

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 939

Introduced by Representative Mark Sambar

AN ACT
GRANTING CASH AND NON-MONETARY BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO NATIONAL ATHLETES,
INCLUDING DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES AND THEIR COACHES AND TRAINERS, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER NINETY HUNDRED AND
SIXTY FOUR, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS
BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 2001"
AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the most overlooked means to help ensure our country's development is through the promotion of sports. With most of government budgets allotted to education, health, and infrastructure, sports has usually taken a backseat in favor of "more important" matters. With the recent success of our very own sports heroes, sports has proven itself to become a vital tool in motivating the Filipinos not only to strive harder for a better life and become healthy and alert citizens, but more so in providing that much needed boost for our country's pride and honor. When our Filipino sports heroes excel and win in the international arena, they provide immediate fulfillment and delight to our people who feel proud and happy to be a Filipino, whether they are here or abroad.

No less than our 1987 Constitution highlights the importance of promoting a healthy and alert citizenry. Sports, as a way of life, will create more awareness on the need for a healthy and active lifestyle. Starting physical fitness and sports education at the most formative and early stages of our children and youth lessens their chances of becoming susceptible to illegal drugs, alcohol and other life-threatening vices and dishonest choices.

Government should have institutionalized by now a genuine program that can assure their legacy and justly reward them for their struggles in their attempts to give honor and pride to our country and people. Unfortunately, we still need to amend the law passed in 2001 providing benefits and incentives to athletes and coaches as these are still not enough! We constantly tell them, "hindi puwede ang puwede na" and that they must meet if not surpass our expectations of them but even the basic benefits and incentives we provide them fall short of their expectations.

One of the goals of the PBA Partylist is to ensure the legacy of the Filipino athlete; to make being an athlete rewarding; to make being an athlete once again an honor. We must collectively aim to create a brighter future for the Filipino athletes and their families, as well as their coaches. How? By first making sure that our athletes and coaches can concentrate and focus on this herculean task.

We must not allow them to feel insecure and worry about their present well-being as well as think about their uncertain future. The optimism is immense in that if the Filipino athlete is not distracted by basic matters of feeding his family, putting their children through school and dealing with matters that only make their focus wane, the Filipino athlete will achieve what many think is an improbable goal.

Our national athletes and coaches, including those differently-abled athletes, therefore, must be likewise given the all-out support, protection and just compensation in recognition of all the hard work they put in, not only by the Government, but by all stakeholders as well. They have given their utmost best for the country and in return, we can only equally accord them our utmost best as well!

We need to, therefore, include other basic assistance for our national athletes such as inclusion in Philhealth's insurance, retirement benefits, at least double the monetary cash incentives, include differently-abled athletes, their coaches and trainers, as well as incentives for the private sector who will provide discounts and prizes for them, and provide sanctions, among others. They deserve the additional benefits and incentives enumerated in this measure, considering the valuable and critical role they play in our society. Through their example, Government can more effectively promote the moral values, discipline and numerous benefits inherent in the practice of sports for all.

Another important reason why we need to pass this urgent legislation for our athletes and coaches is to help them increase their chances to win more medals in international competitions, particularly our country's first-ever Olympic gold medal. It is only through the proper recognition of their talent, time and effort that the Filipino athlete can further aspire to always be on top of their game at all times, thus giving the Philippines better chances to achieve higher accolades in the international arena.

The PBA Partylist shares in the excitement of the gold hunt for this elusive and distinct honor, but we will first need the support of all legislators in making this dream become a reality through the passage of this bill granting cash and non-monetary benefits and incentives to national athletes, including differently-abled athletes and their coaches and trainers, amending for this purpose certain sections of Republic Act No. 9064, otherwise known as the "National Athletes, Coaches and Trainers Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001"

The PBA Partylist will always be there for the Filipino athlete, in triumph and in defeat. We can only succeed, however, with the full support and cooperation of all stakeholders involved. As an initial and crucial step, we therefore urge all members of Congress to give priority to these noble intentions by immediately passing this vital measure, not only for the sake of our deserving national athletes and coaches, but more so for our country's future generations who will reap the long-term benefits even beyond our expectations.

Mabuhay ang ating mga Atletang Pilipino!


