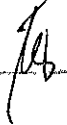


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

8 JUN 11 P4:46

SENATE

S.B. **2404**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senate President Villar


EXPLANATORY NOTE

The purpose of this bill is to promote the country as a prime film tourist destination showcasing the various destinations of the country as the perfect setting for movies, TV shows, music videos and other media projects.

The passage of this bill will in effect highlight the country's globally competent filmmakers, state-of-the-art production facilities and capable technical crew who are willing and ready to assist foreign production and media outfits.

In order to encourage involvement in the film tourism industry, accredited film productions and institutions and other service providers actively participating in the said industry shall be exempt from payment of EVAT and customs duties for the importation of cinema equipment and facilities necessary for their operation.

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


MANNY VILLAR

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

8 JUN 11 P4:35

SENATE

S.B. 2404

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senate President Villar

**AN ACT
TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE FILM TOURISM IN THE PHILIPPINES,
PROVIDING FUNDS AND INCENTIVES THEREFOR
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SEC. 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "The Film Tourism Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the country's potential as a prime film tourist destination, showcasing the various islands of the country as the perfect setting for movies, TV shows, music videos and other media projects and highlighting the country's globally competent filmmakers, state-of-the-art production facilities and capable technical crew willing and ready to assist foreign production and media outfits.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. When used in This Act, the following terms shall mean:

1. Accreditation- the certification issued by the Department of Tourism recognizing the holder as having complied with the minimum standards and requirements prescribed by the Department for the operation and maintenance of film tourism services;
2. Film Tourism- the traveling of persons to other countries for the purpose of filming movies, TV shows, music videos and other media projects.

SEC. 4. Film Tourism Information. The Department of Tourism, in coordination with the National Commission on Culture and the Arts, the Film

Development Council, and officials of all local government units nationwide, and in consultation with various groups involved in cinema, film production, theater arts, communications and promotions, and other aspects of film-making shall identify the world-class cinema-related service providers that have the capability to engage in film tourism services.

A system of continuing information dissemination on film tourism shall be adopted.

SEC. 5. Promotion of Film Tourism-The consular officers and employees of the various Philippine embassies and consulates based in other countries shall have ready information and data on film tourism services available in the country. They shall likewise encourage the officers and members of the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) associations to promote and disseminate information regarding film tourism in the country as their contribution towards a sustainable industrial growth.

SEC. 6. Accreditation of World-Class Film Tourism Providers. The DOT is hereby mandated to conduct a national accreditation and affiliation program to identified providers of world-class filmmaking, tour operators, service providers, production companies and facilities, theater groups and cinema guilds, and other film service providers in the country.

SEC. 7. Assistance for International Accreditations. The Department of Tourism (DOT), in coordination with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) shall assist the various film companies, actors guild, theater groups, media outfit, and other film service providers in seeking accreditation from foreign governments so that they may qualify to serve foreign productions and clients.

SEC. 8. Fiscal Incentives. Accredited film productions and institutions and other service providers actively participating in the film tourism industry shall be exempt from payment of EVAT and customs duties for the importation of cinema equipment and facilities necessary for their operation.

SEC. 9. Preferential Treatment on Government Transactions on Film Tourism. To ensure active promotion and full development of the film tourism in the country, all government transactions concerning the business operation film productions, media companies, and all organizations, groups, entities and

institutions involved in the film tourism industry shall be given preferential treatment.

SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Department of Tourism (DOT) shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 11. Appropriations. The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included and incorporated and incorporated in the annual general appropriations of the various agencies of the government involved in the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 12. Separability Clause. If for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. All executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.