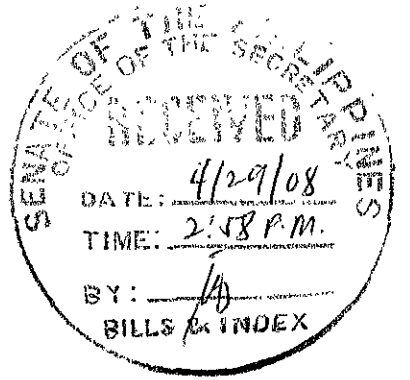


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE
S.B. No. 2218

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) is an annual event that showcases quality locally-produced films. The festival is presently under the management and administration by the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA). Legal basis of which is now being contested.

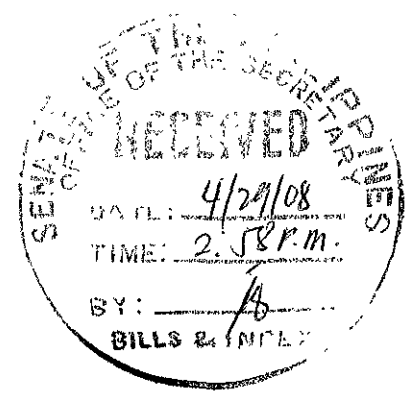
The MMFF, despite the benefits it gives to the local film industry and its players, is now hounded by controversies. There have been reports that the funds earned from the festival are being mishandled. There is also a concern that the distribution guidelines for the beneficiaries of the earnings are not clear.

Being an artist myself, I believe that such festival can better be handled by an organization that carries the best appreciation and perception of the film industry. The Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP), being the lead government agency that is mandated to oversee the concerns and interests of the whole film industry, comes as the most fitting and appropriate entity to take charge of the organization, operation and management of the MMFF. Thus, I am filing this measure to achieve said end.

In this regard, passage of this bill is urgently requested.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
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SENATE
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AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE ORGANIZATION, OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE METRO MANILA FILM FESTIVAL FROM THE METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO THE FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES (FDCP), AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Declaration of Policy – It is the policy of the State to foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of a Filipino national culture based on the principle of unity in diversity in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression. Further, the State shall conserve, promote, and popularize the nation’s historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations. It is the commitment of the State to enrich Philippine culture, to reawaken the people to their historical heritage and traditional values, and to clarify the Filipino image, through the revival and refurbishment of native arts, among which is the Filipino cinema which should rediscover itself by upholding its inherent artistic and social responsibility. And finally, the State recognizes the value and importance of the local movie industry in the over-all developmental effort, encouraging quality film production both in substance and in form and providing incentives to the performing artists and the technicians in the industry.

Section 2. Transfer of Organization, Operation and Management of Metro Manila Film Festival - To carry out the above policy, the organization, operation and management of the annual Metro Manila Film Festival shall be transferred from the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority to the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP).

Section 3. Functions of the FDCP – In order to ensure the successful celebration of the annual Metro Manila Film Festival, and to harness the full potential of the movie and film industry to be a viable and profitable business enterprise and to accelerate preservation, growth and development of the motion picture art and science in the country, the FDCP shall:

1. Give due recognition, awards distinction, appreciation through the Metro Manila Film Festival and other forms of reward for significant efforts and accomplishments of the improved and development of the motion picture art and science in the country;
2. Set up and administer a viable system of objectives to encourage the growth and development of high quality motion pictures in the country, which incentives shall include the grant of recognition to deserving individuals or entities who have contributed to the vital task and objectives of improving the quality of film-making to the vital task and objectives of improving the quality of film-making or cinematic production in the country;

3. Engage in fund-raising campaign among all sectors of society to ensure successful operation of the annual MMFF;
4. Collect the proceeds of the MMFF and disburse the shares to different beneficiaries identified in this Act. In relation to this, the Commission on Audit shall, among others, conduct an annual comprehensive audit of accounts and transactions pertaining to MMFF revenue and receipts, expenditures and uses of funds and property;
5. Establish, operate, and maintain a Film Archive for the purpose of preserving and disseminating motion picture which are historical, cultural and/or aesthetic value of the nation; and
6. Provide assistance and support for all efforts, activities and enterprises which are designed or envisioned to raise the standard of the cinematic art and science in the country in consonance with the cultural, scientific educational values and sensibilities of our people and our society, and in keeping with the country's social and economic development aims and objectives; add consistent therewith, to adopt and implement such measures as may be proper or necessary to ensure the success of such efforts, activities and enterprises and to obtain satisfactory results therefrom, particularly performance, and also in terms of cultural achievements.

Section 4. Executive Committee – An Executive Committee under the FDCP is hereby created to take charge of the organization, operation and management of the MMFF, composed of the following:

Chairperson: (a) Executive Director of the FDCP

Members: (b) One representative from the different guilds under the Film Academy of the Philippines, to wit:

- Philippine Motion Picture Producers Association
- Movie Producers and Distributors Association of the Philippines
- Kapisanan ng mga Direktor ng Pelikulang Pilipino
- Kapisanan ng mga Artistang Pilipino sa Pelikula at Telebisyon
- Screenwriters Guild of the Philippines
- Film Editors Guild for Motion Pictures
- Filipino Society of Cinematography
- Sound Technicians Association for Motion Pictures
- United Film Musical Directors of the Philippines
- Production Designers Guild of the Philippines
- Assistant Directors and Production Managers Guild of the Philippines

(c) Chairman of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)

(d) One representative from the Department of Education

Section 5. Metropolitan Manila Film Festival Income Distribution – The net income of the annual Metropolitan Manila Film Festival shall be distributed to the following traditional beneficiaries:

- a) Movie Workers Welfare Fund Foundation, Inc. – Forty percent (40%);
- b) Film Academy of the Philippines – Forty percent (40%);
- c) Motion Picture Anti-Piracy Council – Twenty percent (20%)

Section 6. Appropriation – To carry out the purposes of this Act, the amount of fifteen million pesos (P15,000,000) is hereby appropriated for the initial operation of the MMFF by the FDCP.

Section 7. Separability Clause - If any part, section, or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

Section 8. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved.