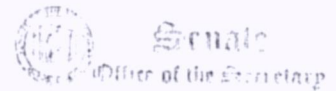


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'17 JUL 31 A9:56

S E N A T E

RECEIVED BY: J

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. - 137

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, Civil Service and Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation and Finance on JUL 31 2017

Re: Senate Bill No. 1528

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 31 and 664.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, Civil Service and Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation and Finance to which were referred Senate Bill No. 31, introduced by Senators Loren B. Legarda and Maria Lourdes "Nancy" S. Binay, entitled:

**"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND THE ARTS,
STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR CULTURE AND ARTS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES"**

and Senate Bill No. 664, introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, entitled:

**"AN ACT REORGANIZING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND THE ARTS
INTO THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND THE ARTS, DEFINING ITS POWER AND
FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No. 1528, prepared by the Committee, entitled:

**"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 31 and 664 with Senators Legarda, Binay, Aquino IV and Escudero, as authors.

Respectfully submitted:



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Chairperson

Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Vice Chairperson, Committee on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization

Member, Committee on Finance



SEN. LOREN B. LEGARDA

Chairperson

Committee on Finance

Member, Committee on Education,
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Chairperson

Committee on Civil Service and Government
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Member, Committee on Education, Arts and
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Member, Committee on Finance

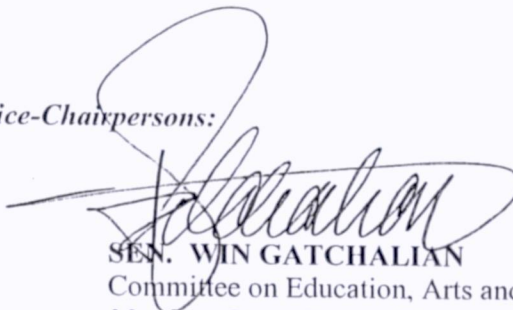
Vice-Chairpersons:



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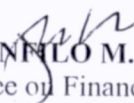
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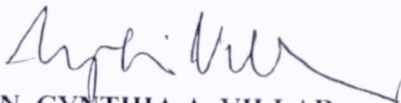
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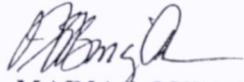


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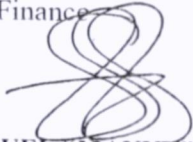


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Senate Minority Floor Leader

SEN. VICENTE C. SOTTO III
Senate Majority Floor Leader

SEN. RALPH G. RECTO
Senate President Pro-Tempore

HON. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III
Senate President

- 1 f. To recognize that cultural education is the right of every citizen and therefore ensure
2 that cultural literacy is inculcated in the development and education of all Filipinos;
- 3 g. To promote the national language of the country while enhancing the linguistic
4 diversity of the Philippines; and,
- 5 h. To secure and improve the welfare of Filipino artists and cultural workers.
6
7

8 The Department shall continually review the state and needs of culture and arts in the
9 context of the country's developmental goals.
10

11 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be
12 defined as follow:

- 13 a. "**Art**" shall refer to the expression or application of human creative skill and
14 imagination.
15
- 16 b. "**Conservation**" shall refer to all process and measures of maintaining the cultural
17 significance of a cultural property, including but not limited to, preservation,
18 restoration, reconstruction, protection, adaptive re-use or any combination thereof.
19
- 20 c. "**Cultural agencies**" shall refer to any of the following national government
21 agencies with their specific areas of responsibility: National Museum of the
22 Philippines (cultural property), the National Library of the Philippines (books),
23 National Historical Commission of the Philippines (Philippine history), the National
24 Archives of the Philippines (documents) the Cultural Center of the Philippines
25 (culture and arts) and Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (language).
26
- 27 d. "**Cultural Education**" shall refer to the teaching and learning of cultural concepts
28 and processes.
29
- 30 e. "**Cultural Heritage**" shall refer to the totality of cultural property preserved and
31 developed through time and passed on to posterity.
32
- 33 f. "**Cultural Property**" shall refer to all products of human creativity by which people
34 and nation reveal their identity, including architecture and sites or human activity
35 [churches, mosques and other places of religious worship, schools] and natural
36 history specimens and sites, whether public or privately owned, movable or
37 immovable, and tangible or intangible.
38
- 39 g. "**Culture**" shall refer to the broad spectrum of people's beliefs, practices, customs
40 and traditions, material culture, arts, and other forms of actual and symbolic
41 expressions and representations which are handed down from one generation to the
42 next in the process of interaction.
43
- 44 h. "**History**" shall refer to a written record of past events relating to Philippine history.
45
- 46 i. "**Indigenous Cultural Communities/ Indigenous Peoples**" shall refer to a group
47 of people or homogenous societies identified by self-ascription and ascription by
48 others, who have continuously lived as organized community on communally
49 bounded and defined territory, and who have, under claims of ownership since time
50 immemorial, occupied, possessed and utilized such territories, sharing common
51 bonds of language, customs, traditions and other distinctive cultural traits, or who
52 have, through resistance to political, social and cultural inroads of colonization,
53 non-indigenous religions and cultures, became historically differentiated from the
54 majority of Filipinos. ICCs/IPs shall likewise include peoples who are regarded as

