

A BILL

i n t i t u l e d

An Act to amend the Education Act 1996.

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ENACTED by the Parliament of Malaysia as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. (1) This Act may be cited as the Education (Amendment) Act 2014.

(2) This Act is deemed to have come into operation on 1 January 2012.

Amendment of section 2

2. The Education Act 1996 [*Act 550*], which is referred to as the “principal Act” in this Act, is amended in section 2—

(a) by inserting after the definition of “upper secondary education” the following definitions:

“vocational college” means an educational institution established and fully maintained by the Minister under section 33A;

“Vocational College Standard Curriculum” means the Vocational College Standard Curriculum prescribed under section 33B.”; and

- (b) in the English language text, in the definition of “upper secondary education”, by substituting for the full stop a semi-colon.

New Chapter 5A

3. The principal Act is amended by inserting after section 33 the following Chapter:

“Chapter 5A – Vocational Colleges

Establishment and maintenance of vocational college

33A. (1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, the Minister may establish and fully maintain a vocational college.

(2) A vocational college established under subsection (1) shall provide technical and vocational education and training for pupils who have completed lower secondary education.

Vocational College Standard Curriculum to be used by vocational colleges

33B. The Minister shall prescribe a curriculum, to be known as the Vocational College Standard Curriculum, which shall be used by all vocational colleges.

Collaboration with other institution, corporation or industrial organization

33c. (1) A vocational college may collaborate with any institution, corporation or industrial organization for the purposes of—

- (a) implementing the Vocational College Standard Curriculum;

- (b) upgrading technical and vocational education and training of the pupils;
- (c) giving effect to the transfer of technology; and
- (d) carrying out any technical and vocational education and training considered desirable and beneficial to the vocational college or the pupils.

(2) Any programme or training conducted in collaboration with an institution, corporation or industrial organization under subsection (1) shall use the Vocational College Standard Curriculum.

Power to make regulations in relation to vocational colleges

33D. The Minister may make regulations for the carrying into effect of the provisions of this Chapter and without prejudice to the generality of such power, the regulations may provide for—

- (a) the Vocational College Standard Curriculum which shall include the knowledge, skills and values that are expected to be acquired by pupils at the end of the vocational education period;
- (b) the carrying out of evaluation or assessment and the conduct of examinations for vocational colleges by the Director of Examinations;
- (c) the award of certificates or diplomas;
- (d) the discipline of pupils, including the discipline and activity of pupils while undergoing a course of study, training or programme outside the vocational college;
- (e) the duration of semester of vocational colleges, the days on which and the hours during which pupils shall attend the vocational colleges and the days which shall be observed as holidays by all vocational colleges or any vocational colleges;

- (f) the admission of pupils to a vocational college, the keeping of register of pupils, the age limit and conditions under which pupils may be retained in a vocational college or in any class in a vocational college;
- (g) the establishment, organization, management, control and dissolution of association of pupils of the vocational colleges;
- (h) any other matter as the Minister thinks expedient or necessary for the purpose of this Chapter.”.

Amendment of section 35

4. Section 35 of the principal Act is amended—

- (a) in the shoulder note, by substituting for the words “Technical education” the words “Technical and vocational education and training”; and
- (b) in subsections (1) and (2), by substituting for the words “technical education” the words “technical and vocational education and training”.

Amendment of section 130

5. Subsection 130(2) of the principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (v) the following paragraph:

- “(va) the establishment, organization, management, control and dissolution of any council, body or committee for technical and vocational education and training;”.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

This Bill seeks to amend the Education Act 1996 (“Act 550”). This amendment is consistent with the vocational education transformation policy which is enunciated through the rebranding of the vocational secondary school to vocational college. This rebranding involves the introduction of a new curriculum

known as The Vocational College Standard Curriculum which is used in all vocational colleges. This curriculum is designed in compliance with the requirements of the National Occupational Skills Standard under the National Skills Development Act 2006 [Act 652] and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency Act 2007 [Act 679] in order to ensure that the certificate or diploma which is to be awarded is equivalent with the certificate or diploma awarded by other vocational education providers and recognized by the industry.

2. *Clause 1* contains the short title and the commencement date of the proposed Act.

3. *Clause 2* seeks to amend section 2 of Act 550 to introduce the definitions of “vocational college” and “Vocational College Standard Curriculum”.

4. *Clause 3* seeks to introduce a new Chapter 5A into Act 550.

Section 33A seeks to empower the Minister to establish and fully maintain a vocational college.

Section 33B provides that all vocational colleges shall use the Vocational College Standard Curriculum.

Section 33c allows a vocational college to collaborate with any institution, corporation or industrial organization for the purposes of, *inter alia*, implementing the Vocational College Standard Curriculum and upgrading the technical and vocational education and training of the pupils. Any programme or training conducted in collaboration with the institution, corporation or industrial organization shall use the Vocational College Standard Curriculum.

Section 33D seeks to empower the Minister to make regulations.

5. *Clause 5* seeks to introduce a new paragraph (*va*) into subsection 130(2) of Act 550 to empower the Minister to make regulations to establish, organize, manage, control and dissolve any council, body or committee for technical and vocational education and training.

6. Other amendments not specifically dealt with in this Statement are minor or consequential in nature.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This Bill will involve the Government in extra financial expenditure the amount of which cannot at present be ascertained.