

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2361

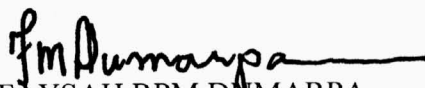
Introduced by Representative Faysah RPM Dumarpa

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Brassmaking. Mat Weaving. Handloom Weaving. Wood Carving. These are few of the handicrafts that represent the Muslim Minorities in the Philippines of which the Maranaos, one of the Muslim Minorities in the Philippines, are well-known of. The exquisite designs and motifs of these handicrafts do not only reflect the tradition and culture of the Maranaos but they are of export qualities. In fact, most visitors, local and foreign alike, do not leave the province of Lanao del Sur without buying any of these handicrafts as souvenirs. However, due to the increasing prices of raw materials, Maranao Handicraft Industry is grappling for survival. Due to the availability of factory-made, cheap products which are mass produced, not to mention that numbers of brassmakers, mat and handloom weavers, and wood carvers are slowly declining due to lack of capital, this industry is losing its economic potential. Moreover, Maranao young people have not learned the delicate skills in all the kinds of Maranao handicrafts, either due to lack of financial assistance and venue for training.

Being small household industries, they have been among the Department of Social Welfare and Development's assisted projects. However, the assistance by the Department did not suffice. As such, the need to establish a Maranao Handicraft Research and Development Center will surely boost these dying industries by providing necessary financial assistance. Furthermore, this center is envisioned to harness the skills of Maranao handicrafters by training them with new technologies that will improve their products,-- transforming them into major industries; and catering and satisfying the needs of both domestic and foreign market.

Considering the aforementioned, the passage of this Bill is earnestly requested.


FAYSAH RPM DUMARPA

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2361

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A MARANAO HANDICRAFT RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN THE CITY OF MARAWI AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide relevant training to its citizens towards vocational efficiency and other skills to raise their living standards and to alleviate poverty.

Section 2. There shall be established under the supervision of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), a *Maranao Handicraft Research and Development Center* to be situated in the City of Marawi.

Section 3. The Center shall have the following functions :

- a. To provide financial assistance in order that these small household handicraft industries will thrive ;
- b. To provide the necessary modern technology training and know-how covering all aspects of Maranao handicrafts such as brassmaking, mat weaving, handloom weaving and wood carving;

Section 4. The Department of Trade and Industry, shall, in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 5. The amount of ONE MILLION PESOS (1,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated out of the funds from the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated for the implementation of the provisions of this Act. Thereafter, the sum necessary for the maintenance of the Center shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,