

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3609**



Introduced by Rep. Christopher P. de Venecia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

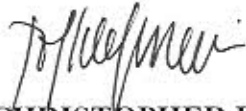
Arts, culture and sports play an important role in the social transformation of an individual. More than just a "hobby", artistic, cultural and athletic activities influence and shape a person's character and behaviour, and are known catalysts for positive social change and transformation.

The role of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB), as mandated by Republic Act No. 9165, as amended, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002, is to be the policy-making and strategy-formulating body in the planning and formulation of policies and programs on drug prevention and control. The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) is the overall policy-making body, coordinating, and grants-giving agency for the preservation, development and promotion of Philippine arts and culture, while the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) is the sole policy-making and coordinating body of all amateur sports development programs in institutions in the Philippines.

In light of the Duterte administration's proactive campaign against illegal drugs, there is an urgent need to strengthen and improve the government's drug prevention and rehabilitation program. Arts, culture and sports must be considered in the planning, coordination and implementation of rehabilitation programs for a more holistic and effective recovery program, which would then lead to reintegration of the rehabilitated individual into society.

In view thereof, this bill aims to amend the composition of the DDB to include NCCA and PSC for their invaluable input to the formulation of policies and strategies on drug prevention and control.

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


REP. CHRISTOPHER P. DE VENECIA
Fourth District, Pangasinan

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AN ACT

AMENDING THE COMPOSITION OF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS BOARD TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN OF THE GOVERNMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002"

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

SECTION 1. Section 78 of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002", is hereby amended to read as follows:

"**SEC. 78.** *Composition of the Board.* – The Board shall be composed of *nineteen (19)* members wherein three (3) of which are permanent members, the other *fourteen (14)* members shall be in an *ex-officio* capacity and the two (2) shall be regular members.

"The three (3) permanent members, who shall possess at least seven-year training and experience in the field of dangerous drugs and in any of the following fields, in law, medicine, criminology, psychology or social work, shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines. The President shall designate a Chairman, who shall have the rank of a secretary from among the three (3) permanent members who shall serve for six (6) years. Of the two (2) other members, who shall both have the rank of undersecretary, one (1) shall serve for four years and the other for two (2) years. Thereafter, the persons appointed to succeed such members shall hold office for a term of six (6) years and until their successors shall have been duly appointed and qualified.

"The other *fourteen (14)* members who shall be *ex officio* members of the Board are the following:

- "1) Secretary of the Department of Justice or his/her representative;
- "2) Secretary of the Department of Health or his/her representative;
- "3) Secretary of the Department of National Defense or his/her representative;

"4) Secretary of the Department of Finance or his/her representative;

"5) Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment or his/her representative;

"6) Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government or his/her representative;

"7) Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development or his/her representative;

"8) Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs or his/her representative;

"9) Secretary of the Department of Education or his/her representative;

"10) Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education or his/her representative;

"11) Chairman of the National Youth Commission;

"12) *Chairman of the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA);*

"13) *Chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC); and*

"14) Director General of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

"Cabinet secretaries who are members of the Board may designate their duly authorized and permanent representatives whose ranks shall in no case be lower than undersecretary.

"The two (2) regular members shall be as follows:

"1. The president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines; and

"2. The chairman or president of a non-government organization involved in dangerous drug campaign to be appointed by the President of the Philippines.

"The Director of the NBI and the Chief of the PNP shall be the permanent consultants of the Board, and shall attend all the meetings of the Board.

"All members of the Board as well as its permanent consultants shall receive a *per diem* for every meeting actually attended subject to the pertinent budgetary laws, rules and regulations on compensation, honoraria and allowances: *Provided*, That where the representative of an *ex officio* member or of the permanent consultant of the Board attends a meeting in behalf of the latter, such representative shall be entitled to receive the *per diem*."

SEC. 2. Section 79 of Republic Act No. 9165 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“**SEC. 79. Meetings of the Board.** – The Board shall meet once a week or as often as necessary at the discretion of the Chairman or at the call of any four (4) other members. The presence of *eleven (11)* members shall constitute a quorum.”

SEC. 3. Paragraph (h), Section 81 of Republic Act No. 9165 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“h) Design and develop, in consultation and coordination with the DOH, DSWD, *NCCA, PSC* and other agencies involved in drugs control, treatment and rehabilitation, both public and private, a national treatment and rehabilitation program for drug dependents including a standard aftercare and community service program, *as well as an arts-based recovery program and sports rehabilitation module* for recovering drug dependents;”

SEC. 4. Separability Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 5. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,