

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 535

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Introduced by REP. RUWEL PETER S. GONZAGA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The present training centers used by national athletes are outdated and not in top conditions. The athletes train day in and day out but despite their efforts, winning in international competitions has always been an uphill battle. The absence of state-of-the-art and scientific facilities to boost their skills and potentials is seen as a major liability.

This bill seeks to mend the situation through the establishment of a sports complex that will serve as the training center for national athletes to be known as National Amateur Sports Training Center.

At present, the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) established in 1990 by virtue of Republic Act. No. 6487 take full control and administration of all existing sports facilities in the country: 1) Rizal Memorial Sports Complex (RMSC); 2) Philsports Pasig (formerly ULTRA); and 3) Quezon City Velodrome. Of these, the 86-year old RMSC has served as the training and living quarters for national athletes for the longest time.

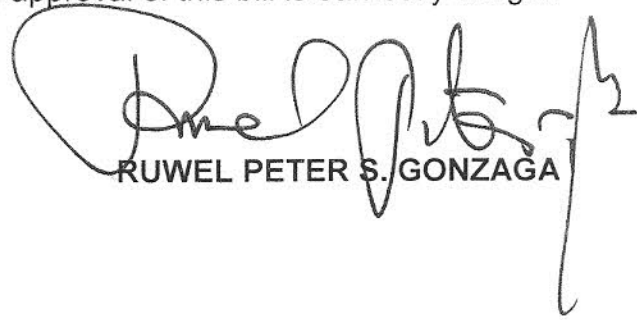
While RMSC stands as the biggest sports complex in the country and the main facility for the development and promotion of grassroots sports as well as multi-sectoral sporting activities, it is ill-equipped with new technologies for high level sports training considering that its facilities are age-old. Also, with all the pollution (noise and air), unfavorable conditions and distractions, its location at the heart of the City of Manila has ceased to become an ideal environment for the wellbeing of the athletes.

Sports champions are born out of three (3) contributory factors: 1) Training environment that is conducive to psychological and physical preparations; 2) Support system that is holistic and nurturing; and 3) Adequate international exposures where quality of performances are assessed and measures of skills are tested.

Our national athletes deserve the best possible training opportunities so they can excel in international competitions. Our expectations must be coupled with support and action. If we want a brighter future for Philippine sports, we must find ways to improve the competitive edge of our athletes. One major step towards the realization of this goal is through the establishment of a sports training center with the following features: has substantial space to accommodate all sports, located in a thinly populated area so the athletes can focus on the training and be free from distractions, has state-of-the-art training equipment and technologies, and capable of hosting adequate number of dormitories with modern amenities.

The glory of Philippine sports will no longer be a remote idea once this amateur sports training center is established.

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



RUWEL PETER S. GONZAGA

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HOUSE BILL NO. 535

Introduced by REP. RUWEL PETER S. GONZAGA

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A STATE-OF THE-ART AND HIGHLY SCIENTIFIC SPORTS
COMPLEX KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL AMATEUR SPORTS TRAINING CENTER",
AND FUNDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, CONSTRUCTION OF
FACILITIES INCLUDING ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE, AND MANAGEMENT
OF THE SAME, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "**National Amateur Sports Training Center Act of 2014.**"

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to promote and develop elite sports in the country, to achieve excellence in international sports competitions, to ensure success in its quest for Olympic medals and to promote international amity among nations. The establishment and construction of state-of-the-art and highly scientific sports complex shall further these objectives.

SEC. 3. Establishment of National Amateur Sports Training Center. To carry out the above policy, a state-of the-art and highly scientific sports complex hereinafter referred to as the National Amateur Sports Training Center is hereby established.

The necessary sports facilities and amenities which are at par with international standards shall be constructed within a period of eighteen (18) months and after a period of planning not exceeding six (6) months upon effectivity of this Act in a location that is suitable and conducive to high-level training of athletes and preferably located at the outskirts of the Metropolis, free from moral obstruction, noise and air pollution.

