

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 10935



Introduced by Representative CAMILLE A. VILLAR

AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL HEALTH CARE, RETIREMENT, DEATH BENEFITS, AND OTHER PRIVILEGES TO FILIPINO OLYMPIANS, NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES, AND TRAINERS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10699, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL ATHLETES AND COACHES BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT", AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Explanatory Note

The 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.¹

The State shall likewise promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry.²

On November 13, 2015, Republic Act No. 10699, or the National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act, was enacted into law with the policy and objective of promoting excellence in sports by looking after the welfare of national athletes and coaches competing for the country and by providing benefits and incentives for national athletes and other athletes who win in international sports competitions and bring honor and recognition to the country.

The National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act has spurred enormous improvements in our athlete's ability to compete in the local and international sports competitions.

This bill endeavors to expand the coverage of health care, retirement, death benefits, and other privileges to Filipino Olympians, national athletes, coaches, and

¹ Section 17, Article II, 1987 Philippine Constitution

² Section 19 (1), Article XIV, 1987 Philippine Constitution

trainers who helped shaped our athletes and contributed to their success. It is my hope that this bill will inspire our Filipino Olympians, national athletes, coaches, and trainers to always do their best in bringing honor to our country.

Hence, this Representation joins her colleagues in earnestly calling for the passage of this bill.

Camille A. Villar
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FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10699, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC 3. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

(a) Athletes with disabilities or DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES shall refer to persons with disabilities as defined under Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Disabled Persons", as amended, who are Filipino citizens recognized and accredited by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and the National Paralympic Committee of the Philippines (NPC PHIL), who have represented the country in international sports competitions;

(b) *International sports competitions* shall refer to international sports competitions under the following categories:

1. Regular major competitions such as the Summer Olympic Games, Winter Olympic Games, Asian Games, Asian Winter Games, Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, Youth Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Asian Para Games, Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games, Asian Beach Games and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Para games, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO WORLD, ASIAN, ASEAN /

SOUTHEAST ASIAN AGE-GROUP CHAMPIONS, AND INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITION WHICH ARE SANCTIONED BY THE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS (ISFs), INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC), INTERNATIONAL PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE (IPC), FAR EAST & SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES FOR THE DISABLED (FESPIC), INTERNATIONAL SPORTS ORGANIZATION FOR THE DISABLED (IOSD), HELD EVERY FOUR (4) OR TWO (2) YEARS, OR HELD ANNUALLY, INCLUDING QUALIFYING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TEAM SPORTS WHEREIN ONLY ONE (1) OR TWO (2) COUNTRIES MAY QUALIFY FOR THE OLYMPICS OR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS;

- (2) XXX
- (3) XXX
- (4) XXX

- (c) National Athletes shall refer to athletes including Persons with Disabilities or DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES who are Filipino citizens, members of the national training pool, recognized and accredited by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) and the PSC, including athletes with disabilities (AWD) who are recognized and accredited by the NPC PHIL and the PSC and who have represented the country in international sports competitions; and
- (d) National coaches AND TRAINERS shall refer to coaches AND TRAINERS of national athletes, who are Filipino citizens, members of the national coaches AND TRAINERS training pool, recognized and accredited by the PSC and the POC, or the PSC and NPC PHIL in the case of AWD coaches who have represented the country as official coaches OR TRAINERS to national athletes in international sports competitions.
- (e) OLYMPIANS SHALL REFER TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BESTOWED THE TITLE BY THE WORLD OLYMPIANS ASSOCIATION.
- (f) FILIPINO OLYMPIANS SHALL REFER TO ATHLETES WHO ARE FILIPINO CITIZENS, AS DEFINED UNDER THE 1987 PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION, WHO HAVE COMPETED AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES EITHER IN THE WINTER OLYMPICS OR SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES AS THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNTRY.
- (g) RETIRED FILIPINO OLYMPIAN (RFO) SHALL REFER TO A FILIPINO OLYMPIAN WHO IS NO LONGER OR WHO IS NOT A NATIONAL ATHLETE AS DEFINED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO.

10699 AND WHO HAS CEASED PARTICIPATING AND NO LONGER INTENDS TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITION UNDER R.A. 10699. IT SHALL NOT INCLUDE THOSE WHO HAVE DECIDED TO CHANGE THEIR SPORT, WHO SHALL BE CONSIDERED RETIRED ONLY AFTER THEY HAVE CEASED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LATTER DURING EITHER THE WINTER OR SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES OR IN ANY DOMESTIC OR INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITION."

SECTION 2. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10699, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC 4. Benefits and Privileges for FILIPINO OLYMPIANS, RFO, National Athletes and Coaches, AND TRAINERS - Any FILIPINO OLYMPIANS, RFOS, national athlete, COACHES, AND TRAINERS as defined herein and who are currently registered as such, shall be entitled to the following:

- (a) XXX
- (b) XXX
- (c) XXX
- (d) XXX
- (e) XXX
- (f) XXX
- (g) XXX
- (h) XXX; AND
- (i) FILIPINO OLYMPIANS, RFO, NATIONAL ATHLETES, AND NATIONAL ATHLETES WITH DISABILITY OR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES, COACHES, AND TRAINERS REGARDLESS OF AGE, SHALL BE COVERED BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM PROVIDED BY THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION (PHIC), THROUGH A SPECIAL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION (PSC), WHICH WILL PROVIDE THE REQUIRED LOCAL GOVERNMENT PREMIUM COUNTERPART TO BE DIRECTLY REMITTED TO THE PHIC. UPON REACHING THE AGE OF FIFTY (50) YEARS OLD, THE FILIPINO OLYMPIAN, RFO, NATIONAL ATHLETES, AND NATIONAL ATHLETES WITH DISABILITY OR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS SHALL BE HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE PROGRAM, SUBJECT TO EXISTING PHIC RULES AND REGULATIONS AND WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE BENEFITS AFFORDED TO SENIOR CITIZENS.