MARK SAMBAR
Representative, PBA Party-List

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **939**

Introduced by Representatives Mark Sambar and Manny Pacquiao

AN ACT GRANTING CASH AND NON-MONETARY BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO NATIONAL ATHLETES, INCLUDING DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES AND THEIR COACHES AND TRAINERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER NINETY HUNDRED AND SIXTY FOUR, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 2001" AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9064, otherwise known as "National
2 Athletes, Coaches and Trainers Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001" is
3 hereby amended to read as follows:

4 "Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall
5 be defined as follows:

6 (a) *National Athletes* - shall refer to athletes who are Filipino citizens, members
7 of the national training pool, recognized and accredited by the Philippine
8 Olympic Committee (POC) and the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC),
9 **INCLUDING DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES WHO ARE RECOGNIZED**
10 **AND ACCREDITED BY THE NATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE**
11 **PHILIPPINES (NPC PHIL) AND THE PSC** and who have represented the
12 country in international competitions;

13 (b) *National Coaches and Trainers* - shall refer to coaches and trainers **OF**
14 **NATIONAL ATHLETES** who are Filipino citizens, members of the national
15 coaches and trainers pool, recognized and accredited by the PSC and who
16 have represented the country as official coaches and trainers to national
17 athletes in international competitions;

18 (c) *International Competitions* - shall refer to international sports competitions
19 which are sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) **OR BY**

1 THE INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE (IPC), INCLUDING OTHER INTERNATIONAL
2 SPORTS COMPETITIONS TO BE DETERMINED BY THE PSC, POC AND NPC PHIL. [or held every four
3 (4) years including qualifying championships in team sports wherein only one (1) or two (2) countries may
4 qualify for the Olympics or world Championships]. "

5 X X X

6
7 SEC 2. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby further amended to read as follows:

8 "Sec 4. *Benefits and Privileges for National Athletes, Coaches and Trainers.* - Any national athlete, coach and
9 trainer who is currently registered as such before the PSC shall be entitled to the following:

10 (a) the grant of twenty percent (20%) discount from all establishments relative to
11 the utilization of transportation services, hotels, and other lodging
12 establishments, restaurants and recreation centers and purchase of medicine
13 and sports equipment anywhere in the country **FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OR**
14 **ENJOYMENT OF THE NATIONAL ATHLETE, COACH AND TRAINER;**

15
16 (b) minimum of twenty percent (20%) discount on admission fees charged by
17 theaters, cinema houses and concert halls, circuses, carnivals, and other
18 similar places of culture, leisure and amusement **FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE**
19 **AND ENJOYMENT OF THE NATIONAL ATHELETE, COACH AND TRAINER;**

20 (c) free medical and dental consultations in [private or public] **GOVERNMENT**
21 hospitals and similar establishments anywhere in the country [and medical
22 insurance program to be provided by the Philippine Health Insurance
23 Corporation (PHIC)];

24
25
26 (C-1) COVERAGE IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM (NHIP) OF THE PHILIPPINE
27 HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHILHEALTH) THROUGH THE SPONSORED PROGRAM BY
28 THE PSC: PROVIDED, THAT UPON REACHING THE AGE OF FIFTY-FIVE (55), THE ATHLETE, COACH
29 AND TRAINER SHALL BE HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE PROGRAM, SUBJECT TO EXISTING
30 RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE PHILHEALTH;

31 (d) X X X

32 (e) X X X

33 (f) X X X

34 [Such privately owned establishments shall enjoy tax credits equivalent to the discounts extended to the
35 athletes.] **TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES TO PRIVATE ESTABLISHMENTS FOR GIVING DISCOUNTS TO**
36 **NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS, ALL PARTICIPATING ESTABLISHMENTS MAY**
37 **CLAIM THE COST AS TAX DEDUCTION: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH TAX DEDUCTION SCHEME SHALL**
38 **BE DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE."**

1 SEC 3. Section 5 of the same Act is hereby further amended to read as follows:

2 " Sec. 5. *Scholarships* - A national athlete who wins **GOLD** in an international competition, or **HIS OR HER**
3 **QUALIFIED SPOUSE OR ANY ONE OF HIS OR HER CHILD** [any one qualified member of his / her
4 immediate family within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity] shall be entitled to scholarship benefits in the
5 form of **FULL** tuition fees in state colleges and universities in order to complete a college or university degree.
6 The winning national athlete shall likewise be given priority in the availment of state college and university
7 scholarship grants."

