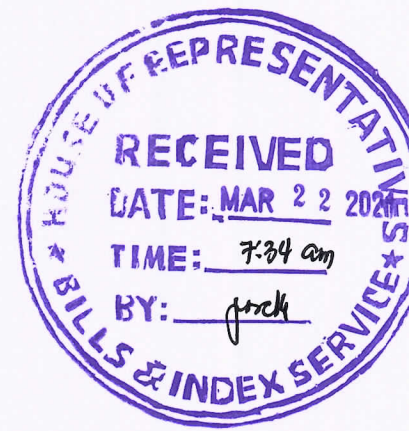


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1665



Introduced by Hon. Christopher V.P. de Venecia

**A RESOLUTION
URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE ON CREATIVE INDUSTRY AND PERFORMING ARTS AND
OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE PROSPECTS OF THE UNESCO CREATIVE CITIES NETWORK
CONTRIBUTING TO THE COUNTRY'S POST-PANDEMIC ROAD TO
ECONOMIC RECOVERY**

WHEREAS, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Creative Cities Network (UCCN) was created in 2004 to promote cooperation with and among cities that have identified creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable urban development. The 246 cities which currently make up this network work together towards creating sustainable, resilient, and inclusive cities using the framework of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;¹

WHEREAS, there are seven categories of UNESCO Creative Cities, namely, gastronomy, literature, film, music, crafts & folk art, media arts, and design;

WHEREAS, on October 31, 2017, Baguio City became the first city in the Philippines to be designated City of Crafts and Folk Art, joining the then 180 member cities from 72 countries;

WHEREAS, Baguio City's application to the UNESCO Creative Cities Network was inspired by its creative stakeholders' desire to sustain the growth of Baguio City through sustainable and inclusive development engines such as culture and creative industries;²

¹ <https://en.unesco.org/creative-cities/home>

² <http://creativebaguio.com/>

WHEREAS, on October 30, 2019, Cebu City was designated as a Creative City of Design after UNESCO recognized the city's status as a hub for furniture, arts and crafts, and fashion design. UNESCO also acknowledged that Cebu had become a global hub for multimedia arts and IT outsourcing, having been designated as a British Council Creative City of Design in 2008 and an ASEAN City of Culture in 2015;³

WHEREAS, it has been identified that membership in the UNESCO Creative City Network can provide numerous benefits to the cities, if maximized. These include a strengthened international profile, increased attractiveness to economic investors and stakeholders, a new momentum for local creative products, as well as inclusion in a productive network among cities where knowledge on the subject matter is shared.⁴ Membership also allows for greater preservation of cultural traditions, more support for sustainable development, and the promotion of cross-cultural exchanges in general;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 292 or the Administrative Code of 1987 mandates the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines (UNACOM) to advise the Philippine Government on matters relating to UNESCO, and shall function as a liaison agency on matters pertaining to the Commission;

WHEREAS, in light of the Covid-19 health and economic crisis, the Philippine Government must continuously find ways to spur the economic activity to provide jobs and ensure economic inclusivity;

WHEREAS, the UNESCO Creative Cities Network remains to be an untapped source of economic activity;

WHEREAS, at the 74th session of the UN General Assembly in 2019, the year 2021 was declared as the International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development, recognizing the need to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, to foster innovation, and to provide opportunities, benefits, and empowerment for all and respect for all human rights. It also identified the ongoing need to support developing countries in diversifying production and exports, including in new sustainable growth areas, including creative industries.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, that the Committee on Creative Industry and Performing Arts, conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the prospects of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network becoming a source of economic activity in the country's post-pandemic road to economic recovery and sustainability, with the end view of encouraging Local Government Units, in coordination with UNACOM and

³ <https://en.unesco.org/creative-cities/cebu-city>

⁴ https://en.unesco.org/creative-cities/sites/creative-cities/files/uccn_faq-en.pdf

other relevant national government agencies, to pursue forming part of the Creative Cities Network in the road to socioeconomic development and recovery.

ADOPTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher V.P. De Venecia". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

HON. CHRISTOPHER V.P. DE VENECIA