EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE

S.B. No. 2192



Introduced by SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BAYBAY CITY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL FOR SPORTS IN BAYBAY CITY, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 17 of Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "The State shall The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development."

According to the Council of Europe, sports enhances social and cultural life by bringing together individuals and communities. Sports can help to overcome difference and encourages dialogue, and thereby helps to break down prejudice, stereotypes, cultural differences, ignorance, intolerance and discrimination.

In fact, sports have been in our country since time immemorial. In an article by The Manila Times in 2017, Eddie Alinea described President Ferdinand Marcos as the only Head of State who undertook changes by promulgating several measures aimed at upgrading the standard of the Filipino athletes representing the country in international competitions.

Among these projects is the *Project Gintong Alay* which established a national training center in Baguio City where all the chosen athletes learned to develop their talent and skills under the supervision of both local and international coaches. This paved the way for the country to have legends such as tracksters Lydia de Vega and Isidro del Prado; swimmers Eric Buhain and Akiko Thompson; boxers, Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco, brother Roel Velasco and Elias Recaido; cyclists Norberto Oconenr, Joselito Santos and Domingo Villanueva; judoka John Baylon; weightlifter Jaime Sebastian, among others who dominated in the SEA Games, Asian Games and even in global level like the Olympics and world championships.

Truly, athletes can flourish and conquer the world stage if there is sufficient and unwavering support from the government. However, the excellent skills and winning

mindset of athletes are not forged overnight. In fact, even if they were able to bring home medals, they continue to train and practice even more. As such, it is but fitting to open an avenue to more young athletes who are willing and capable to train and develop their skills while they are still young. With the ample amount of support and guidance of esteemed coaches and trainers, it is undeniable that the strength of Filipino athletes will once again dominate globally.

This bill seeks to establish the National Academy of Sports for High School in the City of Baybay to develop and train young athletes sojourning in Central and Eastern Visayas Regions. This bill will also help hone the future of Philippine sports to be internationally competitive and provide them a chance to excel professionally in their chosen careers in sports.

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

IMEE'R. MARCOS

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Baybay City National High School for Sports Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation- building. To this end, it shall advance and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being through the promotion of physical education and sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training in international competitions; foster self- discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry; and develop athletes with a strong sense of patriotism and love of country. It shall likewise provide appropriate sports training and academic preparation to promote the holistic development of students with athletic abilities, instill in them strong patriotic ideals and prepare them for careers in sports.

SEC. 3. Establishment of the Baybay City National High School for Sports. – The Baybay City National High School for Sports is hereby established to develop the athletic skills and talents of high school students in Baybay City, Province of Leyte and its environs.

The Baybay City National High School for Sports shall be administered by the Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), for policy and program formulation and implementation.

SEC. 4. *Purpose.* – The Baybay City National High School for Sports shall offer a secondary education to students with considerable potential in sports. The school curriculum shall have a significant emphasis on developing the athletic skills of the students through subjects pertaining to physical education and sports.

SEC. 5. *Powers and Functions.* – The Baybay City National High School for Sports shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a) Formulate and implement policies, plans, and programs that shall promote the development and harness the potential of high school students;
- b) Provide an integrated framework to optimize the potential of its students;
- c) Establish sports programs and facilities that shall be accessible to students;
- d) Promote strategic partnerships and alliances between and among local and international sports organizations and educational training institutions to enhance the competitiveness of students and personnel;
- e) Develop plans and programs that shall enhance the career advancement opportunities of school personnel;
- f) Establish guidelines for public-private partnerships in the implementation of sports programs of the school; and
- g) Perform such other functions as may be required to implement the objectives of this Act.
- SEC. 6. *School Director.* The Baybay City National High School for Sports shall be headed by a School Director who shall be responsible for the administration and operation of the school.

The School Director shall be assisted by an Assistant Director for Internal Affairs and an Assistant Director for External Affairs.

SEC. 7. Sectoral and Industry Task Forces. – The Baybay City National Hi gh School for Sports may create sectoral and industry task forces, technical working groups, advisory bodies or committees for the furtherance of its objectives.

The members of the sectoral and industry task forces may come from the agencies of the national government, government-owned and-controlled corporations, local government units, the academe, civil society organizations, sports organizations, and sports-related industrial organizations. The manner of selection of such members shall be provided under the Implementing Rules and Regulations to be formulated to implement the provisions of this Act.

- SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* –The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be included in the budget of the DepEd in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, in coordination with the PSC and other concerned agencies of the government, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

- SEC. 10. Separability Clause. If, for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Act shall be declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.
- SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, proclamations, rules, regulations, issuances, and enactments or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulations.

Approved,

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