



Department of Social Welfare and Development
DSWD-GF-010 | REV 01 | 17 AUG 2022

HONORABLE JOEL VILLANUEVA
Chairperson
Sub-Committee on SBN 129
Committee on Economic Affairs
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

1004-106239317718 ki

Dear **Senator VILLANUEVA**,

The Department of Social Welfare and Development **supports SBN 129** entitled, **“An Act Institutionalizing and Expanding the National Employment Recovery Strategies (NERS) To A National Employment Action Plan, And For Other Purposes”** or the **“Trabaho Para Sa Lahat Na Pilipino Act”**, authored by Senator Joel Villanueva that clearly defines the importance of institutionalizing and expanding the National Recovery Strategy to a National Employment Action Plan (NEAP) to address the social and economic issues the Philippines had experienced due to the 2020 COVID Pandemic. The Bill enumerates the challenges and opportunities that will guide the country’s employment recovery and generation of masterplan through digitalization.

We commend the author of the Bill for his genuine concern in promoting the quality of life of the Filipino people especially in times of and after the onset of calamities or disasters, whether natural or man-made.

The Department suggests to prioritize the Out-Of-School Youth (OSY), women in the informal sector and graduates of Grades 9 and 10 in the provision of skills training to build their personal and economic development. This program shall be in coordination with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

Further, to include analysis of relevant data from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) or the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), specifically on the constitution of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) to guide the NEAP Task Force to determine what possible enterprise category would comprise the highest number of possible employability, among others.

To further enhance the Bills and Resolutions, we recommend the following:

1. On **Section 3. Coverage**, to cover Overseas Filipino Workers in the NERS;
2. On **Section 4. National Employment Action Plan**



- 2.1. Paragraph 2, Lines 11 and 12, to change **Section 4** to **Section 5**;
 - 2.2. Paragraph 2, line 13, to delete the phrase "**within one year upon the lifting of the declaration of the state of calamity**" as it may no longer be necessary, in light of the end of the State of Calamity. The inclusion of the phrase renders this law time-bound such that due to the process by which this Act requires, it may no longer be implemented by reason of the period provided.
 - 2.3. **Paragraph 2, letter b**, include other sectors such as the young and able Persons with Disability (PWDs) and Indigenous Peoples (IPs) which also need to be given the chance to be trained in order to be competitive and employable to gain their own income or possibly establish their own enterprise as a source of income;
 - 2.4. **Paragraph 2, letter d**, include the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR); to inform the workers and the micro entrepreneurs the role of the BIR and the taxes to be paid;
 - 2.5. **Paragraph 2, letter h**, include the PWDs (youth and women), IPs (youth and women) who are still capable of working effectively and can be considered part of the workforce or even owners of micro entrepreneurs; and
 - 2.6. Include the representation of micro entrepreneur organization or association of leaders during dialogues.
3. On **Section 5. Inter-Agency Council for Jobs and Investment**
 - 3.1. To include the DSWD's Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP) and other National Government Agencies (NGAs) programs that already provide capital assistance and skills trainings as well as the League of Provinces, Cities and Municipalities considering that their insights and experiences in the locality will benefit the improvement of the planning and implementation of the Bill; and
 - 3.2. **Paragraph 2, letter h**, to include Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and one representative for each category.
 4. On **Section 6. Powers and Functions of the IAC**, to include additional provision harmonizing the different agencies' assistance in relation to employment.
 5. On **Section 8. Active Participation of LGUs**, to mandate the Local Government Units (LGUs) to submit reports to the DILG relative to the status of implementation of the programs and plans under this law.

6. Additional Comments and Recommendations

- 6.1. To Section for the Definition of Terms;
- 6.2. To provide Section for Appropriations; and
- 6.3. To indicate the agency where the initial funding shall be charged against and the amount necessary for its continued implementation.

This is being submitted for the Chairperson's consideration and information.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



EDUARDO M. PUNAY²

OIC, Secretary

Date: 12 3 JAN 2023