



SENATE *

S. No. 2514

(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 423 and 2408,
taking into consideration House Bill No. 8468)

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED JOINTLY BY THE COMMITTEES ON
SPORTS AND FINANCE WITH SENATORS GO, ZUBIRI,
VILLANUEVA, ESTRADA, AND LAPID AS AUTHORS
THEREOF

AN ACT EXPANDING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING THE
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL GAMES AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as
2 the “Philippine National Games Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – Article XIV,
4 Section 19(1) of the 1987 Constitution provides that the
5 State shall promote physical education and encourage
6 sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports,
7 including training for international sports competitions, to

1 foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the
2 development of a healthy and alert citizenry.

3 As a signatory to the Convention on the Rights of
4 Persons with Disabilities, the State adheres to its
5 commitment to encourage and promote the participation,
6 to the fullest extent possible, of persons with disabilities in
7 mainstream sporting activities at all levels.

8 Pursuant thereto, the State shall institutionalize an
9 inclusive national sports competition that will promote
10 awareness and interest in sports, particularly in the
11 countryside, generate wide participation of the citizenry in
12 sports through the active involvement of local government
13 units (LGUs), and serve as the linkage between grassroots
14 sports development and national amateur and elite sports
15 development.

16 SEC. 3. *Expansion and Institutionalization of the*
17 *Philippine National Games.* – The Philippine National
18 Games (PNG), the national multi-sport tournament
19 organized by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), is
20 hereby expanded and institutionalized.

1 The PNG shall serve as one of the country's national
2 sports competitions and venue for the discovery of
3 potential national and elite athletes. It shall be composed
4 of a competition on sports for athletes and a competition on
5 sports designed for para-athletes. It shall be held once
6 every two (2) years and shall be participated in by athletes
7 and para-athletes from the different provinces, in
8 collaboration with municipalities under their jurisdiction,
9 and cities of the country.

10 The PNG shall have the following purposes and
11 objectives:

12 (a) To provide a framework and structure for a truly
13 integrated and comprehensive national sports program,
14 linking grassroots sports promotion to elite sports
15 development, including sporting events applicable to para-
16 athletes or persons with disabilities;

17 (b) To encourage all LGUs to promote the
18 development of sports in the countryside;

19 (c) To serve as a venue for the National Sports
20 Associations (NSAs) in promoting their respective sports at

1 the grassroots level and providing the necessary linkages
2 with LGUs; and

3 (d) To widen the base for talent identification,
4 selection, and recruitment of athletes and para-athletes
5 who shall constitute the national pool to be trained for
6 international sports competitions.

7 SEC. 4. *Participation in the PNG.* – To generate
8 awareness and ensure the wide participation of athletes
9 with the potential to become national amateur and elite
10 athletes and para-athletes, LGUs, through their barangay,
11 municipal, city, and provincial Physical Fitness and Sports
12 Development Councils, shall encourage, promote or
13 organize local sports competitions within their respective
14 jurisdictions as well as recruit, train, and select athletes
15 and para-athletes for sporting events competed at the
16 PNG.

17 Provinces, in collaboration with municipalities under
18 their jurisdiction, and cities may form and send their
19 delegations to the qualifying competitions and, thereafter,
20 to the national championship competition of the PNG.

1 Athletes and para-athletes who will form part of the
2 delegation of the participating provinces and cities to the
3 PNG must be Filipino citizens who comply with the
4 minimum age requirement of the concerned NSA for the
5 particular sport.

6 No athlete who participated in a local sports
7 competition organized by a Physical Fitness and Sports
8 Development Council and subsequently represented the
9 provincial or city sports delegation in the qualifying
10 competitions of the PNG for a particular edition shall be
11 permitted to transfer and represent another provincial or
12 city sports delegation in the national championship
13 competition of the PNG.

14 The PNG shall take into consideration the activities
15 and programs of the *Palarong Pambansa* and other local
16 and international competitions to ensure that the welfare
17 of the athletes is given paramount importance: *Provided,*
18 That in case of overlapping competition schedules, the
19 PSC, in coordination with concerned NSAs, shall issue
20 guidelines on the prioritization of competitions: *Provided,*

1 *further*, That international competitions where the
2 Philippines is represented shall be prioritized.

