

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

Thirteenth Congress
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 5605



Introduced by HON. FRANCIS 'BLUEBOY' L. NEPOMUCENO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill is intended for the establishment of the Pres. Diosdado P. Macapagal Memorial Library and Museum in the Municipality of Lubao, Province of Pampanga.

Diosdado P. Macapagal (1910-1997) was the fifth president of the Republic of the Philippines. He was instrumental in initiating and executing the Land Reform Code, which was designed to solve the centuries-old land tenancy problem, the principal cause of the Communist guerrilla movement in central Luzon. Macapagal was born in Lubao, Pampanga, the son of poor tenant farmers. In 1929 he entered the University of the Philippines, where he received an associate in arts degree in 1932. Meanwhile he worked part time with the Bureau of Lands. He was constantly forced to interrupt his schooling for lack of funds. His brother-in-law Rogelio de la Rosa, with whom he acted in and produced Tagalog operettas, helped him continue his education. He entered the University of Santo Tomas in Manila, receiving his bachelor of laws degree in 1936, his master of laws degree in 1941, and doctor of laws degree in 1947.

Macapagal worked his way through law school and joined the largest U.S. law firm in Manila while the Philippines was still a U.S. colony. After independence he joined the Department of Foreign Affairs, rising to the position of second secretary of the Philippine embassy in Washington, D.C. While in Washington, he conducted graduate work in economics, earning a Ph.D. in 1957. He was twice elected to the Philippine Congress, serving from 1949–1956, and was vice president from 1957–1961. Out of office, Macapagal ran as a delegate and was elected president of the 1971 Constitutional Convention. Before the body was able to draft a new constitution, however, President Marcos declared martial law, rendering the convention powerless. He died in 1997, but his political legacy continues.

The Pres. Diosdado P. Macapagal Memorial Library and Museum (PDPMMLM) is dedicated to discover, preserve, interpret and share the personal, historical, and public service experiences of the former president for present and future generations.

PDPMMLM's archival collection would be a unique resource on the history of Macapagal. Collections in the archives would contain diaries, newspapers, audio and video footages.

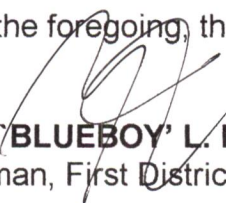
This reference facility would also offer access to computers with word processing, Internet access, local and national newspapers and scholarly journals. It could hosts traveling and original exhibitions that highlight the art, history and culture of kapampangans .

Art institutions did not spring from nowhere and to look back is to begin to understand what our current strategy is, and to build on what is good. After all, art institutions, whether contemplating the past in museums, or creating the history of today in art schools, in contemporary galleries, and so forth are all involved primarily in the art of preservation.

To understand the importance of the role of libraries in art museums better, it is necessary to bear in mind the explicit and implicit functions of museums. At its deepest level a museum is a collective memory bank of human achievement through a collection of objects. The museum's function can, therefore, be seen at its basic level as ensuring that the objects survive.

One of the main missions of the PDPMMLM is to promote, through educational and public programs, a greater appreciation and understanding of Philippine politics, history, and culture, the process of governing, and the importance of public service.

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



FRANCIS 'BLUEBOY' L. NEPOMUCENO
Congressman, First District, Pampanga

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Introduced by HON. FRANCIS 'BLUEBOY' L. NEPOMUCENO

AN ACT ESTABLISHING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LUBAO, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA, THE PRES. DIOSDADO P. MACAPAGAL MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PHILIPPINES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. There shall be established in the Municipality of Lubao, Province of Pampanga, the Pres. Diosdado P. Macapagal Memorial Library and Museum under the direct supervision of the Director of National Library.

SECTION 2. The Director of National Library shall appoint a curator and librarian and such other personnel as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act. The initial appropriations necessary for the establishment of the library and museum shall be charged to the appropriation of the National Library. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the improvement, operation and maintenance of the library and museum shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,