1 indigenou on account of their descent from the populations which inhabited the
2 country, at the time of conquest or colonization, or at the time of inroads of non-
3 indigenou religions and cultures, or the establishment of present state boundaries,
4 who retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political
5 institutions, but who may have been displaced from their traditional domains or who
6 may have resettled outside their ancestral domains;
7

- 8 j. **“Intangible Cultural Heritage”** shall refer to practices, representations,
9 expressions, knowledge, skills, as well as instrument, objects and artifacts
10 associated therewith, that communities, groups and individual recognize as part of
11 their cultural heritage, such as: (1) oral traditions, usages, customs, languages and
12 other expressions; (2) performing arts; (3) social practices, religious rites, rituals,
13 culinary traditions, and festive events; (4) knowledge and practices concerning
14 nature and the universe, worship and (5) traditional craftsmanship.
15

16

17 ARTICLE II

18 THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE

19

20 **SEC. 4. *Creation of the Department of Culture.*** There is hereby created the Department
21 of Culture (*Kagawaran ng Kultura*), hereinafter referred to as the Department, which shall be
22 the primary policy-formulating, planning, coordinating, implementing, and administrative entity
23 of the executive branch of the National Government that will implement the pertinent
24 provisions of the Constitution regarding culture and arts as well as the aforementioned policy of
25 the State.
26

27 The Department with its attached agencies shall be responsible for the protection,
28 preservation, regulation, development, management, dissemination and promotion of the
29 cultural, historical and artistic heritage and resources, tangible and intangible, of the Philippines
30 and the Filipino people, all of which, with their physical and social contexts and environments,
31 are understood as together constituting and pertaining to Philippine culture for purposes of this
32 Act.
33

34 The Department shall continually review the state and needs of culture and arts in the
35 context of the country’s developmental goals.
36

37 **SEC. 5. *Powers and Functions.*** The Department shall exercise the following powers
38 and functions:
39

- 40 a. Formulate and implement national policies, plans, programs, and guidelines for the
41 protection, preservation, regulation, development, management, dissemination and
42 promotion of culture, to ensure overall consistency, effectiveness, efficiency, and
43 conformity with the policies of the State articulated in the Constitution as well as in
44 this Act and other pertinent laws and issuances;
45
- 46 b. Assume and exercise all existing regulatory and quasi-judicial functions established
47 under Republic Act No. 4846, or “*The Cultural Properties Preservation and*
48 *Protection Act*,” Presidential Decree No. 374, or “*Amending the Cultural Properties*
49 *Preservation and Protection Act*,” Presidential Decree No. 1616, or “*Creation of the*
50 *Intramuros Administration*,” Presidential Decree No. 1748, or “*An Act Amending the*
51 *Charter of the Intramuros Administration*,” Republic Act No. 8491, or “*The Flag*
52 *and Heraldic Code of the Philippines*,” Republic Act No. 9105, or “*Art and Forgery*
53 *Act of 2001*,” Republic Act No. 10066, or “*The National Cultural Heritage Act of*
54 *2009*,” and, Republic Act No. 10086 or “*Strengthening Peoples’ Nationalism*
55 *Through Philippine History Act*,” as well as such functions promulgated through
56 executive issuances that pertain to the agencies of the National Government covered
57 under this Act, which are all hereby transferred *in toto* to the Department from the

