

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



'22 NOV 21 P1:11

SENATE

S. No. 1521

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
GRANTING INCENTIVES TO FILIPINO INDEPENDENT FILMS WHO WERE
GRANTED HONORS IN NOTABLE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVALS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 14 of the 1987 Constitution provides that "The State shall foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of a Filipino national culture based on the principle of unity in diversity in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression."

The Philippine film industry is one of the oldest in Asia, and history is filled with triumphs, milestones, and challenges. In the last decade alone, Filipino independent films have been flourishing. Several cinematic masterpieces from the Philippines were recognized in the international arena, including the prestigious Cannes International Film Festival, Venice International Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival and the British Independent Film Awards, as well as appearances and screenings in Toronto, Brussels, New York, Warsaw and London. At the national level, the Cinemalaya Independent, CinemaOne Originals, Sineng Pambansa and other national or regional independent film festivals that feature short and full-length films are important venues for promoting locally produced independent productions. The Filipino films are never left unnoticed.

The recognitions accorded to Filipino filmmakers abroad bring prestige to the country. Their auteur films are showcases of Filipinos' remarkable talent and ingenuity of cinematic excellence.

This bill aims to promote the production of Filipino independent films by providing support to filmmakers, both veteran and aspiring, for their next masterpieces.

In view of the notable works of independent Filipino filmmakers, approval of this measure is fervently sought.



RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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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 the "*Philippine Independent*
2 *Film Industry Incentives Act of 2022.*"

3 *Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 promote and support the development and growth of the local film industry, which
5 includes both mainstream and independent films, produced by Filipino filmmakers or
6 production entities that boldly articulate and freely interpret the Filipino experience
7 with fresh insight and artistic integrity. Towards this end, the State shall grant
8 incentives to independent filmmakers or production entities based on merit to
9 encourage the production of more high quality film projects for the local and global
10 markets.

11 *Sec. 3. Incentives for Filipino Independent Filmmakers.* -To achieve this law's
12 purpose, Philippine independent films that have been awarded the Best Film prize or
13 its equivalent including those that merited recognition for technical excellence in
14 respected international film competitions or cinema festivals shall be given the
15 following incentives:

- 1 a. Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) to the filmmaker or production entity that
2 produces an international award-winning full-length feature or documentary
3 film;
- 4 b. Three million pesos (P3,000,000.00) to the filmmaker or production entity that
5 produces an international award-winning short feature or documentary film;
- 6 c. Two million pesos (P2,000,000.00) shall be granted for the film director, main
7 artist, screenplay, or for technical support filmmaker personnel including
8 scriptwriter, cinematographer, editor, production designer, music scoring,
9 sound director, studio or video technician category who received the highest
10 international awards in their respective categories. Should there be more than
11 one winner, the amount/reward allotted for this category shall be equally
12 divided among the winners;
- 13 d. One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) to supporting artists or technicians who
14 have garnered the highest award in their respective categories.

15 For purposes of this Act, "notable international film festivals" refer to international
16 film festivals which have given recognition and awards to high quality films for the last
17 five (5) years and are well-known for their international profile, audience size, and the
18 quality and breadth of their festival and industry programs.

19 *Sec. 4. Eligibilities for Incentives.* — To be eligible to receive the incentives
20 under Section 3(a) of this Act, the international award-winning film must be made or
21 produced by a Filipino filmmaker or production entity, as the case may be. The total
22 production budget for each full-length feature or documentary film must not exceed
23 Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00). The film length must be between ninety (90) to
24 one hundred twenty (120) minutes.

25 To be eligible under Section 3(b) of this Act, the film must be made by a Filipino
26 filmmaker or production entity. The total production budget for the short feature or
27 documentary film must not exceed Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00). The film length
28 must be less than twenty (30) minutes.

29 *Sec. 5. Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to implement the provisions of
30 this Act shall be included in the budget of the Film Development Council of the
31 Philippines (FDCP) in the annual General Appropriation Act.

1 Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR)*. - The Film Development
2 Council of the Philippines, in coordination with the Film Academy of the Philippines
3 (FAP) and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), shall promulgate
4 the IRR within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

5 Sec. 7. *Separability Clause*. — If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or
6 unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain
7 in full force and effect.

8 Sec. 8. *Repealing Clause*. - All other laws, rules and regulations, orders,
9 circulars, or issuances, or parts thereof, which are contrary to, or inconsistent with,
10 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

11 Sec. 9. *Effectivity*. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
12 publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation
13 in the Philippines.

Approved,