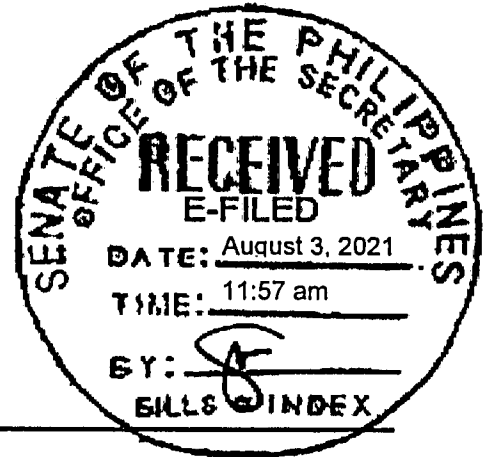


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

SENATE

S.B. No. 2343



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Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ILOCOS NORTE SPORTS INSTITUTE AND RESEARCH (INSPIRE) IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 17 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that "*The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.*" Further, Article XIV, Section 19 of the same Constitution provides that "*The State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry.*"

On 26 July 2021, Hidilyn Diaz became the Philippines' first ever Olympic gold medalist, having won the gold medal in the 55-kilogram category of women's weightlifting in Tokyo, Japan. She first tried weightlifting at the age of eleven by only tagging along her cousin in Zamboanga with no formal training.

According to a publication of Bustle, for most athletes competing, that talent captivating the world was built after years and years of training and for a large number of Olympic-level athletes, training to participate in the Olympic Games starts as early as childhood. Simone Biles was reportedly six years old when she began training to be a gymnast. Michael Phelps began training to be the Olympic swimmer he is when he was seven years old. And snowboarder Chloe Kim began snowboarding at four years old, and entered her first competition when she was six years old.

Generally, athletes start to train as early as two to five years old to win the gold and Philippines should not be an exception to this. Hidilyn's win in Japan definitely proved that it is possible for a Filipino to win the Olympic gold. As such, it is but imperative for the government to step-up and fulfill the mandate of the Constitution

to provide a haven where Filipino Olympians will be molded and at the same time afford the athletes to receive their proper education while training.

This bill seeks to establish a sports academy in the Province Ilocos Norte to be known as Ilocos Norte Sports Institute and Research (INSPIRE), which will serve as an exclusive educational facility for special program for sports, sports tract, and primary and indigenous sports development and training center. INSPIRE will also serve as a research center for sports medicine and nutrition for athletes.

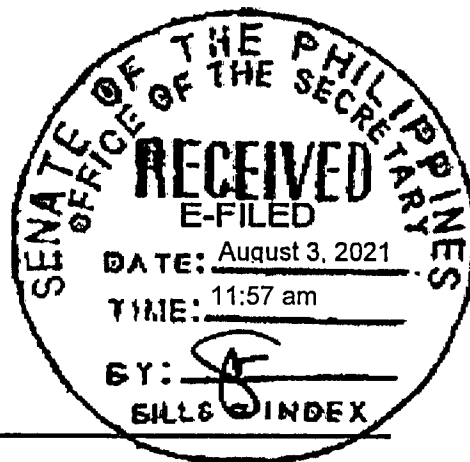
In view of the foregoing, the expeditious passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ILOCOS NORTE SPORTS INSTITUTE AND RESEARCH (INSPIRE) IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** There shall be established in the Province of Ilocos Norte a sports  
2 academy to be known as Ilocos Norte Sports Institute and Research (INSPIRE), which  
3 shall be constituted as an exclusive educational facility for special program for sports,  
4 sports tract, and primary and indigenous sports development and training center as  
5 well as a research center for sports medicine and nutrition for athletes.

6           **SEC. 2.** The Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte, in coordination with the  
7 Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), shall take the necessary steps to upgrade,  
8 improve and modernize existing facilities, equipment and personnel, and integrate  
9 them into the newly created INSPIRE.

10           The Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte, in coordination with the PSC, shall  
11 create the necessary training programs and competitions, as well as the system by  
12 which the facilities shall be maintained and managed in order to accomplish the  
13 objectives and purposes of this Act.

14           **SEC. 3.** The construction, establishment and operation of the Ilocos Norte Sports  
15 Institute and Research shall be funded by the Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte  
16 and such funds as may be granted by the PSC and by the Office of the President.

17           The Ilocos Norte Sports Development Office (INSDO) shall oversee the  
18 management, operation and upkeep of provincial sports facilities and other venues  
19 related to INSPIRE.

20           **SEC. 4.** The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's  
21 programs the operation of INSPIRE, the funding of which shall be included in the  
22 annual General Appropriations Act.

1           **SEC. 5.** The PSC, in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd),  
2 and the Provincial Government of Ilocos Norte, shall promulgate the necessary rules  
3 and regulations for the implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days after its  
4 enactment into law.

5           **SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
6 Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*