



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6119

BY REPRESENTATIVES BENITEZ, SAMBAR, PACQUIAO, UNICO, VILLAR, JALOSJOS (S.), AGLIPAY, LAGDAMEO (M.), PALATINO, GOMEZ, OLIVAREZ, MENDOZA (M.), PUNO, TING, TINGA, EJERCITO, TY, DIMAPORO (F.), ACHARON, MERCADO (R.), QUISUMBING, RODRIGUEZ (R.), SUAREZ, HERRERA-DY AND MERCADO-REVILLA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2086

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE CONDUCT OF THE PALARONG PAMBANSA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 ARTICLE I

2 GENERAL PROVISIONS

3 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Palarong
4 Pambansa Act”.

5 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to
6 promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league
7 competitions and amateur sports, including training for international
8 competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork and excellence for the
9 development of a healthy and alert citizenry through the institutionalization of
10 the Palarong Pambansa as the country’s premier national sporting event.
11 Hence, it shall be a declared policy of the State to support programs that will
12 improve and promote the Palarong Pambansa as the primary avenue for

1 providing in-school sports opportunities to improve the physical, intellectual
2 and social well-being of the youth. All educational institutions are therefore
3 directed to promote physical education and undertake regular sports activities
4 as well as support the local meets and the Palarong Pambansa.

5 SEC. 3. *Objectives.* – The objectives of this Act are the following:

6 (a) To institutionalize the Palarong Pambansa as the premier national
7 sporting event of the country under the Department of Education (DepED) as a
8 venue for talent identification, selection and recruitment of student athletes;

9 (b) To improve the DepED's national school sports program and give
10 more prestige to the annual sports event by encouraging better participation of
11 schools through incentives and rewards; and

12 (c) To encourage the local government units (LGUs) to take a
13 proactive role in the promotion of the Palarong Pambansa locally and
14 nationally by providing incentives and rewards.

15 ARTICLE II

16 ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE 17 PALARONG PAMBANSA

18 SEC. 4. *Palarong Pambansa Board.* – A Palarong Pambansa Board,
19 hereinafter referred to as the “Board”, is hereby created as the lead
20 policy-making and coordinating body for the preparation and conduct of the
21 Palarong Pambansa. The Board shall be attached to the DepED and shall be
22 the proprietary owner of the words “Palarong Pambansa” and its related
23 symbols, logos and concept.

24 The members of the Board shall be entitled to reimbursement of actual
25 traveling and other expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties
26 as members of the Palarong Pambansa Board, subject to pertinent laws, rules
27 and regulations.

1 SEC. 5. *Membership of the Board.* -- The Board shall have seven (7)
2 members composed of the following:

- 3 (a) Secretary of the DepED -- Chairperson;
4 (b) One (1) Undersecretary of the DepED;
5 (c) Two (2) Assistant Secretaries of the DepED;
6 (d) Chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC);
7 (e) President of the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC); and
8 (f) Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government
9 (DILG).

10 SEC. 6. *Functions and Duties of the Board.* -- The Board shall
11 perform the following functions and duties:

12 (a) To formulate policies and guidelines that shall govern the conduct
13 of the Palarong Pambansa and other related school sports activities leading to
14 the Palarong Pambansa;

15 (b) To review and update regularly the rules and regulations of sports
16 included in the Palarong Pambansa in accordance with international standards;

17 (c) To develop and recommend programs and policies that will
18 promote the Palarong Pambansa and increase public awareness of it, persuade
19 schools to participate and improve their performance in sports and physical
20 education, and encourage the LGUs to support and promote it as the country's
21 premier sports event;

22 (d) To provide incentives and rewards to participating schools and
23 LGUs, including medal winners;

24 (e) To formulate and issue policies and guidelines on the accreditation
25 of athletes, coaches and chaperones;

26 (f) To create the Palarong Pambansa Communications Task Force;

1 (g) To create the National Screening and Accreditation Committee
2 (NSAC);

3 (h) To develop marketing strategies to generate funds and promote the
4 Palarong Pambansa including, but not limited to, royalties, merchandising and
5 advertisements;

6 (i) To allocate funds for the conduct of school sports activities leading
7 to the Palarong Pambansa;

