

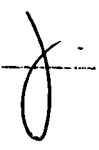
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



16 JUL 18 P6:17

SENATE

S.B. No. 395

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator LOREN LEGARDA

AN ACT SUPPORTING THE PRODUCTION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENT FILMS BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO FILMMAKERS WHO ARE GIVEN HONORS IN NOTABLE INTERNATIONAL FILM COMPETITIONS

Explanatory Note

Independent Filipino filmmakers usually work on a tight budget and seek support from various institutions that believe in the message and the social impact of the films that they produce. Despite meager resources, these filmmakers are not only able to participate but also receive major awards and special citations in various prestigious international film festivals such as the Cannes International Film Festival, British Independent Film Awards, Venice International Film Awards, and the San Sebastian International Film Festival, among many others. These independent filmmakers bring honor and recognition to the country even with little support from the government.

This bill seeks to acknowledge the efforts of these world-class independent Filipino filmmakers and to further promote the production of Filipino independent films by providing financial grants and incentives to independent movie and documentary producers who are recognized in notable international film competitions.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is requested.


LOREN LEGARDA

Senator

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

1 **SEC. 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as “The Philippine Independent
2 Film Incentives Act.”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to promote and
5 support the development and growth of the local film industry, in general, and
6 the production of independent films, in particular. The State shall endeavor to
7 discover, encourage, and honor the cinematic works of Filipino filmmakers that
8 boldly articulate and freely interpret the Filipino experience with fresh insight
9 and artistic integrity.
10

11 **SEC. 3. Grants for Award-Winning Films.** – Philippine independent films that
12 have been awarded the Best Film prize or its equivalent, or merited recognition
13 for technical excellence, in international film competitions or cinema festivals
14 shall be given the following incentives:
15

16 3.1. A grant of Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00) to the producer of an
17 award-winning full-length feature or documentary film;
18

19 3.2. A grant of Three Million Pesos (P3,000,000.00), to the producer of an
20 award-winning short feature or documentary film; and
21

22 3.3. Full exemption from taxes pertaining to the screening of the film and
23 its commercial exhibition, including those levied by the local government
24 units (LGUs);
25

26 **SEC. 4. Eligibility for Grants**
27

28 4.1. To be eligible for a grant under Section 3.1, the film must be made
29 by a Filipino filmmaker who has not yet directed more than three (3) full-
30 length commercial feature films. The total production budget for the full-
31 length feature or documentary should not exceed Three Million Pesos
32 (P3,000,000.00). The film length should be at least 90 minutes;
33

1 4.2. To be eligible for a grant under Section 3.2., the film must be made
2 by a Filipino filmmaker. The total production budget for the short feature
3 or documentary film should not exceed One Million Pesos
4 (P1,000,000.00). The film length should not be more than 20 minutes.
5

6 All films should not have been produced by commercial producers to
7 guarantee the filmmakers' creative control over the film.
8

9 **SEC. 5. Implementing Agency.** – The National Commission for Culture and
10 the Arts (NCCA) is hereby mandated as the implementing agency of this Act.
11 The NCCA, shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act,
12 promulgate rules and regulations to implement this Act, which shall include a
13 listing of the recognized international film competitions or cinema festivals for
14 which a grant under Sec. 3 shall be allowed.
15

16 **SEC. 6. Appropriations.** – A special fund amounting to Fifty Million Pesos
17 (P50,000,000.00) which shall be sourced from the funds of the Philippine
18 Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is hereby created. Other
19 amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, are
20 hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.
21

22 **SEC. 7. Separability Clause.** – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
23 unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act or the provision not otherwise
24 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
25

26 **SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or
27 portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are
28 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
29

30 **SEC. 9. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
31 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general
32 circulation.
33

34 Approved,