

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**

Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10862



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Introduced by Hon. Christopher V.P. De Venecia

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE AKLAN PIÑA MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER IN**  
**THE MUNICIPALITY OF KALIBO, AKLAN, ITS SATELLITE CENTERS,**  
**DEFINING ITS PURPOSES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In the Philippines, weaving tradition is one of the distinctive expressions of arts, culture, and tradition of the different cultural communities. Textiles are important to the different communities in the country as they serve as identifiers of social rank and symbols during the ritual offering to the spirits to ask for rain, to heal the sick and blessings for good harvest.

Today, Piña is being hailed as the “Mother of all Philippine Textiles” or the “Queen of Philippine Handwoven Textiles.” It is produced mostly by the Aklanon in the province of Aklan in Western Visayas. It is considered the finest of Philippine textiles mainly because of its delicacy and its natural creamy hue. It is made of fibers from the inner layer of the leaves of the native pineapple plant of the red *bisaya* variety. Piña weaving was first done in the 1570s, making it a centuries-old tradition.

Last December 6, 2023, the Aklan Piña handloom weaving was inscribed in the UNESCO Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The craft and tradition of the handwoven piña or pineapple textile of the province of Aklan was inscribed because of its importance in demonstrating the diversity of cultures and creative expressions of the country and the world.

By institutionalizing the establishment of the “The Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center” at the Municipality of Kalibo, Province of Aklan, we are not only safeguarding the important value of Piña handloom weaving, but we are also

promoting and educating the public about the Piña textile and Philippine textiles in general. This will bring attention to both the cultural and economic contributions of textile weaving in the country.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Toff/V.P. De Venecia', written in a cursive style.

**HON. CHRISTOPHER "TOFF" V.P. DE VENECIA**

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

14 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*The Aklan Piña*  
15 *Museum and Cultural Center Act.*”

16 **Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
17 conserve, promote, and popularize the nation’s historical and cultural heritage and  
18 resources, as well as artistic creations. Towards this end, measures that ensure the  
19 achievement of this stated policy shall be pursued.

20 **Sec. 3. *Establishment of the Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center.*** – There  
21 is hereby established a museum and cultural center for Aklan Piña in the Municipality  
22 of Kalibo, Province of Aklan to safeguard and promote the Aklan Piña handloom  
23 weaving and its value as a cultural expression of the Aklanon culture, to ensure  
24 continued research and development of the Aklan Piña textile and other related  
25 products for sustainable livelihood, to ensure a sustainable source of raw material, to  
26 provide a venue to train and enhance knowledge and skills of the younger generation  
27 on Aklan Piña, and to undertake other activities to broaden appreciation on Aklan  
28 Piña handloom weaving and increase market access of its products. Satellite centers

29 may also be established to encourage the development of the Piña weaving and textile  
30 beyond the Province of Aklan.

31 **Sec. 4. *Coordination and Supervision.*** – In coordination with the Provincial  
32 Government of Aklan and the Municipal Government of Kalibo, the Association of  
33 Aklan Piña Weavers, UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines (UNACOM),  
34 the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the National Museum  
35 of the Philippines (NMP) shall supervise the cultural center and shall spearhead the  
36 establishment of the same; shall be in charge of the safeguarding, development, and  
37 promotion of the Aklan Piña handloom weaving; the development of creative  
38 industry on the Aklan Piña textile and other products, in partnership with the  
39 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Department of Science and  
40 Technology (DOST); and the Department of Agriculture (DA) to be in charge of the  
41 propagation of Red Spanish pineapple or “Pinya Bisaya,” raw material of Aklan Piña.  
42 Concerned public and private institutions with similar interests shall also be sought  
43 for technical assistance or donations in cash or in kind to enable the Aklan Piña  
44 Museum and Cultural Center to carry out and discharge its duties and functions.

45 **Sec. 5. *Functions.*** – To implement the purposes of the “*Aklan Piña Museum and*  
46 *Cultural Center,*” it shall perform the following functions:

- 47 1. Maintain a site in the Municipality of Kalibo which will host a  
48 museum, an innovation and training hall, an arts hall and theater,  
49 and other facilities as necessary for the intent of the center;
- 50 2. Heighten appreciation of the Aklanon on the value of Aklan Piña  
51 handloom weaving being inscribed in the Representative List of  
52 Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity;
- 53 3. Cultivate and enhance public interest in, and appreciation of the  
54 Aklan Piña handloom weaving;
- 55 4. Encourage organizations, associations, or societies to support  
56 weavers and aspiring weavers and/or farmers planting Pinya  
57 Bisaya;
- 58 5. Support production of artistic works in visual arts, music, dance,  
59 literature, design, media arts, and publication to promote

60 appreciation of Aklan Piña handloom weaving and the Western  
61 Visayas culture; and

62 6. Conduct research on product development and marketing of Aklan  
63 Piña handloom weaving; and

64 7. Perform such other functions necessary for the achievement of the  
65 intent and purposes of this Act.

66 **Sec. 6. *Provision of Location.*** – The Provincial Government of Aklan or the  
67 Municipal Government of Kalibo shall provide the land necessary for the  
68 establishment of the Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center and its ancillary offices  
69 and facilities.

70 **Sec. 7. *Staffing.*** – The Office of Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center  
71 (OAPMCC) is hereby created to oversee the center and ensure the implementation of  
72 this Act. The Office shall be lodged in the NCCA which shall be headed by a Director  
73 who will be appointed by the Commission.

74 **Sec. 8. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the preparatory phase of  
75 the establishment of the center under this Act shall be charged against the current  
76 year’s budget of the NCCA. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the  
77 continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General  
78 Appropriations Act.

79 **Sec. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the  
80 effectivity of this Act, the NCCA in coordination with all the concerned agencies of  
81 the government shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective  
82 implementation of this Act.

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

*Approved,*