8 (j) To formulate and issue the criteria for the selection of host LGU
9 and approve bids to host the Palarong Pambansa;

10 (k) To set the date of the staging of the Palarong Pambansa,

11 (l) To identify the sports events to be included in the Palarong
12 Pambansa;

13 (m) To appoint a Secretary General of the Palarong Pambansa;

14 (n) To enter into contracts or obligations essential for the proper
15 accomplishment of its purposes and objectives;

16 (o) To conduct regular inventory of existing sports facilities, venues
17 and equipment throughout the country;

18 (p) To formulate guidelines for the conduct of sports events for
19 students with disability;

20 (q) To assess the conduct of the Palarong Pambansa and submit an
21 annual report to Congress; and

22 (r) To exercise such other acts as may be necessary for the effective
23 implementation of this Act.

24 SEC. 7. *Secretary General.* – A Secretary General shall be appointed
25 by the Board from among the members of the Board representing the DepED.
26 The Secretary General shall recommend to the Board the constitution of the

1 Secretariat and all the activities undertaken by the latter requiring the
2 utilization of funds. The Secretariat, which shall come from the existing
3 personnel of the DepED, the PSC and the DILG, shall manage the conduct of
4 the Palarong Pambansa and other activities leading to the Palarong Pambansa.

5 SEC. 8. *Regional Athletics Associations.* – The DepED Regional
6 Offices shall organize the Regional Athletics Associations (RAAs) which shall
7 supervise the conduct of the regional meets and organize their respective
8 regional delegations to the Palarong Pambansa.

9 ARTICLE III

10 HOSTING OF THE PALARONG PAMBANSA

11 SEC. 9. *Hosting of the Palarong Pambansa.* – The hosting of the
12 Palarong Pambansa shall be determined by bidding and guided by the principle
13 of rotation among the following geographical clusters: Luzon, Visayas and
14 Mindanao.

15 Two (2) adjoining LGUs may host the Palarong Pambansa: *Provided,*
16 That one of the host LGUs does not have available venues and facilities to
17 accommodate all the sports events.

18 The host LGU may constitute a local Palarong Pambansa Board to
19 coordinate the preparation and conduct of the Palaro.

20 SEC. 10. *Criteria for the Selection of the Palarong Pambansa Host*
21 *LGU.* – The Board shall formulate the criteria for the selection of the host
22 LGU and shall take into consideration the existing sports facilities, their
23 capacity to accommodate participants and guests, the security and peace and
24 order situation of the area, and the need of the LGU for an opportunity to
25 promote and showcase its socioeconomic-cultural uniqueness through the
26 Palarong Pambansa: *Provided,* That existing sports facilities shall be given the
27 highest weight among the criteria to be formulated.

ARTICLE IV

PROMOTION OF THE PALARONG PAMBANSA

SEC. 11. *Incentives to Host LGU and Participating Schools.* –

(a) Host LGU – The Board shall provide incentives to the winning LGUs to encourage them to participate in the bidding for the hosting of the Palarong Pambansa.

(b) Schools Whose Students are Participating in the Palarong Pambansa – The Board shall provide incentives to schools that will field students/athletes to represent their respective regions in the Palarong Pambansa. Incentives shall include, but not be limited to, financial support for additional scholarships and improvement of sports and physical education programs.

SEC. 12. *Promotion of the Palarong Pambansa.* – The Board shall create the Palarong Pambansa Communications Task Force which shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

(a) Formulate the marketing and communications plan to ensure the promotion of the Palarong Pambansa and encourage the LGUs to bid in the hosting of the event and the schools to improve their sports and physical education programs with the aim of sending representative athletes to the Palarong Pambansa;

(b) Ensure the coverage of the Palarong Pambansa by both the national and local media; and

(c) Enter into sponsorship, merchandising and royalty agreements with private entities as additional source of funds for the Palarong Pambansa.

The Palarong Pambansa Communications Task Force shall be composed of representatives from the following government agencies:

(1) DepED;

(2) Philippine Information Agency (PIA);

1 (3) PSC; and

2 (4) DepED Regional Offices.