3 SEC. 5. *Sporting Events.* – The sporting events that
4 will be competed in at the PNG shall be determined by the
5 PNG Coordinating Committee created under Section 6 of
6 this Act: *Provided*, That these sporting events are aligned
7 with the sporting events participated in by the Philippines
8 in the Southeast Asian Games, ASEAN Para Games, Asian
9 Games, Asian Para Games, Olympics, Paralympic Games
10 and other international sports competitions: *Provided*,
11 *further*, That mandatory sporting events in the Olympic
12 and Paralympic Games shall, as far as practicable, be
13 included in the PNG, subject to the availability of sports
14 facilities and venues in the LGU where the PNG will be
15 held: *Provided, finally*, That the host LGU may recommend
16 the inclusion of local sports to promote and showcase its
17 socioeconomic and cultural uniqueness through the PNG.

18 SEC. 6. *Creation of the PNG Coordinating Committee.* –
19 To ensure the attainment of the purposes and objectives of
20 this Act, there is hereby created the Philippine National

1 Games Coordinating Committee, hereinafter referred to as
2 the PNG Coordinating Committee. It shall be the policy-
3 making and coordinating body for the preparation and
4 conduct of the PNG.

5 The PNG Coordinating Committee shall be the
6 proprietary owner of the phrase "Philippine National
7 Games" and its related symbols, logos, and concepts.

8 SEC. 7. *Powers and Functions of the PNG*
9 *Coordinating Committee.* - The PNG Coordinating
10 Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

11 (a) To formulate plans, policies and guidelines that
12 shall govern the conduct of the PNG, and the relationships
13 among the organizations involved;

14 (b) To recognize the provincial and city Physical
15 Fitness and Sports Development Councils that will be
16 given authority to register athletes and teams in the PNG;

17 (c) To determine the host and schedule of the PNG;

18 (d) To determine the use of sports facilities, school
19 buildings, and classrooms as may be necessary for the
20 conduct of the PNG: *Provided*, That the PNG Coordinating

1 Committee shall only use the Department of Education
2 (DepEd) classrooms if other facilities have been utilized;

3 (e) To coordinate with the Department of Budget and
4 Management (DBM) and other government agencies on the
5 needed funding and technical assistance in the
6 implementation of this Act;

7 (f) To determine the sports to be included in the PNG
8 based on the appropriated budget in a given year, subject
9 to the conditions set in Section 5 hereof;

10 (g) To develop programs and policies that shall
11 promote the PNG and ensure multi-sectoral support to the
12 PNG as one of the country's sports events; and

13 (h) To exercise such other functions as may be
14 necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

15 SEC. 8. *Composition of the PNG Coordinating*
16 *Committee.* – The PNG Coordinating Committee shall be
17 composed of the following:

18 (a) Chair – Chairperson of the Philippine Sports
19 Commission;

1 (b) Vice-Chair – Undersecretary of the Department of
2 the Interior and Local Government in charge of Sports
3 Development at the local levels;

4 (c) Members –

5 (1) Undersecretary of the DepEd in charge of the
6 *Palarong Pambansa*;

7 (2) Chairperson of the Commission on Higher
8 Education;

9 (3) President of the Philippine Olympic Committee;

10 (4) President of the Philippine Paralympic
11 Committee;

12 (5) President of the League of Provinces of the
13 Philippines;

14 (6) President of the League of Cities of the
15 Philippines;

16 (7) President of the League of Municipalities of the
17 Philippines;

18 (8) President of the Liga ng mga Barangay; and

19 (9) Chairperson of the Coordinating Council of
20 Private Educational Associations of the Philippines.

1 The members of the PNG Coordinating Committee,
2 except the Chair and Vice-Chair, may be represented by
3 the next-in-rank officers of their agencies or organizations,
4 as the case may be.

5 SEC 9. *Roles of Government Agencies and Private*
6 *Associations.* – In addition to the duties and
7 responsibilities that may be assigned to them by the PNG
8 Coordinating Committee, the concerned government
9 agencies and private associations shall perform the
10 following roles:

11 (a) Philippine Sports Commission:

12 (1) To carry out the overall management of the PNG;

13 (2) To form an Executive Committee and Working
14 Committees, composed of PSC officials, which shall
15 implement the policies and activities set by the PNG
16 Coordinating Committee and lead inter-agency
17 coordination; and

18 (3) To coordinate with the DBM and other
19 government agencies to secure the needed funding and
20 technical assistance in the implementation of this Act;

1 (b) Department of the Interior and Local Government:

2 (1) To mandate all LGUs to coordinate, cooperate and
3 support the plans, programs and activities of the PNG
4 through the issuance of corresponding memorandum
5 circulars or department orders and guidelines within its
6 jurisdiction to help carry out the objectives of the PNG; and