1 said agencies;
2

- 3 c. Be responsible for disaster risk reduction and management relative to culture and
4 cultural property, both through its own programs and projects as well as through the
5 National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council and Regional Disaster
6 Risk Reduction and Management Councils, on which it shall have full membership,
7 representation and participation;
8
- 9 d. Recommend to the President of the Philippines the designation, through Presidential
10 Proclamation, with appropriate published guidelines pertaining thereto, of a cultural
11 property, whether immovable or movable, tangible or intangible, as a National
12 Cultural Monument, a category hereby established which incorporates the previously-
13 established legal definitions of, criteria pertaining to, and all cultural property
14 previously declared by authorized agencies as National Cultural Treasure, National
15 Historical Landmark, National Historical Shrine, National Historical Monument, and
16 National Historical Site;
17
- 18 e. Designate, through Department Order, and with appropriate published guidelines
19 pertaining thereto, cultural property, whether immovable or movable, tangible or
20 intangible, as National Cultural Property, a category hereby established which
21 incorporates the previously-established legal definitions of, criteria pertaining to, and
22 all cultural property previously declared by authorized agencies as Important Cultural
23 Property and Heritage House;
24
- 25 f. Administer the qualification and selection, with appropriate published guidelines
26 pertaining thereto, of the Award for National Living Treasures (*Gawad ng Manlilikha*
27 *ng Bayan*), which is hereby renamed as the Order of National Living Treasures
28 (*Orden ng mga Pambansang Manlilikha ng Bayan*), and the Order of National Artists
29 (*Orden ng mga Pambansang Alagad ng Sining*), and recommend those nominees to
30 either Order who have been qualified and selected to the President of the Philippines
31 for proclamation as such and conferral of the same;
32
- 33 g. Undertake, through a National Institute of Culture and Arts Management and the
34 Institutes of Living Traditions to be established for the purpose, in an appropriate
35 partnership with the academic sector, the education, training and certification of
36 cultural officers and personnel as a necessary qualification for employment and
37 promotion in the National Government and in local governments where such might
38 be required by the Department in coordination with the Civil Service Commission
39 and the Career Executive Service Board, at the career sub-professional, career
40 professional, and career executive levels, to include appropriate courses and programs
41 towards certificates, diplomas, and undergraduate and graduate degrees;
42
- 43 h. Administer the qualification, selection and conferral of such other awards as it may
44 establish in support of its mandate;
45
- 46 i. Support the development of the cultural, artistic and creative industries of the
47 country, in all particulars and at all levels;
48
- 49 j. Administer the endowment funds established separately under Section 20 of Republic
50 Act No. 7356, *The Law Creating the National Commission for culture and the Arts;*
51 and Section 50 of Republic Act No. 10066, which are herein consolidated into a
52 single National Endowment Fund for Culture and Arts (NEFCA) that shall continue
53 to be sourced and augmented as provided by the aforementioned provisions, and
54 provide financial support from this fund for various national programs through a
55 system of grants drawing from the proceeds, including both principal and interest, of
56 the same, subject to the approval of the Department of Budget and Management.
57

1 k. Represent the Philippines in matters pertaining to culture in overseas regional and
2 international organizations and events.

3
4 l. Other powers and functions as may be created, assigned or transferred by the
5 President of the Philippines in accordance with law.
6

7 **SEC. 6. Composition.** The Department proper shall include the Office of the Secretary
8 and the staff units directly under it, including the Services established herein. The Office of the
9 Secretary shall consist of the Secretary, at least three (3) Undersecretaries, and at least five (5)
10 Assistant Secretaries, together with the personnel in their immediate offices.
11

12 **SEC. 7. Secretary of Culture.** The authority and responsibility for the exercise of the
13 mandate of the Department and for the discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in
14 the Secretary, who shall have supervision and control of the Department and shall be appointed
15 by the President of the Philippines, subject to the confirmation by the Commission on
16 Appointments.
17

18 **SEC. 8. Powers and Functions of the Secretary.** —The Secretary shall have the
19 following powers and functions:
20

21 a. Provide executive direction and supervision over the entire operations of the
22 Department and exercise administrative supervision over its attached agencies;
23

24 b. Establish policies and standards for the effective, efficient and economical operation
25 of the Department, in accordance with the programs of government;

