 (h) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English and other languages
34 for business process outsourcing employment and overseas job placement;
35
- 36 (i) Seminars in personality development, career counseling, job placement, and work ethic and
37 values; and
38
- 39 (j) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the people of the
40 Municipality of Prosperidad and the adjacent localities to enhance their capacities for
41 practical livelihood, gainful employment, and entrepreneurial activities.
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43 **SEC. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.-** The provisions of this Act
44 notwithstanding, the conversion of the ASSAT into the ADSPITE shall become operational only
45 upon the issuance by the TESDA of a formal recommendation and certificate of compliance attesting
46 that the ADSPITE has satisfactorily complied with the minimum standards of quality it has
47 prescribed governing the following: a) standard procedures and guidelines for the conversion and
48 operation of a TESDA polytechnic institute; b) operational sustainability of the ADSPITE in terms of
49 licensed faculty-trainers and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional
50 materials, and other standard requirements of a TESDA-accredited and supervised school; c)
51 sustainable funding source and regular allocation of budgetary requirement for TESDA-operated

1 schools; d) full alignment of the training programs offered with the minimum standards of
2 competency-based quality technical-vocational technology skills and the needs of the host area and
3 adjacent localities served within the context of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
4 integration and the PQF for TVET; and e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and
5 standards, as may be necessary and applicable, on the conversion of the ASSAT into the ADSPITE.
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7 **SEC. 6. Administration.** - The ADSPITE shall be headed by a Vocational School
8 Superintendent under the supervision of the TESDA, who shall render full-time service and be
9 responsible for its administration and operation. The Vocational School Superintendent shall be
10 appointed by the TESDA Director General in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Civil
11 Service Commission and the qualification requirements for such office.
12

13 The Vocational School Superintendent shall enter into agreement with locally-based private
14 and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, and seek such assistance as may be
15 necessary to effectively implement this Act, subject to the approval of the TESDA Director General.
16

17 The academic and administrative staff of the ADSPITE shall be organized following the
18 staffing pattern of the TESDA for such type of schools, pursuant to existing laws, rules and
19 regulations of the Civil Service Commission.
20

21 **SEC. 7. Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.** - All assets, fixed and movable, personnel, records
22 and documents, as well as the liabilities or obligations of the ASSAT shall be transferred to the
23 ADSPITE: *Provided*, That the positions, rights and security of tenure of faculty and personnel
24 therein employed prior to its conversion into the ADSPITE, shall not be impaired.
25

26 All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the defunct ASSAT are
27 henceforth declared the property of the ADSPITE and shall be titled under that name: *Provided*,
28 That, should the ADSPITE cease to exist or such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed
29 by the ADSPITE, the same shall all revert to the concerned local government unit (LGU), or to the
30 Municipality of Prosperidad, Province of Agusan Del Sur.
31

32 **SEC. 8. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary for the initial operations of the ADSPITE
33 shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the ASSAT. Thereafter, the funding of
34 which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
35

36 **SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within ninety (90) days after the approval
37 of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST, DA, DBM, DILG,
38 NEDA, the concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and industry-business partners of the
39 host locality, prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation
40 of this Act.

41 **SEC. 10. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act shall
42 be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected
43 and shall remain in force and in effect.
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45 **SEC. 11. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and
46 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are repealed or amended
47 accordingly.
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49 **SEC. 12. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
50 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
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