

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

Office of the Secretary

'22 JUL 13 P 1:10

SENATE  
S. No. 490

RECEIVED BY



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Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Filipino culture is rich and diverse. It is a reflection of the people's faith and a culmination of their stories and values. At its core, the concepts of "*pakikipagkapwa tao*," the celebration of life, and oneness with nature have shaped our way of life for centuries. Deeply rooted in history and tradition, the State recognizes culture to have a significant role in our society as it defines our identity and unifies all Filipinos. Thus, the Constitution mandates the State to prioritize arts and culture, and to foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of Filipino culture to promote nationalism and human development and boost social and economic progress.

Despite the positive impact of culture on our country and its people, culture is often ignored as a central factor in socio-economic progress and in enhancing the quality of life. For one, it is an empowering tool for local and indigenous groups and provides people with opportunities to come together. It is also environmentally conscientious to preserve older structures, which in turn attracts tourism, brings investments to communities, and many more. The importance and prioritization given to it over the past decades are not commensurate with its extent and value. Now, more than ever, the protection and management of our culture are necessary to ensure

that its values and functions are maximized for the benefit of all generations – past, present, and future.

Recognizing the role played by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) in implementing the cultural programs of the government and the importance of the culture and the arts in the enrichment of the Filipino identity despite the limited resources, such importance must be echoed in appropriate and improved government structures and increased funding.

Therefore, this bill seeks to reorganize the existing NCCA into the Department of Culture, safeguarding its place in the priorities of the government and ensuring that the finest elements of our culture will be passed on for generations to come.

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



LOREN LEGARDA

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

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Department of Culture  
2 Act of 2022."

3 **ARTICLE I**

4 **DECLARATION OF POLICY**

5 *Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State:

6 (a) To recognize that culture is a unifying, humanizing and modernizing  
7 agent/instrument of any society, and the patrimony and right of every  
8 citizen of the Philippines;

9 (b) To recognize the vital role of culture in nation-building;

10 (c) To incorporate considerations of culture in the formulation of  
11 appropriate and significant political and economic policy that will  
12 better serve Filipinos and ensure that all Filipinos enjoy full cultural  
13 rights, take full advantage of a dynamic cultural experience, and be  
14 inspired, sustained by, draw from, contribute to and celebrate the  
15 country's culture;

16 (d) To create a national body which will develop, manage and be  
17 responsible for the implementation of policy, legislation and strategic  
18 direction for the protection, regulation, preservation, development,

1 management, dissemination and promotion of the country's culture,  
2 relative to the immense national resources, patrimony and wealth  
3 engendered and amassed through countless generations and centuries  
4 of distinctive Filipino ways of life and experiences in specific natural  
5 and social environments that this represents, and to facilitate the  
6 convergence of various agencies with cultural mandates and rationalize  
7 their organizations and functions;

8 (e) To foster, strengthen, and accelerate the convergence of various cultural  
9 offices agencies, and rationalize their organizations and functions;

10 (f) To recognize that cultural education is the right of every citizen and  
11 therefore ensure that cultural literacy is inculcated in the development  
12 and education of all Filipinos;

13 (g) To promote the national language of the country while enhancing the  
14 linguistic diversity of the Philippines; and

15 (h) To secure and improve the welfare of Filipino artists and cultural  
16 workers.

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

19 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall  
20 be defined as follow:

21 (a) "Art" shall refer to the expression or application of human creative skill  
22 and imagination.

23 (b) "Conservation" shall refer to all process and measures of maintaining the  
24 cultural significance of a cultural property, including but not limited to,  
25 preservation, restoration, reconstruction, protection, adaptive re-use or  
26 any combination thereof.

27 (c) "Cultural agencies" shall refer to any of the following national  
28 government agencies with their specific areas of responsibility: National  
29 Museum of the Philippines (cultural property), the National Library of the  
30 Philippines (books), National Historical Commission of the Philippines  
31 (Philippine history), the National Archives of the Philippines (documents)

1 the Cultural Center of the Philippines (culture and arts) and *Komisyon sa*  
2 *Wikang Filipino* (language).