26 c. Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out department mandates,
27 objectives, policies, functions, plans, programs and projects;
28

29 d. Promulgate administrative issuances necessary for the efficient administration of the
30 offices under the Secretary and for proper execution of the laws relative thereto.
31 These issuances shall not prescribe penalties for their violation, except when
32 expressly authorized by law;
33

34 e. Rationalize delivery systems necessary for the effective attainment of the objectives
35 of the Department, in accordance with the programs of Government;
36

37 f. Appoint all officers and employees of the Department except those whose
38 appointments are vested in the President or in some other appointing authority and
39 shall appoint employees to positions in the second level in the regional offices as
40 defined in this Act and in accordance with the Civil Service laws, rules and
41 regulations;
42

43 g. Exercise disciplinary powers over officers and employees under the Secretary in
44 accordance with law, including their investigation and the designation of a
45 committee or officer to conduct such investigation;
46

47 h. Sit on the governing boards of attached agencies as provided in this Act, as well as
48 any other agencies or organizations as may be appropriate or designated;
49

50 i. Coordinate with local governments, other agencies and public and private interests'
51 groups, including non-government organizations (NGOs) and people's
52 organizations (POs) on Department policies and initiatives;
53

54 j. Advise the President of the Philippines and make recommendations on the
55 promulgation of executive and administrative orders and regulatory and legislative
56 proposals on matters pertaining to culture;
57

- 1 k. Formulate and enforce a system of measuring and evaluating periodically and
2 objectively the performance of the Department and submit the same annually to the
3 President;
4
5 l. Prepare and submit to the President through the Department of Budget and
6 Management an estimate of the necessary expenditures of the department during the
7 next fiscal year, on the basis of the reports and estimates submitted by bureaus and
8 officers under the Department;
9
10 m. Exercise jurisdiction over all bureaus, offices, agencies and corporations under the
11 Department as are provided by law; and,
12
13 n. Performs such other functions as may be provided by law or assigned by the
14 President of the Republic of the Philippines.
15

16 **SEC. 9. Undersecretaries.** The Secretary shall be assisted by three (3) Undersecretaries,
17 who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the
18 Secretary, at least two (2) of whom shall be career officers. In general, the undersecretaries
19 shall:

- 20 a. Advise and assist the Secretary in the formulation and implementation of
21 department objectives and policies;
22
23 b. Oversee all the operational activities of the bureau or units for which he shall be
24 responsible as assigned by the Secretary;
25
26 c. Coordinate the programs and projects of the same and be responsible for its
27 economical, efficient and effective administration;
28
29 d. Whenever necessary be designated to serve as deputy to the Secretary in all matters
30 relating to the operations of the department; the designated Undersecretary will
31 temporarily discharge the duties of the Secretary in the latter's absence or inability
32 to discharge his or her duties for any cause or in case of vacancy of the said office,
33 unless otherwise provided by law; the President of the Philippines shall likewise
34 make the temporary designation of Acting Secretary to the same; and
35
36 e. Perform such other functions and duties as may be provided by law.
37
38

39 **SEC. 10. Assistant Secretaries.** The Secretary shall be assisted by at five (5) Assistant
40 Secretaries, who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the
41 recommendation of the Secretary, at least three (3) of whom shall be career officers. The
42 Assistant Secretaries shall be in charge of specific areas of responsibility as may be established
43 by the Secretary.
44

45 **SEC. 11. Qualifications.** No person shall be appointed Secretary, Undersecretary, or
46 Assistant Secretary of the Department unless he or she is a citizen and resident of the
47 Philippines, of good moral character, and of proven integrity, and with at least seven (7) years
48 of competence/ expertise/ experience as manager, advocate, scholar or practitioner in fields of
49 endeavor related to Philippine culture and the mandate and functions of the Department.
50

51 **ARTICLE III**
52 **THE DEPARTMENT SERVICES**
53

54 **SEC. 12. Department Services.**—The Department of Culture shall have services which
55 shall include the General Administrative Service, Financial Management Service, Policy and

1 Planning Service, Legal Affairs Service, Physical Facilities Management Service, Human
2 Resources Development Service, Strategic Communications and Initiatives Service,
3 Knowledge and Information Systems, Project Evaluation and Monitoring Service, Foreign-
4 Assisted and Special Projects Service, Internal Audit Service, Endowment Management
5 Service, Grants Management Service;
6