3 ARTICLE V

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ACCREDITATION

5 SEC. 13. *The National Screening and Accreditation Committee*
6 *(NSAC)*. – The Board shall constitute the NSAC that will evaluate and verify
7 the authenticity of the documents submitted by the athletes, coaches and
8 chaperones applying for accreditation. The NSAC shall accredit qualified
9 athletes, coaches and chaperones and shall submit a masterlist to the Board at
10 least two (2) months before the Palarong Pambansa.

11 SEC. 14. *Composition of the NSAC*. – The NSAC shall be
12 composed of the following:

13 (a) Representative from the DepED Legal Division;

14 (b) Two (2) government physicians;

15 (c) Two (2) government dentists; and

16 (d) Authorized representative from each RAA.

17 SEC. 15. *Protests on Eligibility and Appeals on Disqualification*. –
18 The Board shall issue guidelines on the process of addressing protests and
19 appeals on its decisions concerning the eligibility or disqualification of
20 athletes, coaches and chaperones: *Provided*, That all protests and appeals must
21 be resolved with finality within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof.

22 ARTICLE VI

23 SPORTS EVENTS AND STANDARDS

24 SEC. 16. *Sports Events*. – The official sports events in the Palarong
25 Pambansa shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

26 (a) Elementary Division

27 (1) Athletics

28 (2) Badminton

- 1 (3) Baseball
- 2 (4) Basketball
- 3 (5) Chess
- 4 (6) Football
- 5 (7) Gymnastics
- 6 (8) Sepak Takraw
- 7 (9) Softball
- 8 (10) Swimming
- 9 (11) Table Tennis
- 10 (12) Taekwondo
- 11 (13) Tennis
- 12 (14) Volleyball
- 13 (15) Arnis
- 14 (b) Secondary Division
- 15 (1) Archery
- 16 (2) Arnis
- 17 (3) Athletics
- 18 (4) Badminton
- 19 (5) Baseball
- 20 (6) Basketball
- 21 (7) Boxing
- 22 (8) Chess
- 23 (9) Football
- 24 (10) Gymnastics
- 25 (11) Sepak Takraw
- 26 (12) Softball
- 27 (13) Swimming
- 28 (14) Table Tennis

1 (15) Taekwondo

2 (16) Tennis

3 (17) Volleyball

4 *Provided*, That appropriate sports events shall be organized for students
5 with disability.

6 SEC. 17. *Regulations and Standards*. – The Board shall conduct a
7 review of the current rules and regulations and an inventory of existing sports
8 facilities, venues and equipment being used in the Palarong Pambansa. All
9 sports events must be played according to international rules and regulations
10 and the sports venues, facilities and equipment to be used shall be in
11 accordance with international standards. The Board shall consult the National
12 Sports Associations (NSAs) in the review of the rules and regulations of each
13 sports event.

14 ARTICLE VII

15 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

16 SEC. 18. *Philippine Sports Commission (PSC)*. – To ensure the
17 success of the Palarong Pambansa, the PSC shall perform the following duties
18 and functions:

19 (a) The PSC shall make available its manpower and technical resources
20 and facilities for the Palarong Pambansa and other school sports and physical
21 education programs of the DepED; and

22 (b) The PSC, in coordination with the DepED, shall formulate and
23 implement a training program for outstanding athletes of the Palarong
24 Pambansa to ensure the continuity of their athletic development and education.

1 utilized for the initial implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such amount as
2 may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included under the
3 budget of the DepED in the annual General Appropriations Act.

4 SEC. 22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90)
5 days after the approval of this Act, the DepED, together with the concerned
6 agencies, shall prepare and promulgate the implementing rules and regulations
7 (IRR) to carry out the provisions of this Act. The IRR shall take effect fifteen
8 (15) days following its publication in a major daily newspaper of general
9 circulation.

10 SEC. 23. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders,
11 particularly Executive Order No. 81 as amended by Executive Order No. 433,
12 presidential issuances and other administrative rules and regulations or parts
13 thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or
14 modified accordingly.

15 SEC. 24. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is
16 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not
17 affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

18 SEC. 25. *Effectivity Clause.* – The implementation of this Act shall
19 take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a national newspaper of
20 general circulation.

Approved,

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