

SENATE

S. NO. 3377

A

Prepared by the Committees on Amateur Sports Competitiveness, *and* Finance with
Senators Francis G. Escudero and Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE CONDUCT OF THE PALARONG PAMBANSA AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

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4 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Palarong Pambansa Act of
5 2012".
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7 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is the policy of the State to promote physical
8 education and encourage sports programs, league competitions and amateur sports,
9 including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork and
10 excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry through the institutionalization
11 of the Palarong Pambansa as the country's premier national sporting event.
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13 Hence, it shall be a declared policy of the State to support programs that will improve
14 and promote the Palarong Pambansa as the primary avenue for providing in-school sports
15 opportunities to improve the physical, intellectual and social well-being of the youth. All
16 educational institutions are therefore directed to promote physical education and undertake
17 regular sports activities as well as support the local meets and the Palarong Pambansa.
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19 **SEC. 3. Objectives.** - The objectives of this Act are the following:
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21 (a) To institutionalize the Palarong Pambansa as the premier national sporting event
22 of the country under the Department of Education (DepED) as a venue for talent
23 identification, selection and recruitment of student athletes;

- 1 (b) To improve the DepED's national school sports program and give more prestige
2 to the annual sports event by encouraging better participation of schools through
3 incentives and rewards; and
4 (c) To encourage the local government units (LGUs) to take a proactive role in
5 the promotion of the Palarong Pambansa locally and nationally by providing
6 incentives and rewards.

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8 **ARTICLE II**
9 **ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE**
10 **PALARONG PAMBANSA**
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12 **SEC. 4. *Palarong Pambansa Board.*** - A Palarong Pambansa Board, hereinafter referred
13 to as the "Board", is hereby created as the lead policy-making and coordinating body for
14 the preparation and conduct of the Palarong Pambansa. The Board shall be attached to the
15 DepED and shall be the proprietary owner of the phrase "Palarong Pambansa" and its
16 related symbols, logos and concept.

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18 The members of the Board shall be entitled to reimbursement of actual traveling and
19 other expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the Palarong
20 Pambansa Board, subject to pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

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22 **SEC. 5. *Membership of the Board.*** - The Palarong Pambansa Board shall have eleven
23 (11) members composed of the following:

- 24
25 (a) Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd) - Chairperson
26 (b) Four (4) Undersecretaries of the DepEd
27 (c) Three (3) Assistant Secretaries of the DepEd
28 (d) Chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC)
29 (e) Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG)
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31 **SEC. 6. *Functions and Duties of the Board.*** - The Board shall perform the following
32 functions and duties:
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- 34 (a) To formulate policies and guidelines that shall govern the conduct of the Palarong
35 Pambansa and other related school-based sports activities leading to the Palarong
36 Pambansa;
37 (b) To review and update regularly the rules and regulations of the sports included in the
38 Palarong Pambansa in accordance with international standards;

- 1 (c) To develop and recommend programs and policies that will promote the Palarong
2 Pambansa and increase public awareness of the event, persuade schools to participate
3 and improve their performance in sports and physical education, and encourage the
4 LGUs to support and promote the Palarong Pambansa as the country's premier sports
5 event;
- 6 (d) To provide incentives and rewards to participating schools and LGUs, including medal
7 winners;
- 8 (e) To formulate and issue policies and guidelines on the accreditation of athletes, coaches
9 and chaperones;
- 10 (f) To create the Palarong Pambansa Communications Task Force;
- 11 (g) To create the National Screening and Accreditation Committee (NSAC);
- 12 (h) To develop marketing strategies to generate funds and promote the Palarong Pambansa
13 including, but not limited to, royalties, merchandising and advertisements;
- 14 (i) To allocate funds for the conduct of school sports activities leading to the Palarong
15 Pambansa;
- 16 (j) To formulate and issue the criteria for the selection of host LGU and approve bids to
17 host the Palarong Pambansa;
- 18 (k) To set the date of the staging of the Palarong Pambansa;
- 19 (l) To identify the sports events to be included in the Palarong Pambansa;
- 20 (m) To appoint a Secretary General of the Palarong Pambansa;
- 21 (n) To enter into contracts or obligations essential for the proper accomplishment of its
22 purposes and objectives;
- 23 (o) To conduct regular inventory of existing sports facilities, venues and equipment
24 throughout the country;
- 25 (p) To formulate guidelines for the conduct of sports events for students with disability;
- 26 (q) To assess the conduct of the Palarong Pambansa and submit an annual report to
27 Congress; and
- 28 (r) To exercise such other acts as may be necessary for the effective implementation of
29 this Act.
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31 **SEC. 7. Secretary General.** - A Secretary General shall be appointed by the Board from
32 among the members of the Board representing the DepED.
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34 The Secretary General shall recommend to the Board the composition of the Secretariat
35 and all the activities undertaken by the latter requiring the utilization of funds. The
36 Secretariat, which shall come from the existing personnel of the DepED, the PSC and the DILG,
37 shall manage the conduct of the Palarong Pambansa and other activities leading to the Palarong
38 Pambansa.