3 (d) "Cultural Education" shall refer to the teaching and learning of cultural  
4 concepts and processes.

5 (e) "Cultural Heritage" shall refer to the totality of cultural property  
6 preserved and developed through time and passed on to posterity.

7 (f) "Cultural Property" shall refer to all products of human creativity by  
8 which people and nation reveal their identity, including architecture and  
9 sites or human activity [churches, mosques and other places of religious  
10 worship, schools] and natural history specimens and sites, whether public  
11 or privately owned, movable or immovable, and tangible or intangible.

12 (g) "Culture" shall refer to the broad spectrum of people's beliefs, practices,  
13 customs and traditions, material culture, arts, and other forms of actual  
14 and symbolic expressions and representations which are handed down  
15 from one generation to the next in the process of interaction.

16 (h) "History" shall refer to a written record of past events relating to  
17 Philippine history.

18 (i) "Indigenous Cultural Communities/ Indigenous Peoples" shall refer to a  
19 group of people or homogenous societies identified by self-ascription and  
20 ascription by others, who have continuously lived as organized  
21 community on communally bounded and defined territory, and who  
22 have, under claims of ownership since time immemorial, occupied,  
23 possessed and utilized such territories, sharing common bonds of  
24 language, customs, traditions and other distinctive cultural traits, or who  
25 have, through resistance to political, social and cultural inroads of  
26 colonization, non-indigenous religions and cultures, became historically  
27 differentiated from the majority of Filipinos. ICCs/IPs shall likewise  
28 include peoples who are regarded as indigenous on account of their  
29 descent from the populations which inhabited the country, at the time of  
30 conquest or colonization, or at the time of inroads of non-indigenous  
31 religions and cultures, or the establishment of present state boundaries,  
32 who retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political

1 institutions, but who may have been displaced from their traditional  
2 domains or who may have resettled outside their ancestral domains;

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

## 11 ARTICLE II

### 12 THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE

13 Sec. 4. *Creation of the Department of Culture.* - There is hereby created the  
14 Department of Culture (*Kagawaran ng Kultura*), hereinafter referred to as the  
15 Department, which shall be the primary policy-formulating, planning, coordinating,  
16 implementing, and administrative entity of the executive branch of the National  
17 Government that will implement the pertinent provisions of the Constitution  
18 regarding culture and arts as well as the aforementioned policy of the State.

19 The Department with its attached agencies shall be responsible for the  
20 protection, preservation, regulation, development, management, dissemination and  
21 promotion of the cultural, historical and artistic heritage and resources, tangible and  
22 intangible, of the Philippines and the Filipino people, all of which, with their physical  
23 and social contexts and environments, are understood as together constituting and  
24 pertaining to Philippine culture for purposes of this Act.

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

27 Sec. 5. *Powers and Functions.* - The Department shall exercise the following  
28 powers and functions:

29 (a) Formulate and implement national policies, plans, programs, and  
30 guidelines for the protection, preservation, regulation, development,  
31 management, dissemination and promotion of culture, to ensure overall  
32 consistency, effectiveness, efficiency, and conformity with the policies of

1 the State articulated in the Constitution as well as in this Act and other  
2 pertinent laws and issuances;

