

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2685

Introduced by Representatives
DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO and GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

AN ACT
TO ADVANCE AND DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL AND AMATEUR BOXING
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE BOXING ACADEMY UNDER THE GAMES AND
AMUSEMENT BOARD (GAB), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The sport of boxing in the country has come a long way since its inception in the 1900's. We have seen the rise of genuine Filipino talent in this sport and considered one of the most acclaimed boxers in the international scene. The country has successfully produced a number of World Champions both in the professional and amateur boxing leagues making it more imperative to harness our efforts and resources in boxing compared to the other popular Filipino sports.

Among Filipino boxing greats that helped the country to be recognized as a breeding ground for world champions are:

PROFESSIONAL

Francisco "Pancho Villa" Guilledo
Gabriel "Flash" Elorde
Luisito Espinosa
Rolando Navarette
Gerry Peñalosa
Manny "PAC MAN" Pacquiao

AMATEUR (Olympics)

Jose Villanueva
Anthony Villanueva
Leopoldo Serrantes
Roel Velasco
Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco

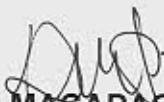
Aside from this esteemed roster, we also have the likes of Nonito "The Filipino Flash" Donaire, Brian "The Hawaiian Punch" Villoria Rey "Boom Boom" Bautista, Florante "Little Pacquiao" Condes, Bernabe "Abe" Concepcion, Donnie "Ahas" Nietes, Drian "Gintong Kamao" Francisco, Rexon "The Pison" Flores, Rolly "Matsushita" Lunas, Z "The Dream" Gorres, and Alex John "Batang Ermita" Banal who are all making a name in their own right in the professional league.

On the other hand, in the amateur field, we still remember that out of the twelve (12) medals the country reaped in the World Olympics since competing in 1928, five (5) of these medals came from boxing. The only silver medal the country harvested in this quadrennial event also came from boxing during the 1996 Atlanta Olympics.

Given the continuing patronage and desire of our young athletes to get into the sport of boxing, we firmly believe that the government should provide the necessary support to our aspiring boxers by teaching them the proper fundamentals and providing them with scientific boxing training programs to help them excel and become world champions.

It is in this light that this proposed legislation was filed to enable our aspiring Filipino boxers to be competitive in their chosen sport and continue on with the tradition of bringing pride and glory to the country.

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


DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Camarines Sur


GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Second District, Pampanga

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Boxing Academy Act
of 2013."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of State Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the
State to promote sports excellence and develop Filipino athletes into international
caliber competitors.

It is also the policy of the State to enhance the skills of every aspiring boxer in
the country through scientific method of training to sustain the standing of Filipino
boxers as World Champions.

SECTION 3. *Creation and Functions of the Boxing Academy.* – To carry out the
above policy, there is hereby created a Philippine Boxing Academy, hereinafter referred
to as the "PHILBACA". The PHILBACA shall have the following functions and
objectives:

- (a) to serve as a hub to identify and recruit boxing scholars to be trained and developed both as amateur and professional athletes in the international boxing leagues;
- (b) to enhance the ability of academy athletes by providing them with scientific training programs and proper health and nutrition;
- (c) to provide physical training facility to aspiring and active amateur and professional boxers;
- (d) to train coaches, trainers and referees through supplemental programs;
- (e) to provide assistance to PHILBACA students whenever they participate in internationally acclaimed boxing tournaments, including but not limited to World Boxing Council, World Boxing Association, World Boxing Organization and International Boxing Federation, as well as prepare them for their upcoming local or international bouts;
- (f) to enter into and engage in a consortium with public and private schools offering degree and non-degree courses in physical education and sports;
- (g) to hire highly skilled local and foreign coaches and trainers experienced in preparing athletes compete in world boxing bouts;
- (h) to establish and maintain linkages with international sports academy for the continuous upgrading of PHILBACA's training through student exchange programs or the availment of short athletes' scholarship training programs; and
- (i) to perform such other functions and exercise such other power necessary to carry out the declared policy, the aforementioned objectives, and the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 4. *Administration.* – The PHILBACA as herein established shall be under the direction, control and supervision of the Games and Amusement Board. It shall be headed by an Academy Director who shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Games and Amusement Board for a term of three (3) years, unless sooner removed.

