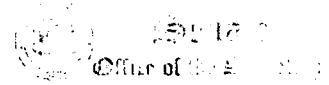


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



24 FEB 22 A11 :33

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

S. No. 2563

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito

**AN ACT
PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS GAMES OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

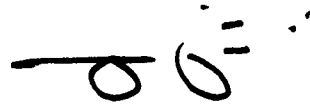
One of the disadvantages brought by technological advancement is the disregard for the traditional Philippine games. Although Philippine games were popular in the 1990s, they were now overshadowed by hi-tech gadgets and internet games. Filipinos have seemingly forgotten to play these games hence as many children prefer to stay indoors and play on their gadgets instead. Consequently, the Philippines games which used to serve as our country's socio-historical markers, are now being taken for granted.

Thus, this bill aims to preserve the rich cultural heritage of Filipino indigenous peoples and promote the significance of traditional sports and games, such as games such as bunong braso, ginnuyudan, hilahang lubid, kadang-kadang, karera sa sako, luksong-tinik, patintero, syato, and unggoy-unggoyan, in uplifting the well-being of Filipinos, especially the youth. It also seeks to safeguard indigenous games as living heritage and foster cultural awareness.

Moreover, this bill also mandates the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), in coordination with the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and the local government units (LGUs) to conduct annual regional and national indigenous sports competitions. This proposed measure

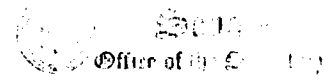
will also mandate the NCIP and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), in coordination with the Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, the PSC, POC, LGUs, and the Philippine Information Agency, to initiate measures to preserve indigenous games in the country, such as the inclusion of indigenous games as part of the curriculum and other appropriate school activities in the basic and higher education system, and the production of documentary and other materials on indigenous games. Furthermore, this bill will also require the inclusion of indigenous games as regular demonstration sports in the Palarong Pambansa and in other national sports events.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a horizontal line, positioned above the printed name.

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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24 FEB 22 A11 :33

SENATE
S. No. 2563

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Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito

AN ACT
PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS GAMES OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the Philippine Indigenous
2 Games Preservation Act.

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - Article II, Section 22 of the Constitution provides
4 that the State shall recognize and promote the rights of indigenous cultural
5 communities within the framework of national unity and development. Furthermore,
6 Article 31.1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
7 enjoins all State signatories to take effective measures to recognize and protect the
8 exercise of the indigenous peoples' rights which include the maintenance, control, and
9 development of their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and expression, oral
10 traditions, literatures, designs, sports, and traditional games.

11 Pursuant to the aforesaid mandates, it is incumbent upon the State to lay down
12 specific policy directives to promote the interest of our indigenous peoples, preserve
13 the intangible cultural heritage as living heritage and help people connect with their
14 historical roots. The State shall take the necessary steps to preserve the indigenous
15 peoples' games which serve as the best avenue for their self-expression, and for
16 promoting peace, harmony, goodwill, and camaraderie among them.

17 Sec. 3. *Indigenous Games.* - The term "indigenous games" refer to the traditional
18 sports and games distinctly connected and rooted in the traditions, customs, and

1 practices, and reflect the rich cultural heritage of the different indigenous cultural
2 communities or indigenous peoples, handed down from generation to generation such
3 as bunong braso, ginnuyudan, hilahang lubid, kadang-kadang, karera sa sako,
4 luksong-tinik, patintero, syato, unggoy-unggoyan. These include games played by the
5 indigenous communities, usually accompanied by indigenous materials and
6 implements, in observance of indigenous peoples' rituals, celebration of cultural
7 festivals, expression of socialization, entertainment, and competition.

8 *Sec. 4. Annual Regional and National Indigenous Sports Competitions.* - The
9 Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) shall, in coordination with the Philippine Olympic
10 Committee (POC), the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and the
11 local government units (LGUs), conduct annual regional and national indigenous sports
12 competitions.

13 The host LGU shall, in coordination and consultation with the concerned
14 indigenous cultural communities or indigenous peoples, identify which games or sports
15 events shall be included in the regional and national indigenous sports competitions.

16 *Sec. 5. Other Means of Preserving the Indigenous Games.*- The NCIP and the
17 National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) shall, in coordination with the
18 Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the
19 PSC, POC, LGUs, and the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), initiate measures to
20 preserve indigenous games in the country, such as the inclusion of indigenous games
21 as part of the curriculum and other appropriate school activities in the basic and higher
22 education system, the production of documentary and other materials on indigenous
23 games, and the conduct of regular demonstration of such games in the Palarong
24 Pambansa and in other national sports events.

25 The NCIP and the NCCA shall likewise conduct research on the various sports
26 and games traditionally played by different indigenous groups, in consultation with
27 the concerned indigenous cultural communities or indigenous peoples, to ensure the
28 preservation and continuity of the indigenous games.

29 *Sec. 6. Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of this
30 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

31 *Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The PSC and the NCIP as the lead
32 agencies shall, in coordination with the POC, NCCA, DepEd, CHED, LGUs, and PIA,

1 promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within
2 sixty (60) days after its effectivity.

3 *Sec. 8. Separability Clause.* - If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid or
4 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

5 *Sec. 9. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, issuances, decrees, rules,
6 and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed
7 amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.

Approved,