3 (b) Assume and exercise all existing regulatory and quasi-judicial functions  
4 established under Republic Act No. 4846, or "*The Cultural Properties*  
5 *Preservation and Protection Act*;" Presidential Decree No. 374, or "*Amending*  
6 *the Cultural Properties Preservation and Protection Act*;" Presidential Decree  
7 No. 1616, or "*Creation of the Intramuros Administration*;" Presidential Decree  
8 No. 1748, or "*An Act Amending the Charter of the Intramuros Administration*;"  
9 Republic Act No. 8491, or "*The Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines*;"  
10 Republic Act No. 9105, or "*Art and Forgery Act of 2001*;" Republic Act No.  
11 10066, or "*The National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009*;" and, Republic Act  
12 No. 10086 or "*Strengthening Peoples' Nationalism Through Philippine History*  
13 *Act*;" as well as such functions promulgated through executive issuances  
14 that pertain to the agencies of the National Government covered under  
15 this Act, which are all hereby transferred *in toto* to the Department from  
16 the said agencies;

17 (c) Be responsible for disaster risk reduction and management relative to  
18 culture and cultural property, both through its own programs and projects  
19 as well as through the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management  
20 Council and Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils,  
21 on which it shall have full membership, representation and participation;

22 (d) Recommend to the President of the Philippines the designation, through  
23 Presidential Proclamation, with appropriate published guidelines  
24 pertaining thereto, of a cultural property, whether immovable or movable,  
25 tangible or intangible, as a National Cultural Monument, a category  
26 hereby established which incorporates the previously-established legal  
27 definitions of, criteria pertaining to, and all cultural property previously  
28 declared by authorized agencies as National Cultural Treasure, National  
29 Historical Landmark, National Historical Shrine, National Historical  
30 Monument, and National Historical Site;

31 (e) Designate, through Department Order, and with appropriate published  
32 guidelines pertaining thereto, cultural property, whether immovable or

1           movable, tangible or intangible, as National Cultural Property, a category  
2           hereby established which incorporates the previously-established legal  
3           definitions of, criteria pertaining to, and all cultural property previously  
4           declared by authorized agencies as Important Cultural Property and  
5           Heritage House;

6           (f) Administer the qualification and selection, with appropriate published  
7           guidelines pertaining thereto, of the Award for National Living Treasures  
8           (*Gawad ng Manlilikha ng Bayan*), which is hereby renamed as the Order of  
9           National Living Treasures (*Orden ng mga Pamibansang Manlilikha ng Bayan*),  
10          and the Order of National Artists (*Orden ng mga Pambansang Alagad ng*  
11          *Sining*), and recommend those nominees to either Order who have been  
12          qualified and selected to the President of the Philippines for proclamation  
13          as such and conferral of the same;

14          (g) Undertake, through a National Institute of Culture and Arts Management  
15          and the Institutes of Living Traditions to be established for the purpose, in  
16          an appropriate partnership with the academic sector, the education,  
17          training and certification of cultural officers and personnel as a necessary  
18          qualification for employment and promotion in the National Government  
19          and in local governments where such might be required by the  
20          Department in coordination with the Civil Service Commission and the  
21          Career Executive Service Board, at the career sub-professional, career  
22          professional, and career executive levels, to include appropriate courses  
23          and programs towards certificates, diplomas, and undergraduate and  
24          graduate degrees;

25          (h) Administer the qualification, selection and conferral of such other awards  
26          as it may establish in support of its mandate;

27          (i) Support the development of the cultural, artistic and creative industries of  
28          the country, in all particulars and at all levels;

29          (j) Administer the endowment funds established separately under Section 20  
30          of Republic Act No. 7356, *The Law Creating the National Commission for*  
31          *culture and the Arts;* and Section 50 of Republic Act No. 10066, which are  
32          herein consolidated into a single National Endowment Fund for Culture

1 and Arts (NEFCA) that shall continue to be sourced and augmented as  
2 provided by the aforementioned provisions, and provide financial  
3 support from this fund for various national programs through a system of  
4 grants drawing from the proceeds, including both principal and interest,  
5 of the same, subject to the approval of the Department of Budget and  
6 Management.

7 (k) Represent the Philippines in matters pertaining to culture in overseas  
8 regional and international organizations and events.

9 (l) Other powers and functions as may be created, assigned, or transferred by  
10 the President of the Philippines in accordance with law.

