

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

HOUSE BILL NO. 4260

Introduced by Rep. Antonio F. Lagdameo, Jr. and
Rep. Roman T. Romulo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Dance is truly one of our nation's greatest gifts and passions. We see this in its many forms: as community activities- such as in street dance, parades in fiestas, on local television, and in the rich folk dance repertoire from across our islands.

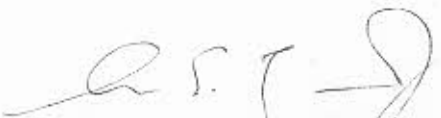
The Philippines is also home to South East Asia's longest running dance repertory. Ballet Philippines was founded by Alice Reyes and Eddie Elejar; and for the past 41 years, it has reaped international and local acclaim. As the Philippines' oldest professional company, Ballet Philippines is the acknowledged premiere dance company of the country, sweeping local awards and performing in many local and international artistic and diplomatic events.

Its dancers and choreographers have won many awards and continue to bring the country recognition and honor. It has also produced the highest number of dancers performing in international companies. Today former members continue to perform in Hong Kong, Vienna, Germany, Macau and the US for diverse companies such as the famed Cloud Gate Dance Theater of Taiwan, the Het National Ballet of Netherlands and even in productions of Disney and Cirque de Soliel.

After 41 years as a resident company of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, where it has the distinction of being the first company named as such in 1976, we believe the company and its programs have proven its integrity and continued relevance.

By naming Ballet Philippines as a National Ballet Company we will be affirming its legacy to Philippine dance as a learning institution, producer and treasury of original Filipino creative work in dance and music.

This is the opportune time to bring this to national attention. In view of the foregoing, this bill is urgently sought.


ANTONIO F. LAGDAMEO, JR.


ROMAN T. ROMULO

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AN ACT
DESIGNATING BALLET PHILIPPINES AS THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL
BALLET COMPANY, DEFINING ITS ROLE AND FUNCTIONS AS SUCH,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

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

Section 1. Title. This Act shall be known as The Ballet Philippines Act
of 2011.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – Pursuant to Article II,
Sections 17 and 23, and Article XIV, Sections 14, 15 and 18(2) of the
Philippine Constitution, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to
appropriately recognize, designate and support nongovernment organizations
that have demonstrated pioneering, long, consistent and unassailable
competence, effectiveness and success in the development, training,
documentation and performance of Philippine Ballet and contemporary dance,
with dance works and artists that have won and continue to win national as
well as international validity, recognition, acceptance and renown.

Section 3. Designation as the Philippine National Ballet Company.
- Ballet Philippines is hereby designated as the Philippine National Ballet
Company, in recognition of its having fulfilled the norms of the above-cited
national policy, and having satisfied the following criteria:

- (a) It is national in scope. It tackles and presents the arts, culture,
traditions, issues and concerns of the nation and it draws the
best artists from all over the country.
- (b) It is the best in its field in the country. It has maintained the
highest standard of excellence, manifested in the quality of its
production, artists, artistic staff, activities and products.
- (c) It is world-class, having represented the country in numerous
touring engagements, festivals, competitions and international
events and having been acclaimed by foreign audiences and
critics alike; and

- (d) It has a track record artistically; has a regular and continuing set of activities in pursuit of its mission; and was able to maintain a viable and sustainable organization to support its programs.

Section 4. Role and Functions. - As the Philippine National Ballet Company, Ballet Philippines discharge the following roles and functions:

- (a) Undertake a continuing program of training, performance research and documentation of International and Philippine dance culture and history with emphasis on classical, modern and contemporary ballet technique, pedagogy and repertoire and their accompanying music and sets. The program will constitute the development of dancers, teachers, collaborating artists and choreographers for the enrichment of the dancers, music, dances and costumes suitable for staging as part of the Ballet Philippines repertoire for national as well as international performances.
- (b) Document the training, performances and research and its results as books, publications, audiotapes, videocassettes, compact discs, and other forms of media or mass distribution intended for schools and the public, thereby sharing the output of the program with all Filipinos as well as international audiences.
- (c) Develop a pool of ballet dance masters responsible for recruiting, training and maintaining a permanent corps of dancers whose sole function is to implement a national dance season and outreach program to transfer the culture and the art through workshops, seminars and dance clinics, open to talented Filipinos all over the country;
- (d) Develop and maintain a world-class professional dance company to perform during state visits and other state occasions and events, both in the Philippines and abroad;
- (e) Develop a scholarship program open to and supporting talented Filipinos in dance from all over the country;
- (f) To conduct fund raising projects such as events, benefit shows and other activities to further support other Ballet projects; and

Section 5. Entitlement. - Ballet Philippines as the Philippine National Ballet Dance Company shall be entitled to the following:

- (a) Free use of theater facilities at the Cultural Center of the Philippines for performances and stage rehearsals up to 40 performances a year;
- (b) Free use of office space, rehearsal studios, production and technical facilities at the Cultural Center of the Philippines;
- (c) Project grants for research, documentation, new choreography, and/or production from the National Commission on Culture and Arts.

Section 6. Memorandum of Agreement. - Within thirty (30) days upon effectivity of this Act, the Cultural Center of the Philippines, shall execute the necessary arrangements with Ballet Philippines in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

Section 7. Appropriation of Funds. - The amount of Ten Million Pesos (P10, 000,000.00) is hereby appropriated to support the roles and functions stated in Section 4 of this Act for the first year of its implementation. Thereafter, such amount, and such sums necessary to sustain the implementation of this Act, shall be sourced from the annual earnings of the Philippine Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR).

Section 8. Separability Clause. - If for any reason, any part of the provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 9. Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules and regulations, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 10. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,