

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act (RA) No. 1169, or The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office charter, was enacted into law in 1954 with the mandate of providing and raising funds for health programs, medical assistance and services, and charities of national character. It was amended by Batas Pambansa Blg. 42 and Presidential Decree No. 1157 in 1979 and 1977, respectively.

As a funding institution, however, PCSO has become not only a promoter of patronage politics but also a source of injustice and inequality especially in the use and distribution of its charity fund. More often than not, benefitting are only those within the graces of the powers that be.

The PCSO charter as a social legislation must thus be revisited and made true to its purpose and mandate by amending Section 6 thereof.

Section 6 provides the allocation of PCSO's net receipts (gross receipts less the printing cost of tickets not to exceed two percent of such gross receipts) which is basically divided into a 55% - 45% distribution. The former is earmarked to winnings and prizes, the latter the charity fund, and operating expenses and capital expenditure. The PCSO Board of Directors (the "Board") is empowered to make payment and grant from the charity fund, which is a minimum of 30% of net receipts. Moreover, the Board is also authorized to allocate, a minimum of 15% of net receipts, for operating expenses and capital expenditures.

It is proposed that the said discretionary powers of the Board be contained, if not removed, and that the charity fund be already specifically earmarked based on the policies set forth in RA No. 1169, as amended. In like manner, the Board's power of allocation over the 15% is to be expressly subjected to the approval of the Office of the President.

It is believed that with this amendment, the PCSO's charity fund will

be distributed in accordance with specific and real needs grounded on justice and equity. It eradicates the lack of institutionalized criteria and standard in the disposition of funds, where arbitrariness has always led to abuse. In addition, the charity fund will become transparent as it finances as well certain legislations enacted by Congress.

Respectfully submitted.

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FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session



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SENATE

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Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING A JUST AND EQUITABLE DISPOSITION OF THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE CHARITY FUND, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1169, AS AMENDED

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 1169, as amended, is hereby

2 further amended to read as follows:

3 "SECTION 6.Allocation of Net Receipts. - From the gross receipts 4 from the sale of sweepstakes tickets, whether for sweepstakes races, lotteries, or 5 similar activities, shall be deducted the printing cost of such tickets, which in 6 no case shall exceed two percent of such gross receipts to arrive at the net 7 receipts. The net receipts shall be allocated as follows:

- 8 A. Fifty-five percent (55%) shall be set aside as a prize fund for 9 the payment of prizes, including those for the owners, jockeys of 10 running horses, and sellers of winning tickets.
- 11Prizes not claimed by the public within one year from date of12draw shall be considered forfeited, and shall form part of the charity13fund for disposition as stated [below.]UNDER THE SUCCEEDING14PARAGRAPHS.
- 15B. Thirty percent (30%) shall be set aside as contributions to16the charity fund WHICH SHALL BE EARMARKED AS17FOLLOWS: [from which the Board of Directors, in consultation with18the Ministry of Human Settlement on identified priority programs,

1 2 3 4 5 6 7	needs, and requirements in specific communities and with approval of the Office of the President (Prime Minister), shall make payments or grants for health programs, including the expansion of existing ones, medical assistance and services and/or charities of national character, such as the Philippine National Red Cross, under such policies and subject to such rules and regulations as the Board may from time establish and promulgate].
8	1. 20% AMBULANCE, INCLUSIVE OF REPAIR
9	AND MAINTENANCE, AND OTHER METHODS OF
10	CONDUCTION/CONVEYANCE OF PATIENTS;
11	2. 20% PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE
12	CORPORATION, FOR UNIVERSAL PHILHEALTH
13	COVERAGE;
14	3. 20% CHARITY CLINIC, MEDICAL
15	ASSISTANCE AND SERVICE PROGRAM, TO PRIVATE
16	HOSPITALS;
17	4. 20% DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, INCLUDING
18	REGIONAL, DISTRICT AND PROVINCIAL HOSPITALS;
19	5. 20% PRESIDENT'S SOCIAL FUND.
20	THE ABOVE ALLOCATION, TO ENSURE EQUITY
21	AND FAIRNESS, SHALL BE SPENT AND DISTRIBUTED ON
22	A PRIORITY BASIS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LATEST
23	NATIONAL STATISTICAL COORDINATION BOARD (NSCB)
24	DATA ON POPULATION AND POVERTY MAPPING,
25	STARTING WITH THE POOREST IN THE COUNTRY.
26	The Board may apply part of the contributions to the charity
27	fund to approved investments of the Office pursuant to Section 1 (B)
28	hereof, but in no case shall such application to investments exceed ten
29	percent (10%) of the net receipts from the sale of sweepstakes tickets in
30	any given year.
31	Any property acquired by an institution or organization with
32	funds given to it under this Act shall not be sold or otherwise disposed
33	of without the approval of the Office of the President (Prime Minister),
34	and that in the event of its dissolution all such property shall be
35	transferred to and shall automatically become the property of the
36	Philippine Government.
37	C. Fifteen (15%) percent shall be set aside as contributions to
38	the operating expenses and capital expenditures of the Office
39	SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE OFFICE OF THE
40	PRESIDENT.

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D. All balances of any funds in the Philippine Charity 1 2 Sweepstakes Office shall revert to and form part of the charity fund provided for in paragraph (B), and shall be subject to disposition as 3 4 above stated. The disbursements of the allocation herein authorized shall be 5 subject to the usual auditing rules and regulations. [As amended by 6 Batas PambansaBlg. 42 dated 24 September 1979]." 7 SEC. 2. 8 All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, 9 proclamations and/or administrative regulations which are inconsistent with 10 the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified, superseded or repealed accordingly. 11 SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its 12 publication in the Official Gazette or at least three (3) newspapers of national 13

14 circulation.

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15 Approved,