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

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

21 *Sec. 8. Powers and Functions of the Secretary.* - The Secretary shall have the  
22 following powers and functions:

23 (a) Provide executive direction and supervision over the entire operations of  
24 the Department and exercise administrative supervision over its attached  
25 agencies;

26 (b) Establish policies and standards for the effective, efficient and economical  
27 operation of the Department, in accordance with the programs of  
28 government;

29 (c) Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out department  
30 mandates, objectives, policies, functions, plans, programs and projects;

31 (d) Promulgate administrative issuances necessary for the efficient  
32 administration of the offices under the Secretary and for proper execution

- 1 of the laws relative thereto. These issuances shall not prescribe penalties  
2 for their violation, except when expressly authorized by law;
- 3 (e) Rationalize delivery systems necessary for the effective attainment of the  
4 objectives of the Department, in accordance with the programs of  
5 Government;
- 6 (f) Appoint all officers and employees of the Department except those whose  
7 appointments are vested in the President or in some other appointing  
8 authority and shall appoint employees to positions in the second level in  
9 the regional offices as defined in this Act and in accordance with the Civil  
10 Service laws, rules and regulations;
- 11 (g) Exercise disciplinary powers over officers and employees under the  
12 Secretary in accordance with law, including their investigation and the  
13 designation of a committee or officer to conduct such investigation;
- 14 (h) Sit on the governing boards of attached agencies as provided in this Act,  
15 as well as any other agencies or organizations as may be appropriate or  
16 designated;
- 17 (i) Coordinate with local governments, other agencies and public and private  
18 interests' groups, including non-government organizations (NGOs) and  
19 people's organizations (POs) on Department policies and initiatives;
- 20 (j) Advise the President of the Philippines and make recommendations on  
21 the promulgation of executive and administrative orders and regulatory  
22 and legislative proposals on matters pertaining to culture;
- 23 (k) Formulate and enforce a system of measuring and evaluating periodically  
24 and objectively the performance of the Department and submit the same  
25 annually to the President;
- 26 (l) Prepare and submit to the President through the Department of Budget  
27 and Management an estimate of the necessary expenditures of the  
28 department during the next fiscal year, on the basis of the reports and  
29 estimates submitted by bureaus and officers under the Department;
- 30 (m) Exercise jurisdiction over all bureaus, offices, agencies and  
31 corporations under the Department as are provided by law; and,

1 (n) Performs such other functions as may be provided by law or assigned by  
2 the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

3 Sec. 9. *Undersecretaries.* - The Secretary shall be assisted by three (3)  
4 Undersecretaries, who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon  
5 the recommendation of the Secretary, at least two (2) of whom shall be career  
6 officers. In general, the undersecretaries shall:

7 (a) Advise and assist the Secretary in the formulation and implementation of  
8 department objectives and policies;

9 (b) Oversee all the operational activities of the bureau or units for which he  
10 shall be responsible as assigned by the Secretary;

11 (c) Coordinate the programs and projects of the same and be responsible for  
12 its economical, efficient and effective administration;

13 (d) Whenever necessary be designated to serve as deputy to the Secretary in  
14 all matters relating to the operations of the department; the designated  
15 Undersecretary will temporarily discharge the duties of the Secretary in  
16 the latter's absence or inability to discharge his or her duties for any cause  
17 or in case of vacancy of the said office, unless otherwise provided by law;  
18 the President of the Philippines shall likewise make the temporary  
19 designation of Acting Secretary to the same; and

20 (e) Perform such other functions and duties as may be provided by law.

21 Sec. 10. *Assistant Secretaries.* - Each Undersecretary shall be assisted by an  
22 Assistant Secretary shall be career officers and shall perform duties assigned by the  
23 Undersecretaries, who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon  
24 the recommendation of the Secretary.

