

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila  
  
**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
Third Regular Session



**HOUSE BILL NO. 10883**

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*Introduced by Representative* **CARLITO S. MARQUEZ**

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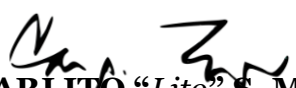
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Despite the rapid progress of modernization in today’s time, Filipino weavers managed to preserve a part of our tradition and culture by creating and transforming fibers of abaca, cotton, pineapple, and silk to create fabric, clothing, and other materials that represent the diverse landscapes, vibrant traditions, and colorful history of Philippine islands. These patterns reflect the timeless tales of generations told and passed by our ancestors.

Today, handloom weaving is very much alive. It does not only serve as a testament of culture but also a significant means of livelihood especially to our women. Last year, Aklan’s piña handloom weaving received an official recognition from the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Our province’s unique craft has been inscribed on the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. This attainment reminds us that customary textiles unite people, communities, and industries. The collaboration of laborers and craftspeople results in a fabric or garment with different purposes. It is a product of devotion, effort, and passion

In partnership of the national government under the DOST-PTRI and National Commission of Culture and the Arts (NCAA), and our local government especially the Balete Tourism Office, by institutionalizing the establishment of the Aklan Museum and Cultural Center through this proposed measure, we are preserving and at the same time enriching the piña handloom weaving in the Province of Aklan to elevate awareness of its economic and cultural contributions in our country.

With this bill, the coordination between national and local government is imperative to provide, trainings and workshops, educate raw material production, equipment and material provision, instruct product development and promotion initiatives, and enhance methodical marketing system. supported initiatives that will benefit farmers, weavers, and regional textile producers over the years. The Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center Act shall create learning opportunities while at the same time support initiatives that will benefit farmers, weavers, and regional textile producers over the years.

  
**ENGR. CARLITO “Lito” S. MARQUEZ**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE AKLAN PIÑA MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER IN**  
**THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALETE, PROVINCE OF AKLAN, ITS SATELLITE**  
**CENTERS, DEFINING ITS PURPOSES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR**

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

1       **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "The Aklan Piña Museum and  
2       Cultural Center Act."

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4       **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
5       conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and  
6       resources, as well as artistic creations. Towards this end, measures that ensure the  
7       achievement of this stated policy shall be pursued.

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9       **SEC. 3. Establishment of the Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center.** - There  
10      is hereby established a museum and cultural center for Aklan Piña in the Municipality of  
11      Balete, Province of Aklan to safeguard and promote the Aklan Piña handloom weaving  
12      and its value as a cultural expression of the Aklanon culture, to ensure continued research  
13      and development of the Aklan Piña textile and other related products for sustainable  
14      livelihood, to ensure a sustainable source of raw material, to provide a venue to train and  
15      enhance knowledge and skills of the younger generation on Aklan Piña, and to undertake  
16      other activities to broaden appreciation on Aklan Piña handloom weaving and increase  
17      market access of its products. Satellite centers may also be established to encourage the  
18      development of the Piña weaving and textile beyond the Province of Aklan.

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20      **SEC. 4. Coordination and Supervision.** - In coordination with the Provincial  
21      Government of Aklan and the Municipal Government of Balete, the Association of Aklan  
22      Piña Weavers, UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines (UNACOM), the  
23      National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the National Museum of the

Philippines (NMP) shall supervise the cultural center and shall spearhead the establishment of the same; shall be in charge of the safeguarding, development, and promotion of the Aklan Piña handloom weaving; the development of creative industry on the Aklan Piña textile and other products, in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST); and the Department of Agriculture (DA) to be in charge of the propagation of Red Spanish pineapple or "Pinya Bisaya," raw material of Aklan Piña.

Concerned public and private institutions with similar interests shall also be sought for technical assistance or donations in cash or in kind to enable the Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center to carry out and discharge its duties and functions.

**SEC. 5. Functions.** - To implement the purposes of the "Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center," it shall perform the following functions:

1. Maintain a site in the Municipality of Balete which will host a museum, an innovation and training hall, an arts hall and theater, and other facilities as necessary for the intent of the center;
2. Heighten appreciation of the Aklanon on the value of Aklan Piña handloom weaving being inscribed in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity;
3. Cultivate and enhance public interest in, and appreciation of the Aklan Piña handloom weaving;
4. Encourage organizations, associations, or societies to support weavers and aspiring weavers and/or farmers planting Pinya Bisaya;
5. Support production of artistic works in visual arts, music, dance, literature, design, media arts, and publication to promote appreciation of Aklan Piña handloom weaving and the Western Visayas culture; and
6. Conduct research on product development and marketing of Aklan Piña handloom weaving; and
7. Perform such other functions necessary for the achievement of the intent and purposes of this Act.

**SEC. 6. Provision of Location.** - The Provincial Government of Aklan or the Municipal Government of Balete shall provide the land necessary for the establishment of the Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center and its ancillary offices and facilities.

**SEC. 7. Staffing.** - The Office of Aklan Piña Museum and Cultural Center (OAPMCC) is hereby created to oversee the center and ensure the implementation of this

62 Act. The Office shall be lodged in the NCCA which shall be headed by a Director who will  
63 be appointed by the Commission.

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65 **SEC. 8. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary for the preparatory phase of the  
66 establishment of the center under this Act shall be charged against the current year's  
67 budget of the NCCA. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the continued  
68 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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70 **SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within sixty (60) days from the  
71 effectivity of this Act, the NCCA in coordination with all the concerned agencies of the  
72 government shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective  
73 implementation of this Act.

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75 **SEC. 10. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
76 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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*Approved,*