

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

7 1908

SENATE
S. No. 1908

RECEIVED BY: _____ *MS*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 11, Section 14 provides that “the State recognizes the role of women in nation-building.”

This bill proposes to contribute to this State policy by creating a National Museum for Women.

Inarguably, Filipino women have made significant contributions to the political, cultural, social and economic life of Philippine society. Despite this precious legacy of achievements, however, there is no collective repository for their valuable materials and relics.

This Museum shall serve as a permanent showcase of the women’s valuable achievements; the public will have the opportunity to enjoy and benefit from their contributions to art, science, spiritual life, business, social movements and other important areas. The Museum will have the potential to highlight the struggle of women to achieve full emancipation and other human rights, including the struggle to obtain the right to vote and hold public office. It will be a promising venue to educate its audience on the obstacles that women had to overcome in order to be recognized as equals of men.

This Museum shall be devoted to celebrating the evolving role of Filipino women and the events that have become part of our national history and heritage.

cc *Miriam Defensor Santiago*
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

1 SECTION 5. *Functions of the Museum.* – The Museum shall have the following
2 functions:

3 (a) Acquire, collect, preserve, maintain, and administer cultural materials, objects
4 of art, archaeological artifacts, relics, and other historical materials which signify the
5 contribution of Filipino women to Philippine development;

6 (b) Conduct researches on Filipino women, prepare publications, manuscripts,
7 scientific papers, and maintain a reference collection on the same;

8 (c) Gather, identify, reconstruct, restore, and maintain a national reference
9 collection on information about women, study archaeological artifacts, and deduce
10 archaeological interpretation;

11 (d) Plan and organize library services, guided tours, lectures, seminars, symposia
12 or workshops; and

13 (e) Secure and receive bilateral and international grants and endowments to
14 support its programs and projects that promote and advance women's interests.

15 SECTION 6. *Composition of the Commission.* – To carry out the objectives of
16 this Act, the National Museum for Women, attached to the Department of Education,
17 shall be headed by a Director to be appointed by the President from the private sector.

18 SECTION 7. *Tax Exemption.* – The National Museum for Women shall be
19 exempted from paying import taxes or tariff duties on all display materials and
20 equipment, including but not limited to, books, art materials, chemicals for preservation
21 and restoration, exhibit equipment, and films.

22 SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
23 unconstitutional, the remainder of the Act or the provision not otherwise affected shall
24 remain valid and subsisting.

25 SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
26 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative rule or regulation contrary to or

1 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
2 accordingly.

3 SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
4 after its publication in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,