


SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
First Regular Session

'04 JUN 30 P10:01

SENATE

S. No. 812

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As repositories of artifacts and relics, museums fulfill the important scholarly function of disseminating knowledge of our culture and history.

As keepers of these priceless collections, museum personnel have the vital task of preserving and keeping track of these so that future generations may have an understanding of our past, present and future.

This bill seeks to expand the duties and responsibilities of the Director of the National Museum, in recognition of the abovementioned role of protecting these national treasures. Thus, records and registry kept and maintained on the ownership, location, and condition of important cultural properties shall include not only those of owners of such but also those of the government.

Finally, the presumption that such cultural properties acquired with public funds would only mean that it is right and proper that the State be the rightful owners of these treasures.

In lieu of the foregoing, early approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

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AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER FORTY EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIX (4846), AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CULTURAL PROPERTIES PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION ACT"

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

SECTION 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 4846, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. The Director of the Museum, hereinafter referred to as the Director, shall undertake a census of the important cultural properties of the Philippines, keep a record of their ownership, location, and condition and maintain an up-to-date register of the same. Private collectors and owners of important cultural properties [and public and private schools] INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT, ITS BRANCHES, SUBDIVISIONS, AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND THEIR SUBSIDIARIES in possession of [these items,] SAID PROPERTIES shall be required to register [their collections] THEM with the Museum [when required by the Director] WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS UPON THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT and to report to the same office [when required by the Director] any new acquisitions, sale, or transfers thereof WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM DATE THEREFROM.

"ALL CULTURAL PROPERTIES PRESENTLY IN THE POSSESSION OF THE GOVERNMENT, ITS AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND THEIR SUBSIDIARIES, SHALL BE PRESUMED TO HAVE BEEN ACQUIRED WITH THE USE OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND THEREFORE THEIR BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP SHALL BELONG TO THE STATE AND THEIR POSSESSION SUBJECT TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM."

SECTION 2. All laws, rules, and orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,