

Vargas promises to push 'Jobs Next Bill'

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QUEZON City Councilor PM Vargas has vowed to champion the Jobs Next Bill in the next Congress, which seeks to provide better employment and skills training opportunities for the next generation of Filipinos.

The Jobs Next Bill, filed in the 18th Congress as House Bill 9782 principally authored by his brother, incumbent 5th District Quezon City Rep. Alfred Vargas, is like Singapore's Skills Future program.

This aims to provide a skills voucher program to capacitate Filipinos with new and emerging skills for jobs of the future.

Vargas said the Jobs Next Bill would encourage and boost worker upskilling and reskilling to stimulate innovation literacy and protect the labor force in jobs at high risk of displacement due to technological and external disruptions.

"As the country slowly pivots to recovery measures, this presents a window of opportunity to rethink how economies and businesses will react and adapt to the 'new normal,' the QC councilor said in a statement.

"It is an opportunity to build and shift to resilient and sustainable economic and business reforms that will maximize the realities of an uncertain environment and protect Filipino workers and industries from unemployment crises," Vargas said.