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SENATE

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Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

RESOLUTION

URGING THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION (PSC) AND THE PHILIPPINE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (POC), IN CONSULTATION WITH ALL THE SPORTS STAKEHOLDERS, TO CREATE A MASTER PLAN FOR THE COUNTRY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE 2019 SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES (SEA GAMES) AND IN THE 2020 SUMMER OLYMPICS

WHEREAS, the Philippines will be participating in two celebrated international sporting events in a few years, the 2019 Southeast Asian Games and the 2020 Summer Olympics;

WHEREAS, the Southeast Asian Games is a biennial multi-sport event with 11 participating countries in Southeast Asia. In the recent 2013 SEA Games in Myanmar, more than 460 events were held in 37 different sports with over 4,500 competitors in various countries. After Singapore's SEA Games' hosting stint in 2015, the countries set to host next are Malaysia in 2017 and the Philippines in 2019;

WHEREAS, the Summer Olympics, which was first held in 1896 and is occurring every four years, is the most prestigious sporting event in the world. The 2020 Summer Olympics will be held in Tokyo, Japan with as many as 300 events set to be played by more than 10,000 competitors from over 200 countries all over the world;

WHEREAS, the country's sports ranking in previous tournaments have not been outstanding despite the exceptional skill and talent of Filipino athletes. In the 2005 SEA Games, the Philippines ranked first (1st) in over-all standings beating 10 other neighbors and bagging 281 medals. By 2011, the Philippine ranking dropped to 6th with only 169 medals;

WHEREAS, in the last 2012 Summer Olympics in London, United Kingdom, the Philippines sent the nation's smallest delegation of only 11 competitors in 8 sports since 1996. With our small delegation, our athletes have not been able to bring home any medal in that year. The country's only gold medal was in the 2014 Summer Youth Olympics when Luis Gabriel Moreno won in Archery. Prior to that, the Philippines last silver medal was in 1996 when Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco won in boxing;

WHEREAS, given the country's previous rankings, the Filipino athletes are in dire need of one master plan as they represent the country in two of sports' prestigious international events. It is imperative that the Philippines should start such preparations now more than ever;

WHEREAS, no less than President Benigno Simeon Aquino acknowledged the need for sports master plans. In 2012, he called for the implementation of a 2011-2016 Philippine Sports Road Map, which centered on select sports including boxing, taekwondo, swimming, athletics, wushu, archery, wrestling, bowling, weightlifting and billiards. If implemented, such road map should be taken in consideration in the creation of the 2019 SEA Games and 2020 Summer Olympics master plan;

WHEREAS, representing one's country is a huge responsibility. The government must step in in adequately preparing our national athletes by providing them the necessary training and exposure at national and international competitions. It is important to synchronize all the stakeholders' efforts in upholding the Filipino pride in sports;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to provide adequate preparation for Filipino athletes, therefore calling upon the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), in consultation with all the sports stakeholders, to create a master plan for the country's participation in the 2019 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games and in the 2020 Summer Olympics.

Adopted,



SENATOR SONNY ANGARA