



Eighteenth Congress  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9591



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Introduced by  
**REPRESENTATIVE LOREN LEGARDA**

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN (INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS) TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION, PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S COMMUNAL TRADITIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10066 OR THE NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT OF 2009, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**Explanatory Note**

A most striking quality of the Philippine archipelago is the great creative diversity and richness of its cultures. From ritual vessels to hunting tools, textiles to pottery, and epic poetry to rhythmic dances and music, we witness a plethora of patterns and designs, an endless variety of expressive forms.

But it is this very wealth that is being threatened by the global push towards material development being spearheaded and controlled by the North or highly industrialized countries. Nowadays, the drive for possession of material goods is so strong, overpowering the ancient tradition of self-realization through the cultivation of character, innate talent or development of personal skills, for instance by learning music, dance, poetry, or carving.


And the youth, captivated by the ease, convenience and instant gratification of the lifestyle of consumerism, no longer have the patience to learn and practice the difficult and painstaking arts of their forebears. The terrible loss of worthy traditions as a consequence of today's emphasis on the consumption of material goods does not augur well for the continued vitality of Filipino cultural expressions.

This bill seeks to establish an Institute of Living Traditions in order to:

- Ensure the viability of the outstanding traditions of arts and crafts in many cultural communities, with priority given to worthy practices in danger of extinction.
- Promote equality of participation in the creative process and productive work.
- Prioritize emphasis on the preservation of intangible heritage or the creative inner life over mere collection or repository of objects.
- Uphold the multi-valuation of human activities and products rather than judge

- everything according to economic valuation.
- Understand the specificity or uniqueness of cultural ideas and products to encourage Filipino artists to cultivate and realize their own distinct visions of life and art.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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

**SECTION 1.** Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the "National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009" is hereby amended with the addition of a new Article after Section 47, in order to read as follows:

### **ARTICLE XIII**

#### **LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN**

**SECTION 48. CREATION OF LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN (INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS). – THERE IS HEREBY CREATED AND ESTABLISHED A LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN (INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS) WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO SERVE AS AN IMPORTANT CENTER AND LABORATORY FOR THE PROTECTION, PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF PHILIPPINE COMMUNAL TRADITIONS.**

**SECTION 49. FUNCTION - AS THE SOLE INSTITUTE FOR TECHNICAL, BASIC AND HIGHER EDUCATION, BOTH FORMAL AND NON-FORMAL, IT SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS (NCCA) FOR POLICY AND PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION WITH SOLE EMPHASIS ON THE TRADITIONAL AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS.**

**SECTION 50. CONVERGENCE WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS. – IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS CORE COURSES AND AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION, THE NCCA SHALL WORK IN CLOSE COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION.**

**THE NCCA SHALL ENDEAVOR TO WORK WITH PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS IN THE FULFILLMENT OF ITS FUNCTION AS THE CENTER AND LABORATORY FOR PHILIPPINE COMMUNAL TRADITIONS.**

**SECTION 51. MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS OF LIVING TRADITIONS. – AS AN ATTACHED OFFICE OF THE NCCA, THE INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS SHALL BE IN CHARGE IN THE CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS OF LIVING TRADITIONS.**

**SECTION 52. APPROPRIATIONS. – THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P100,000,000.00) NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE APPROPRIATED IMMEDIATELY TO BE GENERATED FROM WHATEVER SOURCE THAT ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL TREASURY.**

**SECTION 2.** All succeeding sections after the insertion of the new provision are hereby numbered accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

**SECTION 4.** Repealing Clause. – All laws, ordinances, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5.** Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved