

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4967

Introduced by Representative Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica
4th District, Bulacan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation Inc. (BKFI) is a community theater organization that continuously developed and promoted the richness of Philippine history and culture through its original productions in many performance venues both here and abroad. Since its inception, it has done hundreds of one-act performances and full length productions which are mostly original and possessed of the highest quality of industry. In recognition of its excellent artistry, the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) gave it the highest honor that it can bestow to Filipino artists whose artistry is beyond question when it was conferred the Gawad CCP para sa Sining.

This bill seeks for the designation of the BKFI as the National Community Theater Company of the Philippines to give recognition to an outstanding theatre company and elevating it to a national status symbolical of its unswerving excellence as a community theatre of the country and at the same time inspire the group to organize greater number of community theatre companies serving as a honing ground for the youth in the formation of positive values and quality education thus serving the cause of the nation.

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

L. Villarica

REP. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA

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**AN ACT DESIGNATING THE BAYANIHAN PHILIPPINE DANCE COMPANY AS
THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL FOLK DANCE 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. 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 researching and documenting Philippine folk art and culture and transforming these into art forms and cultural fame that have won and continue to win national as well as international validity, recognition, acceptance and renown.

Section 2. Designation as Philippine National Folk Dance Company. – The Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation Inc. is hereby designated as the National Community Theater Company of the Philippines, 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 3. Role and Functions. – As the National Community Theater Company of the Philippines, the Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation Inc. shall discharge the following roles and functions:

(a) Undertake a continuing program of research and documentation of Philippine folk and contemporary theatre culture with emphasis on myths, folktales, literatures, oral traditions, culture and pop-drama accompanying songs, music, design and props. This program will constitute the raw materials for the enrichment of script, music, choreography and costumes suitable for staging as the Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation's productions and repertoire for national as well as international tableaux performances;

(b) Document the research and its results as books, publications, compact discs, digital-video 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 the international audience;

(c) Develop a pool of community theatre artists, playwrights, directors and technical theatre masters responsible for organizing, training and maintaining a permanent corps of community theatre personnel that will monitor the development of community theatre all over the country whose sole function is to implement a community theatre program in all regions to transfer the technology of organizing and mounting plays through workshops, seminars and laboratory-trainings, open to talented Filipinos all over the country;

(d) Develop and maintain a world-class company to perform during state visits and other state occasions and events, both in the Philippines and abroad;

(e) To conduct fund raising projects such as ticket selling, solicitations, corporate sponsorships, benefit shows and other activities to further support other Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation Inc. projects; and

(f) As a special role and function in connection with the celebration of Philippine Independence every year, Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation Inc. is committed to mount

new tableaux based on themes and topics for national performance and/or international production abroad.

Section 4. Entitlement. – The Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation Inc. shall be entitled to the following:

(a) Free use of theatre facilities at the Cultural Center of the Philippines for performances and stage rehearsals: provided, however, that a reasonable amount for electric and water bills may be charged;

(b) Free use of office space, rehearsal studios, production and technical facilities at the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) facilities in Malolos, Bulacan: provided, further, that a reasonable amount for electric and water bills may be charged; and

(c) Project grants for research, documentation and/or production from the National Commission on Culture and Arts.

Section 5. Memorandum of Agreement. – Within thirty (30) days upon effectivity of this Act, the Cultural Center of the Philippines and the national Historical Commission of the Philippines shall execute the necessary arrangements with the Barasoain Kalinangan Foundation Inc. in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations.

Section 6. The President of the Philippines may hereby designate, upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Education and the Cultural Center of the Philippines, additional national community theatre companies with the same entitlements and privileges accorded by this Act.

Section 7. Appropriation of Funds. – The amount of Five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated to support the roles and functions stated in Section 3 of this Act. Thereafter, such sums necessary to sustain the aforestated roles and functions shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 8. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any part or 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 fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.