



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8495

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.), ACIDRE, MASTURA, REVILLA (R.J.), DELOS SANTOS, VELASCO, DIONISIO, TAMBUNTING, TEVES (J.), HATAMAN, FARIÑAS, DY (F.M.C.), 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, VARGAS, VILLAFUERTE (M.L.), TAN (K.M.), COJUANGCO (J.), REVILLA (B.), AQUINO, TULFO (R.W.), ABALOS, GUTIERREZ, GUINTU, CO (E.), BOLILIA, PALMA, PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, PUMAREN, SUAREZ, HERRERA, QUIMBO, ABANTE, ALONTE, ALVAREZ (M.), ALVAREZ (J.), ARENAS, BAUTISTA-LIM, BERNOS, BONGALON, CABREDO, CAMPOS, CARI, CELESTE, CO (A.N.), CUA, CUARESMA, DE VENECIA, DEL MAR, FUENTEBELLA, GO (E.C.), GONZAGA, HARESCO, LACSON, LARA, NAVA, SALIMBANGON, TIANGCO, UMALI, VARGAS-ALFONSO, VILLARAZA-SUAREZ, VIOLAGO, ZAMORA (M.C.), ZUBIRI, ADIONG, ADVINCULA, AMANTE, ANG, ASISTIO, AUMENTADO, BASCUG, BOSITA, CHATTO, CO-PILAR, CRUZ (A.), CRUZ (R.), DAGOOC, EUDELA, FORTES, FRESNEDI, GARCIA (M.A.), GARDIOLA, GO (M.), KHONGHUN, LAGON (D.), LAGON (S.), LAZATIN, MACEDA, MAGSINO, MANQUIZ, MATIBAG, MERCADO, NOGRALES (M.), OUANO-DIZON, PADUANO, PANALIGAN, PANCHO, PLEYTO, RODRIGUEZ (E.), SALI, TALLADO, TULFO (J.), UNABIA, VERGARA, VERZOSA, YAP (C.), AGARAO, BENITEZ, CORVERA, DALOG, DUTERTE, ECLEO, FLORES, KHO (R.), MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, MARIÑO, MERCADO-REVILLA, ORDANES, ROMULO, SALCEDA, SAULOG, SILVERIO, SORIANO, VELOSO-TUAZON, VILLAFUERTE (L.R.), YAP (EDVIC), BORDADO AND DALIPE

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING LOCAL SPORTS PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP YOUNG
ATHLETES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** – Article XIV, Section 19 (1) of the
2 Constitution provides that the State shall promote physical education and encourage
3 sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for
4 international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the
5 development of a healthy and alert citizenry.

6 Pursuant to the aforementioned policy, the State shall appropriate funds for the
7 upgrade of sports facilities and extend financial assistance in the form of sports
8 vouchers to mitigate the cost of participation in a sports club, recreation club, sports
9 association, or sports organization of their choice: *Provided*, That the sports club,
10 recreation club, sports association, or sports organization is duly accredited or
11 recognized by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC).

1 **SEC. 2. Program Funds.** – To further promote sports and its benefits among
2 the youth, the PSC shall allocate adequate resources to financially support the
3 affiliation of young athletes, including those with disabilities, who cannot afford to join
4 any local sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization by reason of
5 financial constraints. For this purpose, the PSC shall manage and administer three (3)
6 separate funds, as follows:

7 **(a) Get Started Fund.** – The fund shall be used to assist young athletes,
8 including those with disabilities, with a discount voucher of up to Three
9 thousand pesos (P3,000.00) annually to help pay for their membership,
10 registration, participation, training, or general fees, including the purchase
11 of sports equipment and uniforms. The vouchers can be redeemed at any
12 sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization that is duly
13 accredited or recognized by the PSC and have facilities and activities which
14 can provide the proper, well-equipped, safe, healthy, comfortable, and
15 accessible venue, and opportunities for training and competition: *Provided,*
16 That the voucher providers are registered with the program.

17 **(b) Get Going Fund.** – The fund shall be used to support local sports clubs,
18 recreation clubs, sports associations, and sports organizations with funding
19 of up to Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) annually for sustainability
20 of existing projects and programs that promote grassroots sports
21 development; and

22 **(c) Get Playing Fund.** – The fund shall provide up to Five hundred thousand
23 pesos (P500,000.00) annually in order to assist local sports clubs,
24 recreation clubs, sports associations, and sports organizations in improving
25 sports facilities and encourage more young athletes to become actively
26 involved in the sports activity of their choice.

27 **SEC. 3. Eligibility Criteria.** – To avail of the sports voucher, the young athlete
28 must be:

- 29 (a) Under the age of eighteen (18) and is actively engaged in any sports;
30 (b) A member of any local sports club, recreation club, sports association, or
31 organization duly accredited or recognized by the PSC; and
32 (c) A resident in the locality where the sports club, recreation club, sports
33 association or organization is located.

34
35 **SEC. 4. Conditions for the Use of the Voucher.** – The use of the sports voucher
36 shall be governed by the following terms and conditions:

- 1 (a) It shall not be redeemable for cash;
2 (b) It is non-transferrable to any person except to another PSC-accredited or
3 recognized local sports club, recreation club, sports association or
4 organization: *Provided*, That the transfer can be done only once a year:
5 *Provided, further*, That the transfer must be applied prior to the actual use
6 and enjoyment of the sports facilities;
7 (c) It cannot be reused once redeemed by any PSC-accredited or recognized
8 local sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization; and
9 (d) Only one (1) voucher shall be payable to an eligible athlete per calendar
10 year.

11
12 **SEC. 5. *Sports Vouchers Providers.*** – To be eligible under the program, the
13 sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization must be affiliated to a
14 National Sports Association, duly recognized by the Philippine Olympic Committee
15 and the PSC.

16 **SEC. 6. *Appropriations.*** – The initial amount necessary for the implementation
17 of this Act shall be charged against the current year’s appropriations of the PSC.
18 Thereafter, such amount shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

19 **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The PSC shall, in consultation
20 with various national sports associations, promulgate the rules and regulations to
21 implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days after its effectivity.

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

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

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

Approved,