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2 **SEC. 8. Regional Athletics Associations.** - The DepED Regional Offices shall organize
3 the Regional Athletics Associations (RAAs) which shall supervise the conduct of the regional
4 meets and organize their respective regional delegations to the Palarong Pambansa.

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6 **ARTICLE III**

7 **HOSTING OF THE PALARONG PAMBANSA**

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9 **SEC. 9. Hosting of the Palarong Pambansa.** - The hosting of the Palarong Pambansa
10 shall be determined by bidding and guided by the principle of rotation among the following
11 geographical clusters: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

12
13 Two (2) adjoining LGUs may host the Palarong Pambansa: Provided, that one of the
14 host LGUs does not have available venues and facilities to accommodate all the sports
15 events.

16
17 The host LGU may constitute a local Palarong Pambansa Board to coordinate the
18 preparation and conduct of the Palaro.

19
20 **SEC. 10. Criteria for the Selection of the Palarong Pambansa Host LGU.** - The Board
21 shall formulate the criteria for the selection of the host LGU and shall take into
22 consideration the existing sports facilities, their capacity to accommodate participants and
23 guests, the security and peace and order situation of the area, and the need of the LGU for
24 an opportunity to promote and showcase its socio-economic and cultural uniqueness
25 through the Palarong Pambansa: Provided, That existing sports facilities shall be given the
26 highest weight among the criteria to be formulated.

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28 **ARTICLE IV**

29 **PROMOTION OF THE PALARONG PAMBANSA**

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31 **SEC. 11. Incentives to Host LGU and Participating Schools.** -

32 (a) Host LGU - The Board shall provide incentives to the winning LGUs to
33 encourage them to participate in the bidding for the hosting of the Palarong
34 Pambansa.

35 (b) Schools Whose Students are Participating in the Palarong Pambansa - The
36 Board shall provide incentives to schools that will field students/athletes to
37 represent their respective regions in the Palarong Pambansa. Incentives shall

1 include, but not be limited to, financial support for additional scholarships and
2 improvement of sports and physical education programs.

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4 **SEC. 12. *Promotion of the Palarong Pambansa.*** - The Board shall create the Palarong
5 Pambansa Communications Group which shall perform the following duties and
6 responsibilities:

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8 (a) Formulate the marketing and communications plan to ensure the promotion of
9 the Palarong Pambansa and encourage the LGUs to bid in the hosting of the
10 event and the schools to improve their sports and physical education programs
11 with the aim of sending representative athletes to the Palarong Pambansa;
12 (b) Ensure the coverage of the Palarong Pambansa by both the national and local media;
13 and,
14 (c) Enter into sponsorship, merchandising and royalty agreements with private entities as
15 additional source of funds for the Palarong Pambansa.

16
17 The Palarong Pambansa Communications Group shall be composed of representatives
18 from the following government agencies:

- 19 (1) DepED;
20 (2) Philippine Information Agency (PIA);
21 (3) PSC; and
22 (4) DepED Regional Offices.