SEC. 4. Objectives and Purposes of the National Amateur Sports Training Center:

The objectives and purposes of the National Amateur Sports Training Center are as follows:

- a.) It shall serve as the official venue of training for the athletes in the National Team included in the list of sports contemplated herein;
- b.) It shall serve as the official home of the National Athletes who belong to sports contemplated herein;
- c.) It shall be used to accommodate venues for local and international competitions, if necessary.
- d.) It shall be the Center for sports science and research development;
- e.) It shall be used for any other purpose inherent and incidental for the purposes for which it was created.

SEC. 5. Sports Facilities and Amenities. The National Amateur Training Center shall include sports facilities and amenities for the following non-water based sports:

- a.) Archery
- b.) Athletics
- c.) Badminton
- d.) Baseball
- e.) Basketball
- f.) Beach Volleyball
- g.) Bowling
- h.) Contacts Sports (Taekwondo, Karate, Judo, Wrestling)
- i.) Cycling (Velodrome)
- j.) Dance Sport
- k.) Football
- l.) Gymnastics
- m.) Handball
- n.) Lawn Tennis
- o.) Sepak Takraw
- p.) Shooting
- q.) Softball
- r.) Squash
- s.) Swimming
- t.) Table Tennis
- u.) Volleyball
- v.) Wall Climbing
- w.) Weightlifting

Other amenities of the Center shall include:

- a.) Multipurpose Gymnasium
- b.) Administration Building
- c.) Athletes' Dormitory
- d.) Sports Science Building
- e.) Mess Hall
- f.) Recreation Hall (AV Room)
- g.) Library
- h.) Weight Training Building
- i.) School Building
- j.) Conference/ Seminar Hall

SEC. 6. Ownership, Administration, Management, Operation and Maintenance of the Center. The ownership of the property over which the sports facilities and amenities of the Center will be established is hereby vested to the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), an agency of the government in charge of promoting and developing amateur sports.

Upon completion of the construction of sports facilities and amenities of the Center, the PSC, is likewise vested with authority to administer, manage, operate and maintain the same including but not limited to administration of incidental income, security of the complex, assignment of personnel to manage and operate the complex. *Provided*, that the PSC shall employ professional and highly-skilled managers with long and vast experience in sports administration and management to ensure the maintenance and upkeep of the Center and its facilities and other amenities.

SEC. 7. Creation of the Board to ensure compliance with technicalities and standards. To expedite the implementation of establishing and constructing the Center and to ensure that it complies with all the safety standards and construction laws and its

- d.) Local Government Unit (LGU) – Member
- e.) Department of Budget and Management (DBM) - Member

The Board shall convene immediately upon effectivity of this Act to discuss and decide on the following matters and concerns:

1. Determination of the specific location of the Center ;
2. Acquisition of property and transfer of title to PSC;
3. Site development, planning and design of facilities;
4. Ensure that safety and security standards are met
5. Ensure that facilities and structures conform to the Building Code of the Philippines and other pertinent laws as well as international standards.
6. Ensure that appropriate funds are available to implement and complete the Center.

The Board shall cease to exist within six (6) months upon completion of the entire Center and its facilities.

SECTION 8. Assistance by the Government Entities. The PSC may call upon any government agency for assistance in the acquisition including transfer of Title over the property where the Center will be located, in planning and site development of the property, in the management of the facilities that shall ensure the safety and security of the National Athletes in the Center , as well as in the implementation of its Educational Program in the Center.

SEC. 9. Funding. For the establishment and construction of the National Amateur Sports Center, the amount of TWO BILLION PESOS (PHP2, 000,000,000.00) from the National Treasury is hereby appropriated.

To finance the maintenance, operation and management of the National Amateur Sports Training Center one (1) year upon completion of construction and operation of the same, the amount of Fifty Five Million Pesos (PHP55, 000,000.00) is hereby appropriated in addition to the general fund allocated for the Maintenance and Operating Expenses (MOOE) of the PSC under the General Appropriations Act.

Likewise, all incidental income that may be derived by the Commission in its management and operation shall form part of the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) which shall be used solely by the PSC for the maintenance, operation and management of the facilities in the National Amateur Sports Training Center.

SEC. 10. Tax Exemption. The Center shall be exempt from the payment of real estate tax, stamp tax, amusement tax, income tax and/or any other form of taxes on the properties.

SEC. 11. Separability Clause. If any provision or part of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining sections of this Act or the application of such provision or part hereof to other persons or circumstance shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved