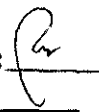




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SENATE  
S.B. NO. **2679**

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by SENATOR FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution provides: "The State shall foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of a Filipino national culture based on the principle of unity in diversity in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression."

Ballet Philippines Foundation Inc. (Ballet Philippines), South East Asia's longest running dance repertory, founded by Alice Reyes and Eddie Elejar, has been expressing art and Filipino culture through dance for the past 41 years. The Philippines oldest professional company, Ballet Philippines is the acknowledged premiere dance company of the country, sweeping local and International awards and performing in many artistic and diplomatic events, both here and in abroad.

Ballet Philippines has reaped international and local acclaim and has been the staging ground for the successful careers of dance luminaries such as Denisa Reyes, Edna Vida, Nonoy Froilan, Cécile Sycangco, Lisa Macuja and currently, Candica Adea, who won silver medal in what is considered the Olympics of dance in Jacksonville USA.

The dancers and choreographers of this prestigious group have won many awards and continue to bring the country recognition and honor. It has also produced the highest number of dancers performing in international companies. Today former members continue to perform in Hong Kong, Vienna, Germany, Macau and the US for diverse companies such as the famed Cloud Gate Dance Theater of Taiwan, the Het National Ballet of Netherlands and even in productions of Disney and Cirque de Soliel among others.

At present, Ballet Philippines has scholarship programs that already support 100-200 dancers annually, including regional scholars to the summer dance workshop, its scholars in the regular school year and more than 20 dancers in its collegiate program.

This year, Ballet Philippines celebrates its 41<sup>st</sup> season of professional productions at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. It is the country's flagship dance company in ballet and modern dance - producing the highest number of artists and original works.

After 41 years as a resident company of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, where it has the distinction of being the first company named as such in 1976, Ballet Philippines and its programs have proven its effectiveness and continued relevance.

This bill seeks to designate Ballet Philippines as the Philippine National Ballet Company as an affirmation of its legacy to Philippine dance as a learning institution, producer and treasury of original Filipino creative work in dance and music.

With the much needed support of the Government committed with permanency, through legislation, the shining future of Ballet Philippines is secured and it will likewise empower it to fulfill its mission towards the development of a professional, world class Filipino dance company.

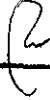
In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.



**FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.**

'11 FEB -8 P5:07

SENATE  
S.B. NO. 2679

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by SENATOR FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.

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**AN ACT**  
**DESIGNATING BALLET PHILIPPINES FOUNDATION, INC. AS THE**  
**PHILIPPINE NATIONAL BALLET COMPANY, DEFINING ITS ROLE AND**  
**FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE**

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

**Section 1. Title.** This Act shall be known as The Philippine National Ballet Act of 2011.

**Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State ensures the preservation of the country's rich cultural heritage expressed through the Filipinos' artistic and intellectual expression.

Pursuant to this, the State appropriately recognizes and support non-governmental organizations, community-based or sectoral organizations that foster preservation of the national culture, and have earned national and international recognition and acceptance.

**Section 3. The Philippine National Ballet Company.** – Pursuant to the above-cited national policy, Ballet Philippines Foundation, Inc. is hereby designated as the Philippine National Ballet Company, in recognition of its achievements, its national as well as international recognition in the field of Philippine arts and culture.

**Section 4. Objectives.** The Philippine National Ballet Company has the following objectives:

- (a) Preserves the Philippine arts, culture, traditions, issues and other concerns of the nation and encourage and develop the best artists from all over the country to become national pride.
- (b) Maintains the highest standard of excellence, manifested in the quality of its production, artists, artistic staff, activities and products.
- (c) Maintains global competitiveness and world-class standard of performance.
- (d) Preserves artistic track record that has a regular and continuing set of activities in pursuit of its mission.

**Section 5. Role and Functions.** - The Philippine National Ballet Company shall have the following roles and functions:

- (a) Undertake a continuing program of training, performance research and documentation of International and Philippine dance culture and history with emphasis on classical, modern and contemporary ballet technique, pedagogy and repertoire and their accompanying music and sets. The program will constitute the development of dancers, teachers, collaborating artists and choreographers for the enrichment of the dancers, music, dances and costumes suitable for staging as part of its repertoire for national as well as international performances.
- (b) Document the training, performances and research and its results through books, publications, audiotapes, videocassettes, compact discs, and other forms of media or mass distribution intended for public and private schools and the public in general, thereby sharing the output of the program with all Filipinos as well as international audiences.
- (c) Develop a pool of ballet dance masters responsible for recruiting, training and maintaining a permanent corps of dancers whose sole function is to implement a national dance season and outreach program to transfer the culture and the art through workshops, seminars and dance clinics, open to talented Filipinos all over the country;
- (d) Develop and maintain a world-class professional dance company to perform during state visits and other state occasions and events, both in the Philippines and abroad;
- (e) Develop a scholarship program open to and supporting talented Filipinos in dance from all over the country;
- (f) To conduct fund raising projects such as events, benefit shows and other activities to further support other Ballet projects.

**Section 6. Entitlement.** – The Ballet Philippines Foundation, Inc. as the Philippine National Ballet Company shall be entitled to the following:

- (a) Free use of theater facilities at the Cultural Center of the Philippines for performances and stage rehearsals up to 40 performances a year;
- (b) Free use of office space, rehearsal studios, production and technical facilities at the Cultural Center of the Philippines; and
- (c) Project grants for research, documentation, new choreography, and/or production from the National Commission on Culture and Arts.

**Section 7. Memorandum of Agreement.** - In furtherance of the objectives of this Act, the Philippine National Ballet Company shall, within thirty (30) days upon effectivity of this Act, enter into an agreement with the Cultural Center of the Philippines, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

**Section 8. Appropriations.** - The amount of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated to effectively carry out the provisions of this Act for the first year of its implementation. Such amount, and such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act, shall be sourced from the annual earnings of the Philippine Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR).

**Section 9. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**Section 10. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, rules and regulations, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**Section 11. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette, whichever comes first.

Approved.