

(AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE)

CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Third Regular Session

}

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9607

---

BY REPRESENTATIVES ESPINA, ROMULO, YAP (E.) AND TAMBUNTING, PER COMMITTEE REPORT  
NO. 1054

---

**AN ACT**

**ESTABLISHING ~~[A CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM IN THE PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, TO BE KNOWN AS BILIRAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM,~~] THE BILIRAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM IN THE PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, DEFINING ITS PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** ~~[There shall be established in the Province of Biliran a cultural~~  
2 ~~center and museum to be known as Biliran Cultural Center and Museum, which~~  
3 ~~shall be under the supervision of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts~~  
4 ~~(NCCA).]~~ THERE IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED A CULTURAL CENTER AND  
5 MUSEUM IN THE PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE  
6 BILIRAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM TO PROMOTE CULTURE  
7 AND THE ARTS. IT SHALL SERVE AS THE INSTITUTIONAL MEDIUM FOR  
8 THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION, PRESENTATION AND PROMOTION  
9 OF THE CULTURAL, ARTISTIC, ARCHAEOLOGICAL, SOCIAL,  
10 HISTORICAL, RELIGIOUS AND PHILOSOPHICAL HERITAGE OF THE  
11 BILIRAN ISLAND AND ITS PEOPLE IN VIEW OF THE RICHNESS OF THEIR  
12 LEGACIES AND OF THEIR RELEVANCE TO THEIR CONTEMPORARY AND  
13 FUTURE ASPIRATIONS.

14  
15           **SEC. 2.** ~~[The *Sangguniang Panlungsod* of the Province of Biliran, in~~  
16 ~~coordination with the NCCA, shall choose the site of the Biliran Cultural Center and~~  
17 ~~Museum.]~~ THE BILIRAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM SHALL BE A  
18 COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF  
19 BILIRAN AND THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE  
20 ARTS (NCCA) WITH ITS CONCERNED AFFILIATED CULTURAL AGENCIES  
21 AND PERTINENT ACADEMIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS, AND  
22 MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, WITH ITS SITE, STRUCTURES,

1 GOVERNANCE, ORGANIZATION, OPERATIONS, AND DEVELOPMENT TO  
 2 BE PROVIDED FOR BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE PARTIES,  
 3 TO BE EXECUTED AND PUBLISHED WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM THE  
 4 EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT.

5  
 6 **SEC. 3.** [~~For purposes of implementing its activities and functions, the~~  
 7 ~~Biliran Cultural Center and Museum is hereby authorized to give emphasis to the~~  
 8 ~~following undertakings~~] TO FULFILL ITS PURPOSES AND ACHIEVE ITS  
 9 OBJECTIVES, THE BILIRAN CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM SHALL:

- 10  
 11 a. [~~It~~] compile the musical notes and lyrics of Biliran traditional songs,  
 12 ballads, and contemporary music compositions, and [~~it~~] collect samples  
 13 of musical instruments of Biliran origin, design and creation;  
 14  
 15 b. [~~It~~] acquire and display a varied range of Biliran arts and artifacts;  
 16  
 17 c. [~~It~~] publish and disseminate Biliran literary works, epics, stories and  
 18 historical accounts;  
 19  
 20 d. [~~It~~] compile Biliran literature, film, or audio-visual recordings of cultural  
 21 performances in music, dances, oral literature, and festival celebrations;  
 22  
 23 e. [~~It~~] compile Biliran works, names of barangays, towns and other places  
 24 of interests and their respective history;  
 25  
 26 f. [~~It~~] gather and document Biliran religious practices and traditions, and  
 27 the background and origin of Biliran fiestas and festivals;  
 28  
 29 g. [~~It~~] compile photographs of and showcase by appropriate exhibits,  
 30 Biliran landmarks, historical sites and scenic views;  
 31  
 32 h. [~~It~~] gather specimens of archaeological findings, and [~~it~~] collect major  
 33 minerals present in Biliran, namely, gypsum, sulfur, and white clay and  
 34 such other geological materials unique to Biliran; [~~and~~]  
 35  
 36 i. [~~It~~] preserve by appropriate methods samples of flora and fauna  
 37 indigenous to the Province of Biliran[.];  
 38  
 39 J. CONDUCT PERFORMANCES ON LOCAL MUSIC, DANCES, ARTS,  
 40 LITERARY WORKS, EPICS, STORIES, HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS  
 41 AND LEGENDS; AND  
 42  
 43 K. CARRY OUT ANY OTHER RELEVANT AND APPROPRIATE  
 44 ACTIVITIES.

45 **SEC. 4.** [~~The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall~~  
 46 ~~be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.] THE PROVINCIAL~~

1 GOVERNMENT OF BILIRAN SHALL PROVIDE THE LAND NECESSARY  
2 FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OR ESTABLISHMENT, OR BOTH, OF THE MAIN  
3 VENUE AND ANCILLARY OFFICES AND FACILITIES OF THE BILIRAN  
4 CULTURAL CENTER AND MUSEUM.

5  
6 SEC. 5. THE AMOUNT NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
7 THIS ACT SHALL BE CHARGED AGAINST THE CURRENT YEAR'S  
8 BUDGET OF THE NCCA (PROPER). THEREAFTER, SUCH AMOUNT AS  
9 MAY BE NECESSARY FOR ITS CONTINUED IPLEMENTATION SHALL BE  
10 INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

11  
12 **SEC. [5]** 6. [~~Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the NCCA~~  
13 ~~shall, in consultation with the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* of Biliran, Cultural Center~~  
14 ~~of the Philippines, and National Museum of the Philippines, formulate and issue the~~  
15 ~~rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.] WITHIN SIXTY~~  
16 (60) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, THE NCCA, IN  
17 COORDINATION WITH THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF BILIRAN,  
18 OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND PRIVATE  
19 STAKEHOLDERS, SHALL PROMULGATE THE NECESSARY RULES AND  
20 REGULATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.

21  
22 **SEC. [6]** 7. NOTWITHSTANDING THE NON-ISSUANCE OF THE  
23 IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS, This Act shall take effect fifteen  
24 (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
25 circulation.

Approved,