7
8 **ARTICLE IV**
9 **THE BUREAUS**

10 **SEC. 13. *The Bureaus of the Department***—The Department shall exercise supervision
11 and control over the following six (6) Bureaus which are created under it:
12

- 13 a. ***Bureau of Cultural Communities and Traditional Arts Development*** – shall
14 formulate and implement plans, programs and activities for the development of the
15 different cultural communities all over the country, ensure the preservation and
16 dissemination of the country’s diverse cultures, establish schools/ institutes for
17 living traditions, encourage the continued practice and development of traditional
18 arts and crafts, document the Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices (IKSP),
19 and cause the recognition of outstanding traditional artists.
20
- 21 b. ***Bureau of Cultural Properties Protection and Regulation*** – shall be in-charge of
22 the registration and documentation of the nation’s historical and cultural properties,
23 issue permits and licenses, conduct inspection and assessment on cultural properties,
24 implement Disaster Risk Reduction program for the cultural assets, enforce laws on
25 cultural heritage conservation and intellectual property protection for artists and
26 cultural experts.
27
- 28 c. ***Bureau of Cultural Properties Preservation*** – shall formulate and implement plans,
29 programs, and activities for the preservation of tangible and intangible cultural
30 heritage, provide architectural, engineering, scientific and conservation laboratory
31 services, provide support to monuments and sites, museums and galleries and
32 libraries and archives all over the country and establish a National Institute of
33 Heritage Conservation.
34
- 35 d. ***Bureau of Artistic Resources Development*** – shall ensure the continuing and
36 balance development of the nation’s artistic heritage in its various forms;
37 performing arts, film and media arts, visual arts, architecture and allied arts and
38 literature, provide support to regional and local culture and arts centers, performing
39 arts and exhibition venues, ensure the welfare of artists and cultural workers,
40 undertake human resource development programs for artists, and establish the
41 National Academy for Culture and Arts and National Institute for Culture and Arts
42 Management.
43
- 44 e. ***Bureau of Cultural Research, Education and Dissemination*** – shall undertake
45 cultural research for policy and program development, publish cultural materials,
46 especially on positive Filipino values for dissemination, manage the cultural
47 education program for the country, ensure the development and promotion of
48 Philippine languages, implement national translation program, and implement
49 national promotion program in various forms of media.
50
- 51 f. ***Bureau of Cultural and Creative Industries*** – shall formulate plans and programs
52 to ignite the innovative and entrepreneurial mindset of Filipino artists and establish
53 industries in the various genre of arts; performing arts, cinema, books and
54 publications, creative designs, culinary and lifestyle and architecture and allied arts,
55 and others.
56

57 Each Bureau shall be headed by a Bureau Director, who shall be assisted by one (1)

1 Assistant Bureau Director. The Bureau Director and Assistant Bureau Director shall be
2 appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary.
3
4

5 **SEC. 14. Powers and Duties of Bureau Director.** —The Bureau Director shall be its
6 chief executive officer. He shall exercise overall authority in matters within the jurisdiction of
7 the bureau, including those relating to its operations, and enforce all laws and regulations
8 pertaining to it. Shall appoint personnel to all positions in his bureau or office, in accordance
9 with law. In the case of the line bureau or office, the head shall also appoint the second level
10 personnel of the regional offices, unless such power has been delegated. He shall have the
11 authority to discipline employees in accordance with the Civil Service Law.
12
13

14
15 **ARTICLE V**
16 **THE REGIONAL AND FIELD OFFICES**
17

18 **SEC. 15. Regional Offices of the Department.** The Department is hereby authorized to
19 establish, operate and maintain a Regional Office, whenever appropriate, in each of the
20 administrative regions of the country. Each regional office shall be headed by a Regional
21 Director, who may be assisted by one (1) Assistant Regional Director. The Regional Director
22 and Assistant Regional Director shall be appointed by the President upon the recommendation
23 of the Secretary: Provided, That they shall be persons recognized as an accomplished manager,
24 advocate, scholar or practitioner in fields of endeavor related to Philippine culture in the
25 region, or any suitably qualified person in accordance with Civil Service Commission (CSC)
26 rules and regulations.
27

