

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1388



Introduced by: Hon. Iris Marie D. Montes

AN ACT

THE INCLUSION OF A PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY COURSE IN THE TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CURRICULUM OF TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TRAINING CENTERS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to ensure that technical-vocational institutions (TVIs) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training centers shall provide the necessary financial education to technical-vocational (tech-voc) students while at the same time helping them to learn and develop other practical tech-voc skills and competencies.

To equip the students with basic knowledge and additional skills on wealth management and contingency planning, especially in proper handling of financial resources, it mandates all public and private TVIs and TESDA training centers to offer a Personal Financial Literacy Course to tech-voc students as part of the technical-vocational education and training curriculum.

Indeed, providing financial education to tech-voc students is essential to ensure their security and well-being in the future. A financially-literate individual will be able to make well-informed financial decisions that will positively impact personal financial circumstances, empowering them to take better advantage of economic opportunities, and consequently contribute to inclusive and sustained economic development.

This bill, which was authored by Rep. Jose Manuel F. Alba, was approved on Third and Final Reading during the previous Congress

In view thereof, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


IRIS MARIE D. MONTES
Kababaihan Kabalikatan para sa Kapakanan
at Kaunlaran ng Bayan (4K) Party-list

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Personal Financial Literacy Course in the Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Curriculum Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - Recognizing financial literacy as an essential life skill, as well as the complementary role of financial education in promoting the economic well-being of Filipinos, it is hereby declared a policy of the State to establish a strong foundation of financial literacy of students, trainees, and employees in order to create a more skilled, knowledgeable and well-informed future generation of Filipinos.

To this end, the State also seeks to broaden and strengthen TVET programs, including financial education and literacy, to enable technical-vocational (tech-voc) students to develop the appropriate skills to make well-informed financial decisions, and desirable work habits upon employment in the industries.

SEC. 3. *Objectives.* -

(a) To ensure that technical-vocational institutions (TVIs) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) training centers shall provide the necessary financial education to tech-voc students while at the same time helping them learn and develop other practical tech-voc skills and competencies;

(b) To equip the students with basic knowledge and additional skills on wealth management and contingency planning, especially in properly handling their personal finances, prepare them to make well-informed financial decisions upon entering the workforce, and help them master financial literacy as an important life skill in their day-to-day transactions and other activities; and

(c) To broaden the opportunities and venues for the teaching of a personal financial literacy course to strengthen financial education among Filipinos so they can avoid financial frauds, develop financial discipline, use debt responsibly and save for education or retirement.

SEC. 4. *Mandatory Inclusion of Personal Financial Literacy Course in the TVET Curriculum.* - All public and private TVIs and TESDA training centers are mandated to offer a Personal Financial Literacy Course (PFLC) to tech-voc students as part of the TVET curriculum. It shall focus solely on personal finance based on the policies, guidelines, and standards set jointly by the TESDA, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

(BSP), Department of Finance (DOF), Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), and the Insurance Commission (IC).

A passing grade in the PFLC shall be required for graduation or completion of the course.

SEC. 5. Contents of Personal Financial Literacy Course. - The PFLC shall provide instructions on personal financial literacy and shall include the following contents:

- (a) Concept of personal finance;
- (b) Time value of money;
- (c) Consumer behavior in the context and culture of the Philippines;
- (d) Debt management and rehabilitation;
- (e) Savings, emergency, and resilience fund development;
- (f) Investment concepts and planning;
- (g) Retirement planning;
- (h) Insurance planning;
- (i) Credit scoring and credit reports;
- (j) Concept of financial education;
- (k) Pertinent topics on effective utilization of digital payment platforms, such as modules on observing cyber-hygiene to help safeguard cybersecurity, data integrity, and consumer protection in adopting digital financial services; and
- (l) Other financial literacy issues and concerns.

SEC. 6. *Roles of Government Agencies, Offices, and Instrumentalities.* - The TESDA shall collaborate with the BSP, DOF, SEC, and the IC in developing academic standards, curricula, and materials for the PFLC. These agencies shall jointly issue the proper guidelines for this purpose.

The content of the PFLC shall be aligned with the standards set by the aforementioned agencies.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the TESDA shall, in consultation with the BSP, DOF, and other relevant stakeholders, issue rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* - In the event any of the provisions of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected by such declaration.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.