

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'14 MAR 11 P3:47

SENATE
S. B. No. 2170

RECEIVED BY: ja

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**AN ACT DESIGNATING PHILIPPINE NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS
COMPANIES, DEFINING THEIR ROLES AND FUNCTIONS AS SUCH, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Performing art is important not only in its process, product, words, rhythm, but also as a way to bring catharsis, social change, and democracy. A thriving sector in Philippine performing arts not only drives empowerment, it also inspires and improves the nation.

The government has acknowledged the significance of the performing arts to the country's cultural heritage. By virtue of Republic Act No. 8626, the Bayanihan Philippine Dance Company has been cited as the Philippines National Folk Dance Company.

As arts and culture aspire to strengthen communities, remove social barriers, and engage citizens, it is vital that the government supports not just one particular group but several qualified arts groups and organizations.

The Philippine National Performing Art Companies Act of 2013 will give recognition to various performing arts groups in diverse fields such as ballet, contemporary dance, orchestral music, choral music and theatre. This bill proposes to declare one national ballet/contemporary dance company; national choral ensemble; national orchestra, national theater group as a Philippine National Performing Arts Company for a period of five years. They will have government support to showcase their works at the Cultural Center of the Philippines and other venues. These works must be original and add to the nation's cultural identity. To nurture performing arts, the selected groups will receive government funding, have access to grants, and be allowed to use government facilities.

The country needs to invest in Filipino talent in order to build national identity. For this reason, the passage of this bill is urgently sought.



LOREN LEGARDA

Senator

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**AN ACT DESIGNATING PHILIPPINE NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS
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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
assembled*

1 **Section 1. Title** - This Act shall be known as the **Philippine National Performing**
2 **Arts Companies Act of 2013.**

3

4 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy** - Pursuant to Article II, Section 17 and 23, and Art
5 XIV, Sections 14, 15 and 18 (2) of the Philippine Constitution, it is hereby declared
6 the policy of the State to appropriately recognize, designate and support non-
7 government organizations that have demonstrated pioneering, long consistent and
8 unassailable competence, effectiveness and success in the development, training,
9 documentation and performance of ballet and contemporary dance, orchestral
10 music, choral music, and theater.

11

12 **Section 3. Designation as the Philippine National Performing Arts Company** - The
13 following groups are hereby declared Philippine National Performing Arts
14 Companies for a period of five (5) years:

- 15 • One (1) national ballet/contemporary dance company;
- 16 • One (1) national choral ensemble;
- 17 • One (1) national orchestra;
- 18 • One (1) national theater group.

19

20 **Section 4. Roles and Functions** - Each of the performing arts companies shall
21 undertake the following roles and functions upon designation as a National
22 Performing Arts Company:

23

- 24 (a) Undertake a continuing program of training and education for the
25 professional development of performing artists, teachers, directors, designers,

1 performing arts managers and other artists particular to its performing arts
2 field;

3
4 (b) Conduct research (on its particular performing arts form) and undertake
5 documentation of its activities and programs for the preservation and of
6 dissemination of Filipino masterpieces in the performing arts;

7
8 (c) Organize and present a regular annual season of performances at the
9 Cultural Center of the Philippines and other venues in the country;

10 (d) Develop and build a repertoire of original Filipino works that will help
11 define our national cultural identity;

12
13 (e) Maintain and promote a standard of artistic excellence in its field that will
14 help elevate the performing arts in the Philippines;

15
16 (f) Conduct a national outreach and exchange program of performances,
17 workshops and seminars for the development and promotion of the
18 performing arts in the regions;

19
20 (g) Undertake an international outreach program as Philippine cultural
21 ambassadors and perform during state functions for visiting dignitaries;

22
23 (h) Conduct a continuing audience development program and help promote
24 greater awareness and appreciation of the performing arts among the public;

25
26 (i) Maintain a viable and sustainable performing arts organization and help
27 set a standard for effective and efficient performing arts management.

28
29 (j) Submit an annual report of accomplishments to the Cultural Center of the
30 Philippines and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts.

31
32 **Section 5. Selection Process** - A fifteen (15) member panel of experts in the
33 performing arts will be designated by the National Commission for Culture and the
34 Arts (NCCA) and the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) to comprise the
35 Selection Committee for the National Performing Arts Companies. The Committee,
36 which will be composed of experts knowledgeable in the artistic and technical
37 aspects of the performing arts, shall have three (3) representatives each from the
38 Cultural Center of the Philippines, National Commission for Culture and the Arts,
39 the dance sector, academe, and critics from the media. They shall elect a Chairperson
40 from among themselves. The members of the Selection Committee shall receive
41 appropriate remuneration from the Cultural Center of the Philippines.

42
43 The Selection Committee shall be tasked to draw up the rules and guidelines for the
44 selection process of the Performing Arts Companies.

45
46 The selection process shall constitute the following procedure:
47

1 (a) A call for applications to different performing arts companies shall be
2 undertaken based on rules and guidelines set by the Selection Committee.