IN CASE OF HOSPITALIZATION OF THE FILIPINO OLYMPIANS, RFO, NATIONAL ATHLETES, AND NATIONAL ATHLETES WITH

DISABILITY OR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES, COACHES, AND TRAINERS IN ANY HOSPITAL OR CLINIC, ANY AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF THE PHIC BENEFIT SHALL BE SHOULDERED BY THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE (PCSO) UNDER ITS INDIVIDUAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (IMAP); PROVIDED, THAT THE REQUIREMENT FOR QUALIFICATION AND GRANT OF THE HEALTH CARE ASSISTANCE UNDER THE IMAP TO BE EXTENDED BY THE PCSO SHALL BE MADE CONSISTENT WITH AND SUBJECT TO THE COMPLIANCE WITH PCSO'S EXISTING RULES AND GUIDELINES.

ANY FILIPINO OLYMPIAN, RFO, NATIONAL ATHLETES, AND NATIONAL ATHLETES WITH DISABILITY OR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES, COACHES, AND TRAINERS SHALL BE TREATED, FREE OF CHARGE, IN ANY GOVERNMENT, GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR- CONTROLLED CORPORATION OR GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITY OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH FACILITY, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO CERTAIN CHARGES FOR MEDICINES, AND OTHERS THAT MAY APPLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES OF THESE FACILITIES.

XXX"

SECTION 3. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 10699 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec 5. Scholarship Benefits for national athletes -A FILIPINO OLYMPIAN, RFO or a National Athlete, who wins a regular major international sports competition, AND, HIS/HER SPOUSE AND CHILDREN WHETHER LEGITIMATE OR ILLEGITIMATE AND/OR ADOPTED CHILDREN, shall be entitled to scholarship benefits in the form of full tuition fees from the state colleges or universities for a college or university degree. The winning athlete shall likewise be given priority in the availment of state college or university scholarship grants."

SECTION 4. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 10699 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC .6. Retirement Benefits for OLYMPIANS, RFO, National Athletes AND Coaches AND TRAINERS - Any RFO, OLYMPIAN, national athlete, AND coach AND TRAINER who wins in an international competition or has coached OR TRAINED such winning OLYMPIAN, RFO, and national athlete shall receive a lump sum amount equivalent to twenty-five percent (25%) of his/her total cash incentives computed from the start of his/her active sports career as a member of the national training pool or national coaches AND TRAINERS training pool up to the last day of retirement from

active competition or training as certified by the PSC. Such lump sum amount shall be released sixty (60) days from the filing of the retirement papers.

IN ADDITION, THE OLYMPIAN, RFO, NATIONAL ATHLETES, AND NATIONAL ATHLETES WITH DISABILITY OR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES, COACHES, AND TRAINERS SHALL, UPON REACHING THE AGE OF FIFTY (50) YEARS OLD, SHALL RECEIVE A NON-TRANSFERRABLE LIFETIME MONTHLY PENSION OF AT LEAST FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 50,000.00)."

SECTION 5. The benefits provided under Section 4 of this Act shall apply to those who have not yet reached fifty (50) years old but are forced to retire due to injuries or health conditions.

SECTION 6. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10699 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 7. Death Benefits. – Upon the death of any OLYMPIAN, RFO, national athlete, ~~AND~~ coach AND TRAINER, the primary beneficiaries shall be entitled to a lump sum benefit of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP100,000.00) to cover the funeral services: Provided, that if the OLYMPIAN, RFO, national athlete, ~~AND~~ coach AND TRAINER has no primary beneficiary, the secondary beneficiaries shall be entitled to said benefits.

For purposes of this Act, primary beneficiaries shall refer to the legitimate spouse, legitimate or illegitimate, OR ADOPTED child/children. Secondary beneficiaries shall refer to the parents and, in their absence, to the brothers or sisters of such athlete and coach.

The benefits provided under this section shall be without prejudice to other similar benefits that may be received by the OLYMPIAN, RFO, national athlete, ~~AND~~ coach AND TRAINER, from other sources."

SECTION 7. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10699 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 9. Cash Incentives for Coaches AND TRAINERS. – Coaches, AND TRAINERS of OLYMPIANS, RFO, and national athletes shall also be entitled to cash incentives if they have personally trained and rendered service to the OLYMPIANS, RFO, athletes, or teams who win in international competitions for at least six (6) months prior to the international competition. Certification to this effect by the individual athlete or team captain for team events shall be in writing, duly attested by their respective national sports associations (NSAs)."

SECTION 8. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 10699 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 12. Funding. — The amount necessary for the implementation of the cash incentives, retirement, AND DEATH benefits under this Act shall be taken from the net cash income of the PAGCOR, AND IN REVENUE COLLECTION FROM OFF-TRACK BETTING AND PROFESSIONAL SPORTS OF THE GAMES AND AMUSEMENT BOARD to be remitted directly as a special account to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) of the PSC. This is in addition to the regular income share of the PSC pursuant to Republic Act No. 6847.

Provided, that any additional funding requirement necessary to implement the increase of cash incentives, retirement AND DEATH benefits of this Act shall be sourced from the fifty percent (50%) national government shares in the gaming revenue of PAGCOR under Presidential Decree No. 1869, as amended.

A separate fund equivalent to not less than sixty percent (60%) of the existing NSDF shall be automatically set aside for the training and preparation of national athletes covered by this Act."

SECTION 9. Separability Clause. — If any provision or part of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and at least one newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,