

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Nineteenth Congress

First Regular Session

343



Introduced by **Rep. DANILO RAMON S. FERNANDEZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Movie producers invest a lot of money to produce a movie. Local movie producers shall be given the opportunity to get their return of investment. Unfortunately, local movies tend to lose their avenue over major foreign films. This bill seeks the State and movie theater owners to support local movie producers to encourage and motivate them to make more films which in turn will create more job opportunities for the Filipinos. Moreover, more local movies produced and shown in theaters will entice younger generation to watch original Filipino movies that will foster patriotism and nationalism in them.

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

Hon. DANILO RAMON S. FERNANDEZ
Lone District of Santa Rosa City, Laguna

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AN ACT MANDATING MOVIE THEATER OPERATORS NATIONWIDE TO RUN MTRCB
APPROVED AND RATED LOCAL MOVIES
TO SUPPORT LOCAL MOVIE PRODUCERS
AND PROMOTE ORIGINAL FILIPINO MOVIES

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 "'Local Movies Act".

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* – It shall be the policy of the State to promote and support the development and growth of the local film industry as an aesthetic and cultural medium for as better understanding and appreciation of Filipino social values and national identity, and as an indispensable economic partner in nation-building.

To achieve this end, the State shall formulate and implement policies and programs to upgrade the art and craft of film making and encourage production of films for commercial purposes, intended for public entertainment, that seek to enhance the quality of life, examine the human and social conditions and contribute to the dignity and nobility of the human spirit.

SECTION 3. It is hereby declared that the following shall be compulsory:

(a) Movie theater operators to run Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) approved and rated local movies at the minimum span of *five (5)* consecutive days to support local movie producers;

(b) Movie theater operators to equally divide theater screening slots between local films (40%) and foreign films (60%);

(c) Movie theater operators to equally divide movie trailer slots, 50% local film and 50% foreign film movie trailers, prior to the actual film screening of a featured movie;

(d) Movie theater operators to make Fridays as start of movie play dates, instead of Wednesdays, to give local movies a better fighting chance at the Box Office.

SECTION 4. *Monitoring and Enforcement-* To attain the objectives of this Act, the MTRCB and the Film Academy Council of the Philippines (FDCP) created under Republic Act 9167 shall:

1. Adopt a monitoring and reporting system to track violators; impose fines and penalties for any the violation of this Act;
3. Cause or initiate criminal or administrative prosecution with concerned government agencies for violations of this Act;
4. Cause the closure of any theater or cinema in violation of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* - The MTRCB and the FDCP shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions thereof within ninety (90) days after the Approval of this Act.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause* - If any portion of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions not affected hereby.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause-* All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity-* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.