

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Third Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 9813



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Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

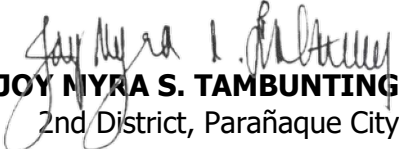
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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 1080 automatically grants civil service eligibility to passers of bar examinations and other licensure examinations administered by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). Presently, several laws also grant appropriate civil service eligibility to qualified individuals. In the same spirit, this measure seeks to grant civil service eligibility to holders of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) National Certificates through the institutionalization of the Skills Certificate Equivalency Program (SCEP). SCEP is currently a collaborative partnership between TESDA and the Civil Service Commission which grants civil service eligibility to competent and skilled government employees and those seeking entrance into the service for Category I positions.

Ultimately, this proposed measure aims to: (1) give equal opportunity to certified technical-vocational education and training (TVET) graduates to enter the civil service, (2) uplift the dignity of middle skill workers, and (3) improve the image of technical and vocational education in the country. Through the institutionalization of the SCEP, we allow qualified skill workers to enter the civil service—ensuring their security of tenure and at the same time, improving the image of tech-voc in the country.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.

  
**REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**  
2nd District, Parañaque City

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**AN ACT**  
**INSTITUTIONALIZING AND ENHANCING THE SKILLS CERTIFICATE EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM (SCEP) OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC) AND THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Skills Certificate Equivalency Program Act.”

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The Constitution provides that appointments in the civil service shall be made only according to merit and fitness. Towards this and, it is hereby declared the policy of the state to institutionalize and enhance the Skills Certificate Equivalency Program (SCEP), and to give equal opportunity to certified technical-vocational education and training (TVET) graduates to enter the civil service, uplift the dignity of middle skill workers, and improve the image of technical and vocational education in the country.

**SEC. 3. Skills Certificate Equivalency Program.** – There shall be establish a Skills Certificate Equivalency Program (hereinafter, the Program), which shall grant civil service eligibility to holders of Technical education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) National Certificates (NCs).

The Program shall involve the issuance of NCs to individuals who shall successfully demonstrate the required competence in specific qualifications. For this purpose, an NC shall be provided equivalent civil service eligibility by the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

**SEC. 4. Coverage.** – The benefit under this Act shall apply to those currently working in the government or seeking entrance into the civil service for positions requiring eligibility thru an appropriate TESDA-issued NC.

**SEC. 5. Identification of Positions with Qualification Standards Requiring eligibility through TESDA-Issued National Certificates.** – The CSC and TESDA, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall identify and regularly update the qualification standards requiring eligibility through an appropriate TESDA-issued NC, taking into account the changing

requirements of the workplace and the needs of the government in ensuring the delivery of efficient and effective service to the public; Provided, That the NC remains in the roster of promulgated national qualifications of TESDA: Provided, further, That the grant of civil service eligibility shall be based on an unexpired NC.

**SEC. 6. Application for and Award of Eligibility.** – Any holder of TESDA- issued NC shall file the application for civil service eligibility at any office of the CSC. For this purpose, the CSC shall ensure that there are designated personnel at its field offices nationwide who shall be responsible for the conversion of TES DA-issued NCs to appropriate civil service eligibilities.

**SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The CSC and the TESDA shall jointly issue the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

**SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, memoranda, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 10. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*