25 Sec. 11. *Qualifications.* - No person shall be appointed Secretary,  
26 Undersecretary, or Assistant Secretary of the Department unless he or she is a citizen  
27 and resident of the Philippines, of good moral character, and of proven integrity,  
28 and with at least seven (7) years of competence, expertise, or experience as manager,  
29 advocate, scholar, or practitioner in fields of endeavor related to Philippine culture  
30 and the mandate and functions of the Department.

31 ARTICLE III

32 THE DEPARTMENT SERVICES



1 engineering, scientific and conservation laboratory services, provide  
2 support to monuments and sites, museums and galleries and libraries  
3 and archives all over the country and establish a National Institute of  
4 Heritage Conservation.

5 (d) The Bureau of Artistic Resources shall ensure the continuing and  
6 balance development of the nation's artistic heritage in its various  
7 forms; performing arts, film and media arts, visual arts, architecture  
8 and allied arts and literature, provide support to regional and local  
9 culture and arts centers, performing arts and exhibition venues, ensure  
10 the welfare of artists and cultural workers, undertake human resource  
11 development programs for artists, and establish the National Academy  
12 for Culture and Arts and National Institute for Culture and Arts  
13 Management.

14 (e) The Bureau of Cultural Research, Education and Dissemination shall  
15 undertake cultural research for policy and program development,  
16 publish cultural materials, especially on positive Filipino values for  
17 dissemination, manage the cultural education program for country,  
18 ensure the development and promotion of Philippine languages,  
19 implement national translation program, and implement national  
20 promotion program in various forms of media.

21 (f) The Bureau of Cultural and Creative Industries – shall formulate plans  
22 and programs to ignite the innovative and entrepreneurial mindset of  
23 Filipino artists and establish industries in the various genre of arts,  
24 performing arts, cinema, books and publications, creative designs,  
25 culinary and lifestyle and architecture and allied arts, and others.

26 Each Bureau shall be headed by a Bureau Director, who shall be assisted by one

27 (1) Assistant Bureau Director. The Bureau Director and Assistant Bureau Director shall  
28 be appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary.

29 *Sec. 14. Powers and Duties of Bureau Director.* – The Bureau Director shall be its  
30 chief executive officer. He shall exercise overall authority in matters within the  
31 jurisdiction of the bureau, including those relating to its operations, and enforce all  
32 laws and regulations pertaining to it. Shall appoint personnel to all positions in his

1 bureau or office, in accordance with law. In the case of the line bureau or office, the  
2 head shall also appoint the second level personnel of the regional offices, unless such  
3 power has been delegated. He shall have the authority to discipline employees in  
4 accordance with the Civil Service Law.

## 5 ARTICLE V

### 6 THE REGIONAL AND FIELD OFFICES

7 Sec. 15. *Regional Offices of the Department.* - The Department is hereby  
8 authorized to establish, operate, and maintain a Regional Office, whenever  
9 appropriate, in each of the administrative regions of the country. Each regional  
10 office shall be headed by a Regional Director, who may be assisted by one (1)  
11 Assistant Regional Director. The Regional Director and Assistant Regional Director  
12 shall be appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary:  
13 Provided, that they shall be persons recognized as an accomplished manager,  
14 advocate, scholar, or practitioner in fields of endeavor related to Philippine culture  
15 in the region, or any suitably qualified person in accordance with Civil Service  
16 Commission (CSC) rules and regulations.

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

- 23 (a) Implement laws, policies, plans, programs, rules and regulations of the  
24 department or agency in the regional area;
- 25 (b) Provide economical, efficient and effective service to the people in the  
26 area;
- 27 (c) Undertake research and gather data on local culture and arts trends and  
28 other relevant cultural and artistic information;
- 29 (d) Cause to establish and oversee the regional and local culture and arts  
30 councils (as far as the city and municipal level) to engage participation  
31 of local artists and cultural workers;

- 1 (e) Coordinate with regional offices of other departments, bureaus and  
2 agencies in the area;
- 3 (f) Coordinate with local government units in the area;
- 4 (g) Make recommendations to the Secretary on all matters relating to  
5 culture and arts in the region; and,
- 6 (h) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law.

