



# LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SERVICE

## QUICK NOTES

*Second Regular Session, 19<sup>th</sup> Congress*

### **Public Hearing of the Committee on Culture and the Arts Joint with the Committees on Sports and Finance**

**Chairperson: Sen. Loren Legarda**

**22 February 2024, Thursday, 9:00 AM, Metropolitan Theater, Padre Burgos Ave. cor. Arroceros St., Ermita, Manila, Philippines,**

**Re: I. Philippine Culinary Heritage Act of 2022**

- **S. No. 244—Sens. Loren Legarda and Joel Villanueva**

**II. Philippine Indigenous Games Preservation Act**

- **S. No. 1088—Sen. Jingoy Ejercito Estrada**
- **S. No. 1340—Sen. Loren Legarda**
- **S. No. 1523—Sen. Ramon Bong Revilla Jr.**
- **S. No. 2089—Sen. Mark Villar**
- **H. No. 8466—Rep. Marlyn Primicias-Agabas**

**III. Promulgation of the Solemn Declaration of Philippine Independence**

- **S. No. 2365—Sen. Bong Revilla Jr.**
- **H. No. 7986—Rep. Lani Mercado-Revilla**

### **Background**

#### *Philippine Culinary Heritage Act of 2022*

- Filipino culinary tradition is deeply rooted in the country's cultural heritage, reflecting its rich history and diverse influences. It is not just about food; it is an expression of the nation's identity, history, and values. By recognizing the importance of preserving and promoting this heritage, stakeholders across agriculture, tourism, and the culture and arts sectors contribute to preserving Filipino cultural



identity, while fostering economic development and cultural exchange.

### *Philippine Indigenous Games Preservation Act*

- In 2018, the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), along with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), started the Indigenous Peoples Games program. This project aims to honor and celebrate the diverse cultural traditions and customs of our ancestors by organizing indigenous sports and games in different parts of the country.
- With the rise of electronic devices and the growing influence of social media and online gaming, younger people are becoming less connected to and interested in our traditional sports. That is why it is crucial to ensure the continued existence and preservation of these important aspects of our culture and heritage for future generations.

### *Promulgation of the Solemn Declaration of Philippine Independence*

- Recent historical records indicate that the original document proclaiming Philippine Independence, attributed to Ambrosio Rianzares Bautista, lacked the signature of General Aguinaldo due to his reservations regarding the clauses asserting the country's subjugation to American government protection. A revised Declaration of Philippine Independence was crafted by Apolinario Mabini. This revised document was officially promulgated and endorsed by 200 municipal presidents (presently known as town mayors) from 16 provinces of the Philippines during the Bacoor Assembly on August 1, 1989, held in Bacoor, Cavite.
- It is proper to acknowledge the significance and importance of the Bacoor Assembly in our history through the promulgation of the Solemn Declaration of Philippine Independence.

## **Highlights**

### *Philippine Culinary Heritage Act of 2022*

- It provides for the establishment of the Committee on Philippine Gastronomy and Culinary Heritage. This committee is tasked with creating and enforcing policies, strategies, and initiatives aimed at advancing, enhancing, spreading, advocating, and safeguarding Filipino cuisine, culinary traditions, ancestral dishes, and gastronomic culture.
- The Departments of Education, Agriculture, Science and Technology, and Tourism, among other relevant agencies, are also tasked with conducting food heritage mapping.

- This initiative aims to enhance awareness among Filipinos regarding the significance of preserving culinary heritage and traditions, thereby promoting and safeguarding them.

### *Philippine Indigenous Games Preservation Act*

- This proposal provides for the annual regional and national indigenous sports competition to be organized by the PSC, in collaboration with the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) and local government units (LGUs).
- The NCCA, NCIP, and the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), in collaboration with the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Philippine Information Agency (PIA), will implement strategies to safeguard indigenous games within the country. These strategies may involve integrating these games into the curriculum at both basic and higher education levels, creating documentaries or other informative resources, and regularly showcasing these games at national sports events like the Palarong Pambansa, as well as in relevant school activities.

### *Promulgation of the Solemn Declaration of Philippine Independence*

- This proposal declares August 1 of each year as a special working holiday to be named the “Promulgation of the Solemn Declaration of Philippine Independence Day.” This observance acknowledges and honors the proclamation of Philippine Independence during the Bacoor Assembly in Bacoor, Cavite, on August 1, 1898.

### **Possible Points for Discussion**

1. Improving culinary education and training: Plans that can be developed to ensure that future chefs and culinary professionals are proficient in Filipino cuisine and techniques. This may involve partnerships with culinary schools, training centers, and industry players.
2. Promoting Filipino cuisine locally and globally: Strategies such as advertising campaigns, culinary events, food festivals, and collaborations with tourism agencies to introduce Filipino food to a wider audience, both at home and abroad.
3. Impact of the Indigenous Peoples Games program: How does the program affect policies regarding indigenous rights, cultural preservation, and sports development in the Philippines.
4. Evaluation of the Indigenous Peoples Games Program: Methods for subsequently assessing the effectiveness and impact of the program on communities and cultural preservation efforts.