8	X	X	X
9	X	X	X

10

11 SEC 4. Section 6 of the same Act is hereby further amended to read as follows:

12 "Section 6. *Retirement Benefits*. - A national athlete [coach and trainer] who wins **GOLD** in an international
13 competition [or has coached or trained such winning athlete shall receive a lump sum amount equivalent to
14 twenty-five percent (25%) of this/her total cash incentives computed from the start of his/her active sports
15 career as member of the national training pool or national coaches and trainers pool up to the last day of
16 retirement from active competition or training as certified by the PSC. Such lump sum amount shall be
17 extended sixty (60) days after the filing of the retirement papers.] , **UPON REACHING THE AGE OF FIFTY-**
18 **FIVE (55), SHALL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING RETIREMENT BENEFITS:**

19

- | | |
|----|---|
| 20 | A. FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS – A LIFETIME MONTHLY PENSION OF AT LEAST |
| 21 | TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000.00) FOR INDIVIDUAL WINNER; |
| 22 | B. FOR TEAM EVENTS – A LIFETIME MONTHLY PENSION OF AT LEAST FIFTEEN |
| 23 | THOUSAND PESOS (P15,000.00) FOR EACH TEAM MEMBER. |

24

25 PROVIDED, THAT, FOR ATHLETES WHO WIN IN BOTH INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM EVENTS, THE
26 RETIREMENT BENEFIT FOR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS SHALL APPLY.

27

28 ATHLETES WHO ARE ACTIVELY EMPLOYED AT THE TIME THEY REACH THE AGE OF FIFTY-FIVE
29 (55) AND HAVE AVAILED OF THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS UNDER THIS ACT MAY CONTINUE WITH
30 SUCH EMPLOYMENT: PROVIDED, THAT THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS UNDER THIS ACT SHALL BE
31 SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM THE MANDATORY RETIREMENT BENEFITS UNDER EXISTING
32 LAWS. "

33

34 SEC 5. Section 8 of the same Act is hereby further amended to read as follows:

35 " Sec. 8. *Cash Incentives for National Athletes*. - National athletes who win gold, silver and bronze medals in
36 international competitions shall be entitled to cash awards in the following amounts:

1 A. INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

2 (a) For gold medalists:

3 (1) X X X

4 (2) X X X

5 (3) X X X

6 (4) [One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00)] **TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00)**

7 for Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games)

8 (b) For silver medalists:

9 (1) X X X

10 (2) X X X

11 (3) X X X

12 (4) [Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00)] **ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00)** for the

13 SEA Games

14 (c) For bronze medalists:

15 (1) X X X

16 (2) X X X

17 (3) [One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00)] **TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P250,000)**

18 for Asian Games; and

19 (4) [Ten thousand pesos (P10,000)] **TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P25,000)** for the SEA Games.

20

21 B. TEAM EVENTS

22 X X X

23 For competitions with five (5) or more participants per team, [the team shall receive twice the cash awards for

24 individual winners , to be divided equally among the team members actually present during the competition]

25 **EACH TEAM MEMBER SHALL RECEIVE CASH AWARD EQUAL TO THE SHARE OF EACH TEAM**

26 **MEMBER FOR COMPETITIONS WITH FOUR (4) PARTICIPANTS."**

27

28 *Provided, That, for demonstration and exhibition sports events in the Olympic Games, winning national*

29 *athletes shall receive fifty percent (50%) of the cash awards for Olympic medalists as herein provided:*

30 *[Provided; further, That for SEA Games monetary incentives shall be given starting 2001 to the winning*

31 *athletes or teams who have equaled or surpassed the existing game records or the previous placings in non-*

32 *measurable events.]*

1 SEC. 6. Section 9 of the same Act is hereby further amended to read as follows:

2 " Sec. 9. *Benefits, Privileges and Incentives for Past Achievers.* - Any national athlete who, prior to the
3 enactment of this Act, had won gold, silver or bronze medals in international competitions except SEA Games
4 **OR ITS EQUIVALENT INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION**, shall be entitled to the benefits and privileges
5 provided under Section 4 and fifty percent (50%) of the cash incentives provided under Section 8 of this Act.
6 Such incentives shall be the difference between the cash award received under Administrative Order No. 352
7 **OR FROM OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES** and the cash award provided under this Act. "