28 It may also establish satellite, extension or field offices when and wherever necessary,
29 particularly in locations where significant cultural and heritage properties and concerns are
30 identified to exist, and to support the operations, programs and projects of its attached and
31 other concerned agencies and institutions. A regional office shall have, within its
32 administrative region, the following functions:
33

- 34 a. Implement laws, policies, plans, programs, rules and regulations of the department
35 or agency in the regional area;
36
37 b. Provide economical, efficient and effective service to the people in the area;
38
39 c. Undertake research and gather data on local culture and arts trends and other
40 relevant cultural and artistic information;
41
42 d. Cause to establish and oversee the regional and local culture and arts councils (as
43 far as the city and municipal level) to engage participation of local artists and
44 cultural workers;
45
46 e. Coordinate with regional offices of other departments, bureaus and agencies in the
47 area;
48
49 f. Coordinate with local government units in the area;
50
51 g. Make recommendations to the Secretary on all matters relating to culture and arts in
52 the region; and,
53
54 h. Perform such other functions as may be provided by law.
55
56

1 projects related to the education, training and certification of cultural officers and
2 personnel as a necessary qualification for employment and promotion in the National
3 Government and in local governments where such might be required by the
4 Department in coordination with the Civil Service Commission and the Career
5 Executive Service Board, at the career sub-professional, career professional, and
6 career executive levels, to include appropriate courses and programs towards
7 certificates, diplomas, and undergraduate and graduate degrees;
8
9

10 **SEC. 19. National Academy of Culture and Arts.** There is hereby established under the
11 Department a National Academy of Culture and Arts, which shall be an institutionalized
12 association of the nation's foremost leaders and exponents of culture and arts, the primary
13 purpose of which is to support the mandate of the Department as an independent body of
14 eminent persons. The President of the Philippines shall be the Honorary Patron of the National
15 Academy of Culture and Arts.
16

17 The structure and organization of the Academy, including the specification of its
18 functions, procedures as to its governance and the selection of its members, and the
19 composition of its secretariat, shall be contained in a charter to be formulated by the
20 Department and promulgated by the President of the Philippines through an Executive Order
21 within one (1) year of the effectivity of this Act.
22

23 **SEC. 20. Culture and Arts Advisory Councils.** The Department shall facilitate the
24 creation of a National Culture and Arts Advisory Council, a Regional Culture and Arts
25 Advisory Council, and, a Local Culture and Arts Advisory Council, to assist the Department in
26 the implementation of culture and arts initiatives.
27

28 **SEC. 21. Sectoral and Industry Task Forces.** The Department may create a sectoral
29 and industry task forces, technical working groups, advisory bodies or committees for the
30 furtherance of its objectives. Additional private sector representatives, such as from the
31 academe, CSOs, and federation of private industries directly involved in culture and the arts as
32 well as representatives of other LGUs, and GOCCs may be appointed to these working groups.
33

34 **SEC. 22. Rizal Centers.** — The Department shall, through a dedicated organizational
35 unit to be established for the purpose, establish and manage centers, to be known as Rizal
36 Centers or *Sentro Rizal*, throughout the country and overseas, the primary purpose of which
37 shall be the promotion of, and the facilitation of access by the constituency of each center to,
38 Philippine culture generally as well as the cultural resources managed by the Department and
39 its attached agencies in particular.
40

41 Domestically, the Department shall establish *Sentro Rizal* as regional cultural centers
42 and hubs, to be supervised and operated appropriately through its regional offices. Such
43 regional centers shall include exhibition and performance venues, and facilities enabling access
44 to knowledge resources, particularly those pertaining to vernacular language resources.
45

46 Overseas, the Department shall establish *Sentro Rizal* as Philippine cultural centers in
47 key places for the benefit of the global diaspora of Philippine citizens, the global community of
48 Filipino migrants or descendents thereof, and all who are interested in Philippine culture. The
49 Department for this purpose shall coordinate with the Department of Foreign Affairs, the
50 Commission on Filipinos Overseas, and other concerned agencies.
51

52 Such *Sentro Rizal* as may be established overseas shall have a dedicated budget and staff
53 under the Department, and be considered as overseas offices thereof, shall function as
54 repositories of Philippine cultural resources, shall carry out active programs and projects to
55 engage their respective constituencies, and shall offer courses in the national language and any
56 other Filipino languages as may appropriate.
57

