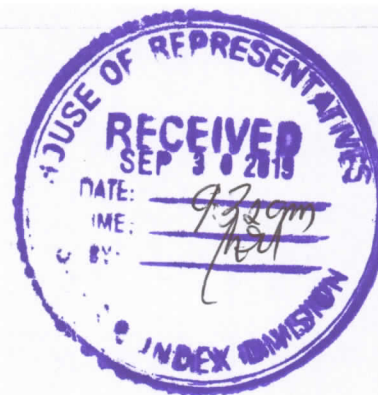


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. **4861**


EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall give priority to arts and culture.

Despite this, it seems that there has been little attention given to arts and culture by our government. Arts and culture is the heart of our country and we get our identity as a nation from it.

This bill seeks to ensure the preservation of the Filipino heritage and identity through arts and culture education. Education that we have to spread all over the country.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

SECTION 3. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon the approval and
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
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AN ACT

MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AT LEAST ONE (1) HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS IN EVERY REGION NATIONWIDE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Principles – The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.

The State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society, taking into consideration the different capabilities of each student.

The State shall foster the preservation, enrichment and dynamic evolution of the Filipino culture in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression, and shall encourage such discourse and learning in an educational setting.

SECTION 2. Creation of High School for the Arts in All Regions – The Department of Education (DepEd) is hereby mandated to establish at least one (1) High School for the Arts in every region nationwide.

SECTION 3. Compliance – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall, in coordination with the local government units concerned, take into consideration the school capacity, faculty readiness, location, and local student demand in identifying and assigning the appropriate areas where a High School for the Arts shall be established in accordance with this Act.

The DepEd shall develop the necessary criteria that each region High School for the Arts must comply with to ensure the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. Appropriation – During the initial year of the implementation of this Act, the requisite funding shall be sourced from the available funds of the DepEd. Every year thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of all High School for the Arts shall be provided in the yearly General Appropriations Act of the national government.

The LGUs concerned shall likewise provide assistance to the corresponding High School for the Arts.

SECTION 5. Suppletory Application – The relevant provisions of Republic Acts 9155 and 10533, otherwise known as the "Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001" and "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013" respectively, shall have suppletory application for purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations – Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, The Department of Education, in coordination with the National Commission for Culture and Arts and the Cultural Center of The Philippines shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause* – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon the approval and publication thereof.

Approved,