



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8466

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BY REPRESENTATIVES PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, VARGAS, TAMBUNTING, DY (F.M.C.), VELASCO, TAN (K.M.), HERNANDEZ, GOMEZ, BUHAIN, YU (J.V.), ORTEGA, TOLENTINO, NISAY, ROMERO, BARONDA, PEÑA, PLAZA, TIENG, EMANO, ALMARIO, AMATONG, ATAYDE, DIMAPORO (S.A.), GARCIA (D.), HORIBATA, MIGUEL, TAN (J.), TANJUATCO, VILLAFUERTE (M.L.), COJUANGCO (J.), REVILLA (B.), AQUINO, TULFO (R.W.), ABALOS, GUTIERREZ, DIONISIO, GUINTU, CO (E.), MENDOZA, ALBANO, PUMAREN, QUIMBO, ABANTE, ALONTE, ALVAREZ (J.), ARENAS, BAUTISTA-LIM, BERNOS, BONGALON, CABREDO, CAJAYON-UY, CAMPOS, CARI, CUA, CUARESMA, DEL MAR, DY (F.), ESPINA, FUENTEBELLA, GONZAGA, HARESCO, LARA, LOYOLA, MOMO, NAVA, SALIMBANGON, SINGSON (R.V.), UMALI, VARGAS-ALFONSO, VIOLAGO, YAP (ERIC), ZAMORA (M.C.), ZUBIRI, ADIONG, ADVINCULA, BARBA, BASCUG, BOSITA, CHATTO, CRUZ (A.), CO-PILAR, EUDELA, FORTES, FRESNEDI, GARCIA (M.A.), GARDIOLA, GO (M.), GOLEZ, KHONGHUN, LAZATIN, MACEDA, MANQUIZ, MASTURA, MATIBAG, MERCADO, NOGRALES (M.), OUANO-DIZON, PADUANO, PANALIGAN, PANCHO, PLEYTO, REYES, REVILLA (R.J.), RODRIGUEZ (E.), SALI, TALLADO, TULFO (J.), VERGARA, VERZOSA, YAP (C.), ALBA, ECLEO, FERNANDEZ, GATO, KHO (R.), OAMINAL, ROMULO AND DALIPE

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

*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 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 communities  
5 within the framework of national unity and development. Furthermore, Article 31.1 of the  
6 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples enjoins all State  
7 signatories to take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of the  
8 indigenous peoples' rights which include the maintenance, control, and development of  
9 their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and expression, oral traditions, literatures,  
10 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 the  
13 intangible cultural heritage as living heritage and help people connect with their historical

1 roots. The State shall take the necessary steps to preserve the indigenous peoples' games  
2 which serve as the best avenue for their self-expression, and for promoting peace,  
3 harmony, goodwill, and camaraderie among them.

4 SEC. 3. *Indigenous Games.* – The term “indigenous games” refer to the traditional  
5 sports and games distinctly connected and rooted in the traditions, customs, and practices,  
6 and reflect the rich cultural heritage of the different indigenous cultural communities or  
7 indigenous peoples, handed down from generation to generation such as *bunong braso*,  
8 *ginnuyudan*, *hilahang lubid*, *kadang-kadang*, *karera sa sako*, *luksong-tinik*, *patintero*,  
9 *syato*, *unggoy-unggoyan*. These include games played by the indigenous communities,  
10 usually accompanied by indigenous materials and implements, in observance of  
11 indigenous peoples' rituals, celebration of cultural festivals, expression of socialization,  
12 entertainment, and competition.

13 SEC. 4. *Annual Regional and National Indigenous Sports Competitions.* – The  
14 Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) shall, in coordination with the Philippine Olympic  
15 Committee (POC), the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and the local  
16 government units (LGUs), conduct annual regional and national indigenous sports  
17 competitions.

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

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

30 The NCIP and the NCCA shall likewise conduct research on the various sports and  
31 games traditionally played by different indigenous groups, in consultation with the

1 concerned indigenous cultural communities or indigenous peoples, to ensure the  
2 preservation and continuity of the indigenous games.

3       **SEC. 6. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act  
4 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

5       **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The PSC and the NCIP as the lead  
6 agencies shall, in coordination with the POC, NCCA, DepEd, CHED, LGUs, and PIA,  
7 promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty  
8 (60) days after its effectivity.

9       **SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid or  
10 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

11       **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, issuances, decrees, rules,  
12 and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed  
13 amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.

14       **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
15 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,