

SENATE

7 JAN 24 2015

S. No. 2575

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Introduced by Sen. Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sports Competition involving differently abled athletes began in the years following World War II when Sir Ludwig Guttmann, a world pioneer in the rehabilitation of people with spinal injuries, recognized the value of sports as a means of rehabilitation. From then on, sports for the disabled evolved into competitive level when the first wheelchair games were held simultaneously with the 1948 Olympic games in London.

Having shown to the world that competitive sports were not under the exclusive domain of the physically fit, various sports competitions for the disabled emerged and became a tradition internationally. The first Stoke Mandeville Games which subsequently developed into an international event contributed to the formation of the Paralympic movement known as the International Paralympic Committee. This committee, which is the counterpart of the International Olympic Committee which organized the World Olympics, serves as the governing body of all Regional or Continental Sports competitions for the disabled such as the Asean Para Games, FESPIC Games, and the Paralympics. The country's local association known as the Philippine Sports Association for the Differently Abled (PHILSPADA), has been actively sending its own sporting delegations in all these international sporting events in order to represent the Philippines.

The ASEAN Para Games, which is a biennial competition for athletes with disability in the ASEAN region, is the equivalent of the SEA Games. The games are hosted by the same country where the SEA Games take place. There are 11 participating countries in this event: Brunei, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines. During the hosting of the 2005 SEA Games in the Philippines, the third ASEAN Para Games was likewise staged in our country.

The FESPIC Games on the other hand, is the parallel of the Asian Games for the disabled and the second most prestigious event for disabled persons in the Asian level. Elite athletes, from over 40 Asian countries, gather every four years to display prowess and skills against each other on this international platform. As in the ASEAN Para Games, FESPIC is likewise held simultaneously in the host country of the Asian Games.

The Paralympic Games is the highest level elite sporting event for athletes from six different disability groups. The number of athletes participating in the Paralympic Games has grown from 400 athletes from 23 countries in 1960 to 3806 athletes from 136 countries in 2004. The word 'Paralympic' was used as a pun of 'paraplegic' and 'Olympic'. However, because of increasing inclusion of other disability groups, Paralympics is now regarded as the 'parallel' of the World Olympics. Moreover, the Paralympics Games is always held in the same year as the Olympic Games.

The successful participation of our differently abled athletes in these international events does not only bring honor and glory to our country but also serves as an inspiration for the disabled sector in our society.

The differently abled Filipino athletes who proudly represent and carry the colors of our country almost annually, should likewise be provided with the recognition almost comparable with national athletes competing in the SEA Games, Asian Games and the World Olympics. Having this in mind, this legislation intends to extend to the Filipino athletes competing in the various international events for the disabled the monetary and non-monetary incentives given to national athletes who win Gold, Silver and Bronze medals as provided for under RA 9064 also known as the "Sports Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001".

I urge my colleagues to join this representation for the immediate passage of this bill.


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Manuel *ML*

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

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AN ACT
TO PROVIDE MONETARY AND NON-MONETARY INCENTIVES TO
DIFFERENTLY ABLED FILIPINO ATHLETES, THEIR COACHES AND
TRAINERS WHO WIN GOLD, SILVER, AND BRONZE MEDALS IN THE
INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS FOR THE DISABLED, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF RA 9064 OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "SPORTS BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 2001", AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1 – Section 3 of RA 9064, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - For purposes of this Act, the following
terms shall be defined as follows:

- (a) National Athletes – shall refer to athletes who are Filipino citizens, members of the national training pool recognized and accredited by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) [and] **OR** the **NATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE OF THE PHILIPPINES** AND BY THE Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and who have represented the country in international competitions.
- (b) National Coaches and Trainers – shall refer to coaches and trainers **OF NATIONAL ATHLETES** who are Filipino citizens, members of the national coaches and trainers pool, recognized and accredited by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) **OR THE NATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE OF THE PHILIPPINES** and the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and who have represented the country in international competitions.
- (c) International Competitions – shall refer to international sports competition which are sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) **OR BY THE INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPICS COMMITTEE (IPC)** or held every four (4) years including qualifying championships in team sports wherein only one (1) or two (2) countries may qualify for the Olympics or World Championships.

Competitions granting prize money or those held in honor of any personality or sponsor shall not be included.

Sec. 2. – Section 8 of RA 9064, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 8. Cash Incentives for National Athletes. – National athletes who win gold, silver and bronze medals in international competitions shall be entitled to cash awards in the following amounts:

A. Individual Events

(a) For gold medalists:

- (1) Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) for Olympic Games;
- (2) Two million five hundred thousand pesos (P2,500,000.00) for quadrennial World Championships;
- (3) One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) for Asian Games; [and]
- (4) One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) for Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games);
- (5) TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P2,500,000.00) FOR PARALYMPIC GAMES;**
- (6) ONE MILLION PESOS (P1,000,000.00) FOR FESPIC GAMES; AND**
- (7) FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) FOR ASEAN PARA GAMES.**

(b) For silver medalists:

- (1) Two million five hundred thousand pesos (P2,500,000.00) for Olympic Games;
- (2) One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) for quadrennial World Championships;
- (3) Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) for Asian Games; [and]
- (4) Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) for Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games).
- (5) ONE MILLION PESOS (P1,000,000.00) FOR PARALYMPIC GAMES;**
- (6) FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00) FOR FESPIC GAMES; AND**
- (7) TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P25,000.00) FOR ASEAN PARA GAMES.**

(c) For bronze medalists:

- (1) One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) for Olympic Games;
- (2) Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) for quadrennial World Championships;
- (3) One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) for Asian Games; [and]
- (4) Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) for the SEA Games
- (5) FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00) FOR PARALYMPIC GAMES;**
- (6) ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) FOR FESPIC GAMES; AND**
- (7) FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) FOR ASEAN PARA GAMES.**

Sec. 3. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, Presidential Decree, Issuance, Executive Order, Letter of Instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,