8

9 SEC 7. Section 10 of the same Act is hereby further amended to read as follows:

10 "Sec. 10. *Incentives for Coaches and Trainers.* - Coaches and trainers shall also be entitled to cash awards if
11 they have personally trained and rendered service to the athletes or teams **WHO WIN IN INTERNATIONAL**
12 **COMPETITIONS** at least [one (1) year] **SIX (6) MONTHS** prior to the international competition. Certification
13 to this effect by the individual athlete or team [captain] **MANAGER FOR TEAM EVENTS** shall be in writing,
14 **DULY ATTESTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE NATIONAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS (NSAs).**

15 X . X X

16 There is hereby created a body to be known as the Philippine Coaches Accreditation Council that shall
17 accredit and recognize coaches and trainers. It shall be composed, among others, of representatives from the
18 PSC, POC, **NPC PHIL** and the academic community, preferably a professor in physical education or sports
19 science."

20

21 SEC. 8. New sections between Sections 10 and 11 of the same Act are hereby inserted to be denominated as
22 follows:

23

24 **"SEC 10-A. AVAILMENT OF BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES – THE ABOVE-MENTIONED BENEFITS AND**
25 **PRIVILEGES SHALL BE AVAILED BY ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS UPON PRESENTATION**
26 **OF AN IDENTIFICATION CARD, RENEWABLE EVERY YEAR, TO BE ISSUED BY THE PSC.**

27

28 **PROVIDED, THAT, ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES SHALL NOT AVAIL OF SAID BENEFITS AND**
29 **PRIVILEGES IN COMBINATION WITH SIMILAR BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES UNDER RA 9442**
30 **OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS.**

31

32 **SEC 10-B. *Penalties.* - (A) ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES SECTION 4 (a) and (b) OF THE SAME ACT**
33 **SHALL SUFFER THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES:**

1 (1) FOR THE FIRST VIOLATION, A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000) BUT
2 NOT EXCEEDING ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000) OR IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS
3 THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO (2) YEARS, OR BOTH AT THE DISCRETION OF
4 THE COURT; AND

5
6 (2) FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION, A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND
7 PESOS (P100,000) BUT NOT EXCEEDING TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000) OR
8 IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT LESS THAN TWO (2) YEARS BUT NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) YEARS, OR
9 BOTH.

10
11 (B) ANY NATIONAL ATHLETE, COACH OR TRAINER WHO ABUSES THE PRIVILEGES GRANTED
12 HEREIN SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS OR A FINE
13 OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000), BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND
14 PESOS (P50,000), OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.

15
16 (C) IF THE VIOLATOR IS A CORPORATION, PARTNERSHIP OR ANY JURIDICAL PERSON, THE
17 PENALTY SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON THE PRESIDENT, OWNER OR ANY RESPONSIBLE OFFICER.

18
19 (D) IF THE VIOLATOR IS AN ALIEN OR A FOREIGNER, HE SHALL BE DEPORTED IMMEDIATELY
20 AFTER SERVICE OF SENTENCE WITHOUT FURTHER DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS.

21
22 UPON FILING OF AN APPROPRIATE COMPLAINT, AND AFTER DUE NOTICE AND HEARING, THE
23 PROPER AUTHORITIES MAY ALSO CAUSE THE CANCELLATION OR REVOCATION OF THE
24 BUSINESS PERMIT, PERMIT TO OPERATE, FRANCHISE AND OTHER SIMILAR PRIVILEGES GRANTED
25 TO ANY BUSINESS ENTITY THAT FAILS TO ABIDE BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAW."

26
27 SEC. 9. *Funding.* The amount necessary for the implementation of the cash incentives and retirement
28 benefits under this Act shall be taken from the net cash income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming
29 Corporation (PAGCOR), to be remitted directly as a special account to the National Sports Development Fund
30 (NSDF) of the PSC. This is in addition to the regular income share of the PSC pursuant to Republic Act No.
31 6847.

1 Such amount as may be necessary to carry out the other provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget
2 of the PSC in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

3
4 SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The PSC, in consultation with the POC, NPC PHIL,
5 DEPED, CHED, TESDA, SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, and other concerned agencies shall
6 promulgate and issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations within sixty (60) days upon approval of this
7 Act.

8
9 SEC 11. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or
10 circumstances, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining sections of this Act or the application of such
11 provision or part hereof to other persons or circumstance shall remain in full force and effect.

12
13 SEC 12. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof
14 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

15
16 SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2)
17 newspapers of general circulation.

18
19 Approved.