7 (2) To direct the Philippine National Police to prepare
8 and implement a comprehensive security plan for the LGU
9 venues where the PNG shall be held;

10 (c) League of Provinces of the Philippines, League of
11 Cities of the Philippines, League of Municipalities of the
12 Philippines and Liga ng mga Barangay:

13 (1) To encourage the implementation of the PNG in
14 their respective member LGUs; and

15 (2) To assist in disseminating information on the
16 PNG within their respective jurisdictions to encourage the
17 active participation of their members;

18 (d) Department of Education:

19 (1) To align the *Palarong Pambansa* calendar of
20 activities, programs and policies to the conduct of the PNG;

1 (2) To allow the use of its sports facilities, school
2 buildings, and classrooms as may be necessary for the
3 conduct of the PNG; and

4 (3) To issue memorandum circulars or department
5 orders and guidelines within its jurisdiction to implement
6 the objectives of the PNG;

7 (e) Commission on Higher Education:

8 (1) To promote the program and activities of the PNG
9 to all higher educational institutions;

10 (2) To recommend to the state universities and
11 colleges the use of their sports facilities, school buildings,
12 and classrooms as may be necessary for the conduct of the
13 PNG; and

14 (3) To issue memorandum circulars or department
15 orders on the alignment of tertiary sports events and
16 calendar of activities to the PNG;

17 (f) Coordinating Council of Private Educational
18 Associations of the Philippines:

19 (1) To promote the program and activities of the PNG
20 to all private educational institutions;

1 (2) To take into consideration in its calendar of
2 activities, programs and policies the conduct of the PNG;
3 and

4 (3) To encourage private educational institutions to
5 allow the use of their sports facilities, school buildings, and
6 classrooms as may be necessary for the conduct of the
7 PNG;

8 (g) Local Government Units:

9 (1) Organize multi-sectoral Physical Fitness and
10 Sports Development Councils, to be headed by the local
11 chief executive, that will coordinate the implementation of
12 an annual *palaro* at the barangay, municipal, city, and
13 provincial levels, pursuant to the mandates under
14 Sections 389(b)(13), 444(b)(1)(xix), 455(b)(1)(xix), and
15 465(b)(1)(xix) of the Local Government Code of 1991, as
16 amended;

17 (2) Through the Physical Fitness and Sports
18 Development Council, implement the following:

19 (i) Encourage, promote, and organize local sports
20 competitions within their respective jurisdictions;

1 (ii) Recruit, train, and select athletes who will
2 participate in the PNG; and

3 (iii) Develop and maintain a pool of local athletes and
4 provide them with necessary assistance;

5 (3) For provincial and city Physical Fitness and
6 Sports Development Councils:

7 (i) Register an athlete in sporting events of the PNG,
8 including its regional and cluster qualifying competitions;
9 and

10 (ii) Be responsible for the entire delegation registered
11 in the PNG, and ensure their athletes' compliance with the
12 PNG's eligibility rules;

13 (h) Philippine Olympic Committee and the Philippine
14 Paralympic Committee:

15 (1) Supervise the NSAs involved in the PNG; and

16 (i) National Sports Associations:

17 (1) To set the qualifications for athletes and para-
18 athletes who will be participating in different sporting
19 events, based on the international federations' rules and
20 regulations;

1 (2) To provide technical assistance in the conduct of
2 their respective sports competitions in the PNG, including
3 the appointment of qualified officiating officials; and

4 (3) To allow the participation of all national athletes,
5 registered by the Physical Fitness and Sports Development
6 Councils, regardless of their membership status with their
7 respective NSAs: *Provided*, That the athlete conforms and
8 agrees to abide by the competition rules and regulations of
9 their respective NSAs and the PNG: *Provided, further*,
10 That the athlete is not under any disciplinary sanction or
11 otherwise suspended by the concerned NSA or
12 International Federation, consistent with the rules of their
13 respective sports.

14 SEC. 10. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for
15 the implementation of this Act shall be included in the
16 budget of the PSC in the annual General Appropriations
17 Act.

18 SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* –
19 Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the
20 PSC, in coordination with the member agencies of the PNG

1 Coordinating Committee, and the NSAs, shall promulgate
2 the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of
3 this Act.

4 SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or
5 provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the
6 other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and
7 effect.

8 SEC. 13. *Repealing Cause.* – All laws, executive
9 orders, issuances, decrees, and rules and regulations
10 inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act
11 are deemed amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.

12 SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after
13 fifteen (15) days from its publication in the *Official Gazette*
14 or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,