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24 **ARTICLE V**
25 **ELIGIBILITY AND ACCREDITATION**

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27 **SEC. 13. *The National Screening and Accreditation Committee (NSAC).*** - The Board
28 shall constitute the NSAC that will evaluate and verify the authenticity of the documents
29 submitted by the athletes, coaches and chaperones applying for accreditation. The NSAC
30 shall accredit qualified athletes, coaches and chaperones and shall submit a masterlist to the
31 Board at least two (2) months before the Palarong Pambansa.

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33 **SEC. 14. *Composition of the NSAC.*** - The NSAC shall be composed of the following:

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35 (a) Representative from the DepED Legal Division;
36 (b) Two (2) government physicians;
37 (c) Two (2) government dentists; and
38 (d) Authorized representative from each RAA.

- 1 (7) Billiards
- 2 (8) Boxing
- 3 (9) Chess
- 4 (10) Football
- 5 (11) Futsal
- 6 (12) Gymnastics
- 7 (13) Sepak Takraw
- 8 (14) Softball
- 9 (15) Swimming
- 10 (16) Table Tennis
- 11 (17) Taekwondo
- 12 (18) Tennis
- 13 (19) Volleyball
- 14 (20) Wrestling
- 15 (21) Wushu

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17 *Provided*, That appropriate sports events shall be organized for students with disability.

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19 **SEC. 17. *Regulations and Standards.*** - The Board shall conduct a review of the current
20 rules and regulations and an inventory of existing sports facilities, venues and equipment being
21 used in the Palarong Pambansa. All sports events must be played according to international rules
22 and regulations and the sports venues, facilities and equipment to be used shall be in accordance
23 with international standards. The Board shall consult the National Sports Associations (NSAs) in
24 the review of the rules and regulations of each sports event.

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ARTICLE VII

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DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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29 **SEC. 18 *Philippine Sports Commission (PSC).*** - To ensure the success of the Palarong
30 Pambansa, the PSC, in cooperation with the POC and thru the appropriate NSAs, shall perform
31 the following duties and functions:

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(a) The PSC shall make available its manpower and technical resources and facilities for
the Palarong Pambansa and other school-based sports and physical education
programs of the DepED;

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(b) The PSC, in coordination with the DepED, shall formulate and implement a training
program for outstanding athletes of the Palarong Pambansa to ensure the continuity of
their athletic development and education;

- 1 (c) Provide technical support to all programs that the DepED may implement to train its
2 teachers, coaches and officiating team;
- 3 (d) Provide technical support in the formulation of the specification of equipment to be
4 procured for the Palarong Pambansa;
- 5 (e) Provide technical support to all programs that the DepED may implement to train
6 DepED and non-DepED personnel who will manage the events to be played in the
7 Palarong Pambansa. The PSC may also endorse qualified non-DepED personnel to
8 serve as event managers to assist in the conduct of the Palaro; and,
- 9 (f) Other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Board.

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11 **SEC. 19. *Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).*** - The DILG shall
12 perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- 13 (a) To direct the Philippine National Police to prepare and implement a comprehensive
14 security plan for the LGU where the Palarong Pambansa shall be held;
- 15 (b) To appoint a representative to the local Palarong Pambansa Board;
- 16 (c) To direct all LGUs where the events will be played to coordinate, cooperate and
17 support the plans, programs and activities of the Palarong Pambansa Board;
- 18 (d) Other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Board.

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20 **ARTICLE VIII**
21 **FINAL PROVISIONS**

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23 **SEC. 20. *Appropriations.*** - The amount currently appropriated in the General
24 Appropriations Act (GAA) for the conduct of the Palarong Pambansa including pre-national
25 Palaro activities under the DepED shall be allocated and utilized for the initial implementation of
26 this Act. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be
27 included under the budget of the DepED in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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29 **SEC. 21. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within ninety (90) days after the
30 approval of this Act, the DepED, together with the concerned agencies, shall prepare and
31 promulgate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) to carry out the provisions of this *Act*.
32 The IRR shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in a major daily newspaper
33 of general circulation.

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35 **SEC. 22. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or
36 unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force
37 and effect.

1 **SEC. 23. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, particularly Executive
2 Order 433, presidential issuances and other administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof
3 which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

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5 **SEC. 24. *Effectivity.*** - The implementation of this Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
6 after its publication in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,