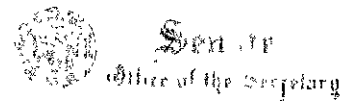


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



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SENATE

S.B. No. 1929

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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid.

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act. No. 8492, otherwise known as the National Museum Act of 1998 was enacted into law last February 12, 1998. The law sought the development of Filipino culture through the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of the different art media and outputs evidencing such.

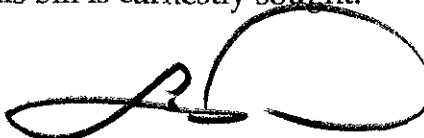
Over the past few years, however, there have been issues showing that the budget allocated for the operation of the National Museum may not be sufficient. These issues include restoration, preservation, and security needs.

The duty of restoring and preserving national artworks incurs high costs because the same requires the employment of highly skilled professionals and special expertise. This has been evidenced by the restoration works done on the Spolarium and attempted on the pages of the *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*. The nature and age of the museum's collection requires constant restoration and preservation work.

The recent reports of missing artworks and art collections also trigger rising alarm for the protection of our artistic treasures. This is particularly distressing considering that the loss or theft, as the case may be, of art pieces has allegedly been occurring for several years already. Worse, the cases involve irreplaceable and priceless works of national artists.

Thus, this proposed measure seeks to augment the National Museum's budget by amending Section 26 of Republic Act No. 8492. The amendment will give the National Museum the authority to use income derived from sales of reproductions, cultural items, publications, or creations; from rendition of restoration, conservation, identification, authentication, or other auxiliary services; or from earnings from planetarium programs or entrance fees, provided that the use is limited to certain aspects of operation and shall not exceed an amount of Five Million pesos (Php5,000,000.00) annually.

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

  
MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID  
Senator



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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

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AN ACT  
AMENDING SECTION 26 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8492, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE "NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT OF 1998"

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 26 of Republic Act No. 8492 is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:

3  
4 "SEC. 26. [Revolving Fund] USE OF INCOME. - The NATIONAL  
5 MUSEUM IS AUTHORIZED TO USE income [of the museum], not  
6 exceeding the amount of [TWO (P2,000,000)] FIVE MILLION PESOS  
7 (P5,000,000.00) ANNUALLY, WHICH MAY BE derived from the  
8 [proceeds of the sales] SALE of reproductions, cultural items, AND  
9 publications[.]; FEES FOR creation, restoration, conservation,  
10 identification, authentication, AND OTHER AUXILIARY SERVICES[.];  
11 AND earnings from planetarium programs[.], OR ENTRANCE FEES[shall  
12 be constituted as a revolving fund for the use of the Museum.] TO  
13 AUGMENT THE MUSEUM'S OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS  
14 SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

15  
16 26.1. UPGRADING AND MODERNIZATION OF  
17 COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES;  
18

1 26.2. REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF STRUCTURES AND  
2 FACILITIES THAT HOUSE ITS OFFICES, COLLECTIONS AND  
3 ACQUISITIONS;

4  
5 26.3. UPDATE ITS INSURANCE PAYMENTS;

6  
7 26.4. INCREASE AND MODERNIZE THE LEVEL OF SECURITY IT  
8 CURRENTLY EMPLOYS; AND

9  
10 26.5. FUND EXPENSES INCURRED IN REPRODUCTION OR  
11 ACQUISITION OF CULTURAL ITEMS, PUBLICATIONS, AND  
12 OTHER ARTISTIC CREATIONS; RESTORATION AND  
13 CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS; AND OPERATION OF  
14 PLANETARIUM PROGRAMS AND OTHER AUXILIARY  
15 ACTIVITIES, SUBJECT TO THE SUBMISSION OF A SPECIAL  
16 BUDGET PURSUANT TO SECTION 35, CHAPTER V, BOOK VI  
17 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292: PROVIDED, THAT NO  
18 AMOUNT OF SAID INCOME SHALL BE USED TO FUND  
19 PERSONAL SERVICES EXPENDITURES."

20  
21 SEC. 2. A new section is hereby inserted after Section 36 and the  
22 subsequent sections accordingly renumbered:

23  
24 "SEC. 37. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. - THE  
25 DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM SHALL PROMULGATE  
26 SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE PROPER  
27 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT WITHIN ONE HUNDRED  
28 TWENTY (120) DAYS AFTER ITS EFFECTIVITY."

29  
30 SEC. 3. *Separability Clause* - If any provision or part of this act shall  
31 be held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not otherwise  
32 affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

33  
34 SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
35 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, and rule or regulation

1 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed,  
2 modified, or amended accordingly.

3

4 **SEC. 5. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
5 days after its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*