

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3134**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

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Introduced by **HONORABLE STRIKE B. REVILLA**

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Independent films are feature films produced completely outside a major film studio system. Further, indie films, as they are called, are produced and/or distributed by subsidiaries of major film studios.

As to content and style, indie films are distinguishable because indies are mostly realization of filmmakers' personal artistic vision – more earthly, more personal, braver and more carefree.

In the Philippines, indie film production is flourishing. A good number of films have already been recognized not only in local award giving bodies but international as well. Many big names in mainstream movie industry has also played significant roles in various indie films, such as Jaclyn Jose, Vilma Santos, Nora Aunor, etc.

This bill seeks to support the production of Indie Films by providing incentives to filmmakers. These incentives should become motivation for our talented film makers to produce more of their valuable films.

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

  
**REP. STRIKE B. REVILLA**  
2<sup>nd</sup> District, Cavite

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AN ACT  
SUPPORTING THE PRODUCTION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENT FILMS BY  
PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO FILMMAKERS WHO ARE GIVEN HONORS IN  
NOTABLE INTERNATIONAL FILM COMPETITIONS

*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 “Philippine Independent Film Incentives Act of 2016.”

**SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to promote and support the development and growth of the local film industry, in general, and the production of independent films, in particular. The State shall endeavour to discover, encourage, and honor the cinematic works of Filipino filmmakers that boldly articulate and freely interpret the Filipino experience with fresh insight and artistic integrity.

**SEC. 3. *Grants for Award-Winning Films.*** – To achieve this law’s purpose, Philippine independent films that have been awarded the Best Film prize or its equivalent including those that merited recognition for technical excellence in respected international film competitions or cinema festivals shall be given the following incentives:

1. A grant of Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00) to the film production or entity that produced the award winning full-length feature or documentary film;
2. A grant of Three Million Pesos (P3,000,000.00) to the film production or entity that produced the award winning short feature or documentary film;
3. Full tax exemption relevant to the screening of the film and its commercial exhibition, including those levied by local government units;
4. The award-winning film shall be considered and shall have the honor of being given an automatic rating of an "A" film being granted by the Cinema Evaluation Board.

**Sec. 4. Eligibility for Grants.** – To be eligible for a grant under Section 3.1, films must be made by Filipino filmmakers who have not yet directed more than three (3) full length commercial feature films. The total production budget for the full length feature or documentary film should not exceed Three Million Pesos (P3,000,000.00). The film length should be between 90 to 120 minutes.

To be eligible for a grant under Section 3.2, the film must be made by a Filipino filmmaker. The total production budget for the short feature or documentary film should not exceed One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00). The film length should not be more than 20 minutes (no minimum length).

All films should not have been produced by commercial producers to guarantee the filmmakers' creative control over the film.

**SEC. 5. Implementing Agency.** – The National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) is hereby authorized and directed to adopt a system to implement and carry out the provisions of this Act. The NCCA shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate rules and regulations to carry out and enforce the provisions of this Act.

**SEC. 6. Appropriations.** – A special fund amounting to Fifty Million Pesos (P50,000,000.00) which shall be sourced from the funds of the Philippine Amusement

and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is hereby created. Other amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, are hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

**SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.*** If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Sec. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, republic acts, presidential decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuance of government agencies inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**Sec. 9. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

***Approved,***