SECTION 5. *PHILBACA Board.* – The Board of PHILBACA shall be composed of the Chairman of the Games and Amusement Board and Chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission as Co-Chairman, and four (4) regular members to be appointed by the President. The four (4) regular members shall be composed of three (3) representatives from the private sector that possess a reputable standing in the field of professional, boxing and one (1) representative from the academe. The regular members shall be nominated by the umbrella organization of the boxing community.

The board shall serve as the policy making body of PHILBACA to be vested with the authority to come-up with boxing training programs and such other activities of PHILBACA in attaining its objectives as provided for in this Act.

It shall likewise be responsible for the screening, admission and expulsion of all scholars of PHILBACA in accordance with the set guidelines to be devised by the board.

SECTION 6. *Boxing Road Show.* – There shall be held a boxing road show in the form of a tournament to be conducted in a year-round basis in various provinces in the country. The tournament participants shall be open to all local aspiring boxers of the province where the activity is currently being held for purposes of identifying local potential talents to be recruited as scholars to the academy as well as propagating and popularizing professional boxing in the countryside: *Provided however, That in a period and venue to be determined by the board, the PHILBACA shall hold an annual tournament to showcase the agility and prowess of all its students.*

SECTION 7. *Inclusion in the Physical Education Curriculum.* – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall require as part of the Collegiate or Tertiary Level Physical Education curriculum, the offering of boxing fundamentals in all Public Schools and State Universities and Colleges as an elective subject.

The subject syllabus shall be prepared by PHILBACA in close coordination with DepEd.

SECTION 8. *Basic Admission Requirements for Scholars.* – To be eligible for admission to PHILBACA, a candidate must meet the following basic qualifications:

- a.) Must be at least 12 but not more than 35 years old;
- b.) Natural-born citizen of the Philippines;
- c.) Possesses the skills and talent of a potential world caliber athlete as determined by the PH/LBACA Board;
- d.) Must pass the physical and psychological examinations to be given by the Board; and
- e.) Such other standards and qualifications that may be set by the Board.

SECTION 9. *Allowance and Academic Scholarship.* – A monthly stipend shall be extended to all student-scholars during the duration of their stay at PHILBACA in the amount to be fixed by the President of the Philippines upon recommendations by the Board.

All students may elect to avail of the academic scholarship program in any public schools and State Universities and Colleges where PHILBACA has an existing scholarship agreement.

SECTION 10. *Location.* – The PHILBACA shall be housed at the National Academy of Sports Complex located in Pasig City or in such other place as the board shall decide: *Provided, however,* That any identified venue of PHILBACA shall allot spaces to serve as living quarters to all its students.

The PHILBACA pursuant to this Act, as far as practicable, may likewise set-up satellite regional training centers in venues pursuant to a consortium with public schools and State Universities and Colleges, or in such other places as the board shall decide in order to implement this Act.

SECTION 11. *Authority to Accept Donations.* – The PHILBACA may accept donations, contributions, grants in cash or in kind, from various sources, domestic or foreign. Said donations shall be deemed allocated to further the objectives and programs of PHILBACA as may be approved by the Board subject to the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations; *Provided,* That any donation, contribution or financial aid which may be made to the PHILBACA shall be exempt from taxes of any kind and shall constitute allowable deductions in full from the income of the donors, contributors or givers for income tax purposes.

SECTION 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the date of effectivity of this Act, the Games and Amusement Board shall prescribe the necessary implementing rules and regulations (IRR) necessary for the effective implementation of the provisions of this measure.

SECTION 13. *Funding.* – There is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the implementation of this Act the amount of Twenty Million Pesos (Php20,000,000.00) for the initial operations of the PHILBACA as an attached agency of the Games and Amusement Board. Thereafter, such amount needed to implement this Act shall be included in the Annual Appropriations Act of GAB.

SECTION 14. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of this Act or the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 15. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, rules or orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 16. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect upon completion of its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,