1 The operations of the *Sentro Rizal* network of the Department, both domestically and
2 overseas, shall be considered as one its permanent flagship programs, and shall therefore be
3 specifically provided for in the General Appropriations Act for every fiscal year.
4

5 Article XII, including Sections 42 to 47, of Republic Act No. 10066 is hereby repealed.
6
7

8 **SEC. 23. Overseas Offices.** The Department shall establish overseas offices whenever
9 necessary to:
10

- 11 a. Implement plans, programs and projects of the Department relative to communities
12 of Philippine citizens abroad;
- 13 b. Promote Filipino culture to the international community;
- 14 c. Coordinate with international organizations as well as with the overseas offices of
15 other departments, offices and agencies of the Philippine government; and
- 16 d. Perform such other functions as may be provided by law.
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22 ARTICLE V 23 REORGANIZATION 24

25 **SEC. 24. Reorganization.** The laws and rules on government reorganization as provided
26 for in Republic Act No. 6656, otherwise known as the Reorganization Law, shall govern the
27 reorganization process of the Department and, where appropriate, its attached agencies.
28

29 **SEC. 25. Structure and Staffing Pattern.** Subject to the approval of the Department of
30 Budget and Management (DBM), the Department and, where appropriate, its attached
31 agencies, shall determine its organizational structure and create new divisions or units as it
32 may deem necessary, and shall appoint officers and employees of the Department and its
33 attached agencies in accordance with the Civil Service Law, rules, and regulations.
34

35 **SEC. 26. Transition Period.** The transfer of functions, assets, funds, equipment,
36 properties, transactions, and personnel of affected agencies, and the formulation of the internal
37 organic structure, staffing pattern, operating system, and revised budget of the Department,
38 shall be completed within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, during which time,
39 the existing personnel shall continue to assume their posts in holdover capacities until new
40 appointments are issued; *Provided*, that after the abolition of the agency, as specified in
41 Section 16(a) of this Act, the Department, in coordination with the DBM, shall determine and
42 create new positions, the funding requirement of which shall not exceed the equivalent cost of
43 positions abolished.
44

45 **SEC. 27. Separation from Service.** Employees separated from the service as a result of
46 this reorganization shall, within ninety (90) days therefrom, receive the separation and
47 retirement benefits to which they may be entitled under Executive Order No. 366. Provided
48 that such separation pay and retirement benefits shall have priority of payment out of the
49 savings of the department or agency.
50

51 ARTICLE VI 52 PROPERTIES OF THE DEPARTMENT 53

54 **SEC. 28. Post Office Building and Liwasang Bonifacio.** The Post Office Building,
55 currently the property of the Philippine Postal Corporation (PhilPost), and the area known as
56 Liwasang Bonifacio (formerly Plaza Lawton), both in the City of Manila, are hereby

1 appropriated for the exclusive use and central office premises of the Department of Culture and
2 its attached agencies.

3 **SEC. 29. *Other Properties.*** Real and movable properties owned by those agencies
4 abolished or absorbed into the Department under this Act, namely the National Commission
5 for Culture and the Arts Building and the Metropolitan Theatre, shall be transferred to the
6 Department.

7
8 **ARTICLE VII**
9 **APPROPRIATIONS AND FINAL PROVISIONS**
10

11 **SEC. 30. *Appropriations.*** The amount needed for the initial implementation of this Act
12 shall be taken from the current fiscal year's appropriation for the NCCA through the Office of
13 the President, and other appropriations available for the purpose. Thereafter, the amount
14 needed for the operation and maintenance of the Department proper shall be included in the
15 General Appropriations Act, provided that for the next fiscal year, the amount shall be no less
16 than Two Billion Pesos (PHP2,000,000,000.00).
17

18 **SEC. 31. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Office of the President, in
19 consultation with other government agencies mentioned in this Act, shall promulgate its
20 implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act.
21

22 **SEC. 32. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations
23 and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,
24 amended or modified accordingly.
25

26 **SEC. 33. *Separability Clause.*** If any provision of this Act shall be declared
27 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full
28 force and effect.
29

30 **SEC. 34. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its
31 publication in at least two (2) papers of general circulation.
32

33 *Approved.*