3
4 (b) A first screening shall take place wherein applications shall be assessed by
5 the Secretariat based on a pre-selection criteria stated in the rules and
6 guidelines set by the Committee.

7
8 (c) Qualified applications shall move to the second screening wherein the
9 Selection Committee shall further evaluate the applications based on the
10 criteria set.

11
12 (d) The Selection Committee shall select the qualified Performing Arts
13 Companies which shall consist of:

- 14 • One (1) qualified applicant for ballet and contemporary dance;
- 15 • One (1) qualified applicant for choral music;
- 16 • One (1) qualified applicant for orchestral music;
- 17 • One (1) qualified applicant for theater.

18
19 The Selection Committee shall then choose an additional twelve (12), or three (3)
20 from each of the next most qualified applicants from each of the aforementioned
21 performing arts forms, for a separate subsidy program.

22
23 The results of the final selection shall be jointly ratified by the NCCA Board of
24 Commissioners and the CCP Board of Trustees.

25
26 The selection of National Performing Arts Companies shall take place every five (5)
27 years. Performing arts companies which have been previously declared National
28 Performing Arts Companies may re-apply for the succeeding selection processes.

29
30 **Section 6. Criteria for Selection** - The criteria set by the Selection Committee shall
31 be based on the following:

32
33 (a) It is national in scope, as it tackles and presents the arts, culture, traditions,
34 issues and concerns of the nation, drawing the best talents from all over
35 the country and contributing to the development of a national cultural
36 consciousness.

37
38 (b) It is the best in its field in the country, maintaining the highest standards
39 of artistic excellence, manifested in the quality of its performances, artists,
40 training programs and other activities.

41
42 (c) It is world class, having represented the country in numerous touring
43 engagements, festivals, competitions and international events and having
44 been acclaimed by foreign organizations, audiences and critics alike

45
46 (d) It has maintained a professional track record of regular and continuing set
47 of activities in pursuit of its mission; and
48

1 (e) It is able to maintain a viable and sustainable organization to support its
2 programs. The company should have the capability to match the allocated
3 annual subsidy from the government.
4

5 **Section 7. Entitlements** - Each of the National Performing Arts Companies, namely:
6 a national ballet/contemporary dance company, a national choral ensemble, a
7 national orchestra and a national theater group, shall be entitled to the following:
8

9 (a) **Equal Use of Government Facilities for Free** - The National Performing
10 Arts Companies shall be entitled to equal use of government facilities and
11 cultural venues, specifically but not limited to the Cultural Center of the
12 Philippines, the Tanghalang Balagtas and other government venues devoted
13 to cultural and artistic performances without fee;
14

15 (b) **Access to Grants** - They shall be entitled to project grants for research,
16 documentation, productions, workshops, training and audience development
17 programs from the National Commission on Culture and the Arts;
18

19 **Section 8. Evaluation Process** - The National Performing Arts Companies shall be
20 evaluated annually by the Selection Committee and shall be given feedback on the
21 annual assessment.
22

23 **Section 9. Memorandum of Agreement** - Within 30 days upon effectivity of this
24 Act, the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) and the National Commission for
25 Culture and the Arts (NCCA) shall execute the necessary arrangements in
26 accordance with existing laws,
27 rules and regulations.
28

29 **Section 9 10. Appropriation of Funds** - The following amounts shall be
30 appropriated for each of the National Performing Arts Companies:
31

32 Twelve Million Pesos (P12,000,000.00) a year for the National Orchestra for a period
33 of five (5) years;
34

35 Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) a year for the National Ballet/Contemporary
36 Dance Company for a period of five (5) years;
37

38 Eight Million Pesos (P8,000,000.00) a year for the National Theater Company for a
39 period of five (5) years;
40

41 Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00) a year for the National Choral Company for a
42 period of five (5) years.
43

44 The abovementioned amounts shall be appropriated for each of the national
45 performing arts companies to support the roles and functions stated in Section 4 of
46 this Act for the first year of its implementation. Thereafter, such amount, and sums
47 necessary to sustain the implementation of this Act, shall be sourced from the
48 General Appropriations Act.

1 A maximum of twelve (12), or maximum of three (3) from each of the next most
2 qualified applicants from each of the performing arts forms mentioned, shall be
3 entitled to a subsidy of One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) a year, renewable upon
4 evaluation, for performance, research, documentation and commissioned work.

5

6 **Section 11. Donations and Solicitations** - The National Performing Arts
7 Companies may also solicit and receive donations, endowments which shall be
8 exempted from income or gift taxes and all other taxes, charges or fees imposed by
9 the government or any political subdivision or instrumentality thereof.

10

11 Government Corporations are hereby authorized to give grants to the National
12 Performing Arts Companies from their unimpaired surplus at their discretion.

13

14 **Section 12. Separability Clause** - If for any reason, any part of the provision of this
15 Act declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not
16 affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

17

18 **Section 13. Repealing Clause** - All laws, rules and regulations, inconsistent with the
19 provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

20

21 **Section 14. Effectivity** - This Act shall take effect upon approval.

22

23

24 Approved.