

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4485



Introduced by REP. RODEL M. BATOCABE, REP. ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr.,
AND REP. CHRISTOPHER S. CO

AN ACT AMENDING PD 420 OR PRESIDENTIAL DECREE CREATING THE
PHILIPPINE RACING COMMISSION, TO INCLUDE OTHER KINDS OF ANIMAL
RACING UNDER THE JURISDICTION AND CONTROL OF THE PHILIPPINE
RACING COMMISSION

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to include other kinds of animal racing like dog racing and pigeon racing under the supervision and control of the Philippine Racing Commission (Philracom).

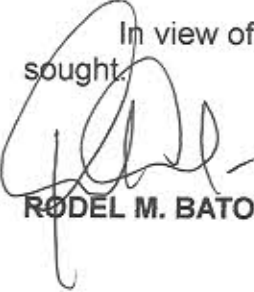
Animal racing has long been a source of entertainment and excitement for many people. The racing industry along with related industries is a source of revenue and income for different sectors.

In the Philippines, animal racing is limited to horse racing, which is regulated and supervised by the Philracom, by virtue of PD 420 which was issued on March 20, 1974. The law envisioned the direct and accelerated growth of horse racing to be a source of revenue and employment.

Over the years, horse racing became a good source of income for the government, until recently when horse racing revenues has dwindled due to high taxes, lower cash prizes and the growth of other forms of gambling like the 'lotto'.

Meanwhile, there are other kinds of animal racing that could also be developed and promoted for recreation and revenue. We have dog or greyhound racing and pigeon racing as examples. These two kinds of animal racing have their own share of enthusiasts such that if supervised and controlled by the Philracom, they would surely add to the government's revenue from animal racing.

In view of the above circumstances, the swift passage of the bill is earnestly sought.


RODEL M. BATOCABE


ALFREDO A. GARBIN Jr.


CHRISTOPHER S. CO

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

Section 1. Section 1 of P.D. 420, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY. It is the declared policy to promote and direct the accelerated development and continued growth of [~~horse-racing~~] **animal racing, including but not limited to horse racing, dog or greyhound racing, and pigeon racing** not only in pursuance of [~~the~~] sports development program but also in order to insure the full exploitation of [~~the~~] **these kinds of sport** as a source of revenue and employment.

Section 2. Section 3 of P.D. 420, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES. The Commission shall have the following aims and objectives:

- a. To promote and maintain efficient and unbiased operation of racing exclusive of the supervision of betting therein;
- b. To raise public confidence in the sport and minimize infraction of the rules of racing; and
- c. To improve the breed of Philippine [~~horses~~] **race animals such as horses, greyhounds and pigeon**, and to prevent the illegal importation of [~~racehorses~~] **these race animals**.

Section 3. Section 8 of P.D. 420, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

Section 8. JURISDICTION, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS. Generally, the Commission shall have exclusive jurisdiction and control over aspect of the conduct of [~~horse-racing~~] animal racing, including the framing and scheduling of races, the construction and safety of animal racing tracks, the allocation of prizes, and the security of racing.

x x x

Section 4. Section 9, paragraphs (a), (c), (e), and (g) of P.D. 420, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

SPECIFIC POWERS. Specifically, the Commission shall have the power:

- a. To enforce all laws, decrees and executive orders relating to **animal racing, such as horse-racing, dog or greyhound racing, and pigeon racing** that are not expressly or impliedly repealed or modified by this Decree, including all such existing rules and regulations until otherwise modified or amended by the Commission;
- b. x x x
- c. To register race [~~horses~~] **animals**, [~~horse~~] **race animal** owners, and associations or federations thereof; and to regulate the construction of race tracks and to grant permit for the holding of races;
- d. x x x
- e. To review, modify, approve or disapprove the rules and regulations issued by any person or entity concerning the conduct of [~~horse~~] **animal** races held by them;
- f. x x x
- g. To prohibit the use of improper devices, drugs stimulants or other means to enhance or diminish the speed of [~~horses~~] **race animals** or materially harm their condition;

Section 5. Section 10, paragraph (c) of P.D. 420, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 10. OTHER POWERS AND DUTIES:

x x x

c. Except in cases where summary actions are taken, in the settlement of dispute and other problems connected with the conduct of [~~horse-racing~~] **animal**

rating, the Commission shall act as a body and all hearings and investigations before it shall be governed by the rules of procedures as may be adopted by it; *PROVIDED*, That orders, rulings and decisions may be appealed to the President of the Philippines within seventy-two hours from receipt of such order, ruling and decisions.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules, and regulations, executive or administrative orders, and such other presidential issuances which are inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or otherwise modified accordingly.

Section 7. Separability Clause. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions not affected thereby.

Section 8. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,