7 Sec. 16. *Duties of a Regional Director.* – The Regional Director shall perform  
8 duties and functions as may be provided by law or further delegated by the head of  
9 agency or other proper authorities concerned.

10 ARTICLE VI

11 THE ATTACHED AGENCIES, INSTITUTES, ADVISORY COUNCIL, OVERSEAS  
12 OFFICES

13 Sec. 17. *The Attached Agencies.* –

- 14 (a) The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) is hereby  
15 abolished, and their powers and functions, applicable funds and  
16 appropriations, records, equipment, property, and personnel  
17 transferred to the Department.
- 18 (b) The following agencies are hereby attached to the Department for  
19 policy and program coordination, and shall continue to operate and  
20 function in accordance with the charters, laws or orders creating them,  
21 insofar as they are not inconsistent with this act:
- 22 (1) Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP);
  - 23 (2) National Museum of the Philippines (NMP);
  - 24 (3) National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP);
  - 25 (4) National Library of the Philippines (NLP);
  - 26 (5) National Archives of the Philippines (NAP);
  - 27 (6) Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF);
  - 28 (7) Intramuros Administration (IA);
  - 29 (8) National Parks Development Committee (NPDC);
  - 30 (9) Nayong Pilipino Foundation (NPF);
  - 31 (10) Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP);
  - 32 (11) National Book Development Board (NBDB); and

1 (12) Design Center of the Philippines.

2 (c) The laws and rules on government reorganization as provided for in  
3 Republic Act No. 6566, otherwise known as the Reorganization Law,  
4 shall govern the organization process of the Department.

5 Sec. 18. *National Institutes*. - The following National Institutes, with their  
6 respective networks throughout the country, shall be established under the  
7 Department:

8 (a) The National Institute of Living Traditions, and through it, a network  
9 of individual Schools of Living Traditions to be established, which, with  
10 the support of appropriate partnerships, shall be responsible for  
11 programs and projects related to the safeguarding, sustainability,  
12 propagation and intergenerational transmission of intangible cultural  
13 heritage, particularly that which pertains to indigenous cultural  
14 communities;

15 (b) The National Institute of Cultural Heritage Preservation, and through  
16 it, a network of individual *Escuela Talyer* (Workshop Schools) to be  
17 established, which, with the support of appropriate partnerships, shall  
18 be responsible for programs and projects related to national capacity  
19 building in the area of conservation arts, sciences and trades with  
20 respect to the preservation of immovable and movable cultural  
21 property and with a particular focus on vocational training for youth;  
22 and

23 (c) The National Institute of Culture and Arts Management, and through  
24 it, a network of individual Culture and Arts Management Training  
25 Centers to be established, which, with the support of appropriate  
26 partnerships, shall be responsible for programs and projects related to  
27 the education, training and certification of cultural officers and  
28 personnel as a necessary qualification for employment and promotion  
29 in the National Government and in local governments where such  
30 might be required by the Department in coordination with the Civil  
31 Service Commission and the Career Executive Service Board, at the  
32 career sub-professional, career professional, and career executive levels,

1 to include appropriate courses and programs towards certificates,  
2 diplomas, and undergraduate and graduate degrees;

3 Sec. 19. *National Academy of Culture and Arts.* – There is hereby established  
4 under the Department a National Academy of Culture and Arts, which shall be an  
5 institutionalized association of the nation’s foremost leaders and exponents of  
6 culture and arts, the primary purpose of which is to support the mandate of the  
7 Department as an independent body of eminent persons. The President of the  
8 Philippines shall be the Honorary Patron of the National Academy of Culture and  
9 Arts.

