



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

916

House Bill No. _____



Introduced by Rep. AURELIO D. GONZALES, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

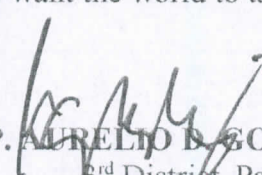
The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) was established by virtue of Republic Act No. 6847. One of its primary functions is to establish, develop and maintain fully-equipped sports facilities and centers in strategic places in the country and, as far as practicable, such modern sports complexes adequate for major international competitions. The PSC currently owns and manages two sporting facilities: The Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Malate, Manila, and the Philippine Institute of Sports-Multi Purpose Arena or PhilSports Arena, formerly known as Ultra, in Pasig City.

The Rizal Memorial Sports Complex is the country's national sports facility. It houses a coliseum, a stadium, a track and football field, a swimming pool, a 10-lane bowling center, a 5-court badminton hall, and an 8-court tennis. It is the site of both local and international competitions which range from the 1934 Far Eastern Championship Games to the postwar Asian Games and, much later, the Asian Para Games. It is also probably best remembered as the place where the Beatles performed its two concerts in the Philippines. In 2017, the sports complex was declared as a National Historical Landmark by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines and an Important Cultural Property by the National Museum of the Philippines ensuring the site's preservation due to the National Cultural Heritage Act.

The PhilSports Arena, on the other hand, served as the battleground for different sporting activities. Most notably, it served as the home of the Philippine Basketball Association from 1980 to 1999. It is also the birthplace of the Philippine Superliga in 2013, and served as venue of the Asian Volleyball Confederation Asian U23 Women's Championship, which is the first-ever international tournament hosted and organized by the Larong Volleyball sa Pilipinas in 2015. The facilities inside the PhilSports Complex includes a multi-purpose arena, a swimming/diving pool, an amphitheater, a gym, a meditation area, a track and field oval, and other amenities.

This bill seeks to provide additional funding to the Philippine Sports Commission to improve, rehabilitate and preserve the facilities they own and manage. Not only will this enable our skilled athletes to compete in the highest level by providing them with world-class facilities, but also the potential income that would be generated from civic and entertainment activities could be used as either a trust fund for the Commission or as further assistance to our athletes competing in different sporting events.

Honor and integrity of our athletes is at stake, as they represent our country in the international arena of sports. It is therefor only appropriate that we must do our best to improve the quality of assistance handed to them. We must strive to achieve this goal if we want the world to take us seriously in the field of sports.


REP. AURELIO D. GONZALES, JR.
5th District, Pampanga



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AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION, ASSURING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, TO REHABILITATE AND IMPROVE THE RIZAL MEMORIAL SPORTS COMPLEX AND THE PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF SPORTS-MULTI PURPOSE (PHILSPORTS) ARENA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SECTION 1. It is the policy of the State to create a dignified sporting grounds and facilities to enable our skilled athletes to compete in the highest level. Towards this end, the State shall hereby provide a funding of One Billion Pesos (P 1,000,000,000.00) for the rehabilitation of the Rizal Memorial Complex and the Philippine Institute of Sports-Multipurpose (PhilSports) Arena.

SECTION 2. From the current year of the enactment of this Act, the Department of Budget and Management shall provide an annual funding of Five Hundred Million (P 500,000,000.00) to facilitate the mandate of this Act.

Thereafter, the amounts necessary for the successive and continuous implementation of this Act shall be automatically appropriated in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SECTION 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Philippine Sports Commission shall formulate the necessary guidelines and protocol to foster the immediate enactment of this Act.

SECTION 4. Separability Clause. All provisions of existing laws, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause. If any part, section or provision of the foregoing amendments are held invalid or declared unconstitutional, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 6. Effectivity. These amendments shall take effect after fifteen (15) from their publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of national circulation.