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

15 Sec. 20. *Culture and Arts Advisory Councils.* – The Department shall facilitate  
16 the creation of a National Culture and Arts Advisory Council, a Regional Culture  
17 and Arts Advisory Council, and a Local Culture and Arts Advisory Council to assist  
18 the Department in the implementation of culture and arts initiatives.

19 Sec. 21. *Sectoral and Industry Task Forces.* – The Department may create a  
20 sectoral and industry task forces, technical working groups, advisory bodies or  
21 committees for the furtherance of its objectives. Additional private sector  
22 representatives, such as from the academe, CSOs, and federation of private  
23 industries directly involved in culture and the arts, as well as representatives of  
24 other LGUs and GOCCs, may be appointed to these working groups.

25 Sec. 22. *Rizal Centers.* – The Department shall, through a dedicated  
26 organizational unit to be established for the purpose, establish and manage centers,  
27 to be known as Rizal Centers or *Sentro Rizal*, overseas, the primary purpose of which  
28 shall be the promotion of, and the facilitation of access by the constituency of each  
29 center to, Philippine culture generally as well as the cultural resources managed by  
30 the Department and its attached agencies in particular.

31 Domestically, the Department shall establish *Sentro Rizal* as regional cultural  
32 centers and hubs, to be supervised and operated appropriately through its regional

1 offices. Such regional centers shall include exhibition and performance venues, and  
2 facilities enabling access to knowledge resources, particularly those pertaining to  
3 vernacular language resources.

4 Overseas, the Department shall establish *Sentro Rizal* as Philippine cultural  
5 centers in key places for the benefit of the global diaspora of Philippine citizens, the  
6 global community of Filipino migrants or descendants thereof, and all who are  
7 interested in Philippine culture. The Department for this purpose shall coordinate  
8 with the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas, and  
9 other concerned agencies.

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

16 The operations of the *Sentro Rizal* network of the Department, overseas, shall  
17 be considered as one its permanent flagship programs, and shall therefore be  
18 specifically provided for in the General Appropriations Act for every fiscal year.

19 Article XII, including Sections 42 to 47, of Republic Act No. 10066 is hereby  
20 repealed.

21 Sec. 23. *Overseas Offices.* – The Department shall establish overseas offices  
22 whenever necessary to:

- 23 (a) Implement plans, programs and projects of the Department relative to  
24 communities of Philippine citizens abroad;
- 25 (b) Promote Filipino culture to the international community;
- 26 (c) Coordinate with international organizations as well as with the  
27 overseas offices of other departments, offices and agencies of the  
28 Philippine government; and
- 29 (d) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law.

## 30 ARTICLE VII

### 31 REORGANIZATION

32 Sec. 24. *Reorganization.* – The laws and rules on government reorganization as



1 agencies abolished or absorbed into the Department under this Act, namely the  
2 National Commission for Culture and the Arts Building and the Metropolitan  
3 Theatre, shall be transferred to the Department.

4 ARTICLE IX

5 APPROPRIATIONS AND FINAL PROVISIONS

6 Sec. 30. *Appropriations.* – The amount needed for the initial implementation of  
7 this Act shall be taken from the current fiscal year’s appropriation for the NCCA  
8 through the Office of the President, and other appropriations available for the  
9 purpose. Thereafter, the amount needed for the operation and maintenance of the  
10 Department proper shall be included in the General Appropriations Act, provided  
11 that for the next fiscal year, the amount shall be no less than Two Billion Pesos  
12 (P2,000,000,000.00).

13 Sec. 31. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Office of the President, in  
14 consultation with other government agencies mentioned in this Act, shall  
15 promulgate its implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days after the  
16 effectivity of this Act.

17 Sec. 32. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
18 regulations and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with this Act  
19 are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

20 Sec. 33. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act shall be declared  
21 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain  
22 in full force and effect.

23 Sec. 34. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its  
24 publication in at least two (2) papers of general circulation.

Approved,