



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 11332



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MARLYN B. ALONTE

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN (INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS) TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION, PROMOTION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S COMMUNAL TRADITIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10066, OR THE NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT OF 2009, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine archipelago is a land of incredible cultural diversity, where the richness of our heritage is reflected in countless forms, ranging from ritual vessels and hunting tools to textiles, pottery, epic poetry, rhythmic dances, and music. These traditions, passed down from generation to generation, serve as the foundation of Filipino identity and stand as a testament to the ingenuity, creativity, and resilience of our ancestors.

Unfortunately, this wealth of cultural heritage is under growing threat. The push for material development—driven by industrialized nations—has fostered a consumerist culture that increasingly marginalizes the deeper, more meaningful traditions of Filipino self-realization. The pursuit of personal growth through the cultivation of character, innate talent, and skills—skills once nurtured through art forms like music, dance, poetry, and carving—is now being overshadowed by an overwhelming focus on material goods and instant gratification. This shift has led to the erosion of many of our traditional practices, which are integral to the cultural fabric of our nation.

In particular, the younger generation, captivated by the convenience and allure of modern consumerism, is losing interest in learning and practicing the intricate arts and traditions of their forebears. This neglect threatens the survival of our most valuable cultural practices, leaving them vulnerable to extinction. The urgency of preserving these traditions cannot be overstated, as their loss would deprive future generations of their cultural heritage and displace key elements of our identity.

In response to this, this bill proposes the creation of the Linangan ng Likhang-Bayan (Institute for Living Traditions), a dedicated institution that will focus on the protection, promotion, and development of the country's communal traditions. The Institute will prioritize the preservation of intangible cultural heritage, such as skills, rituals, and practices passed down through generations via human interaction and cultural transmission. Rather than focusing solely on the collection and preservation of physical artifacts, the Institute will emphasize maintaining and nurturing the creative and artistic traditions that define Filipino culture.

The Linangan ng Likhang-Bayan will have the following core priorities:

1. Protection and Promotion: Ensuring the survival and revitalization of endangered traditions, with particular attention to practices that are at risk of disappearing.
2. Equal Participation: Encouraging the active participation of Filipino artists and craftspeople in the preservation and development of these traditions, fostering a sense of ownership and pride within local communities.
3. Multi-Valuation of Cultural Practices: Promoting the value of cultural traditions beyond mere economic measures by emphasizing their spiritual, educational, and cultural significance.
4. Encouragement of Unique Filipino Art: Supporting Filipino artists in cultivating their distinct visions of life and art, encouraging them to draw inspiration from their cultural heritage to produce original and relevant work for contemporary audiences.

The passage of this bill is a call to preserve not only our tangible cultural artifacts but also the intangible cultural heritage that makes the Philippines uniquely Filipino. Through the establishment of the Institute for Living Traditions, we will ensure that these essential elements of our identity are safeguarded, celebrated, and passed on to future generations.

In light of the urgency to protect and promote our diverse cultural heritage, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

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



REP. MARLYN B. ALONTE

Lone District of Biñan, Laguna



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

Section. 1. Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the "*National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009*" is hereby amended with the addition of a new Article after Section 47 to read as follows:

"ARTICLE XIII

LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN

SEC. 48. *CREATION OF LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN (INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS).* – THERE IS HEREBY CREATED AND ESTABLISHED A LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN (INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS) WHOSE MAIN PURPOSE IS TO SERVE AS AN IMPORTANT CENTER AND LABORATORY FOR THE PROTECTION, PROMOTION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF PHILIPPINE COMMUNAL TRADITIONS.

SEC. 49. *FUNCTION.* – AS THE SOLE INSTITUTE FOR TECHNICAL, BASIC, AND HIGHER EDUCATION, BOTH FORMAL AND

NON-FORMAL, IT SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS (NCCA) FOR POLICY AND PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION WITH SOLE EMPHASIS ON THE TRADITIONAL AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS.

SEC. 50. *CONVERGENCE WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS.* - IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE LINANGAN NG LIKHANG-BAYAN, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ITS CORE COURSES AND AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION, THE NCCA SHALL WORK IN CLOSE COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION. THE NCCA SHALL ENDEAVOR TO WORK WITH PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS IN THE FULFILLMENT OF ITS FUNCTION AS THE CENTER AND LABORATORY FOR PHILIPPINE COMMUNAL TRADITIONS.

SEC. 51. *MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOLS OF LIVING TRADITIONS.* - AS AN ATTACHED OFFICE OF THE NCCA, THE INSTITUTE FOR LIVING TRADITIONS SHALL BE IN CHARGE OF THE CREATION AND MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS OF LIVING TRADITIONS.

SEC. 52. *APPROPRIATIONS.* - THE AMOUNT OF ONE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P100,000,000.00) NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE APPROPRIATED IMMEDIATELY TO BE GENERATED FROM WHATEVER SOURCE THAT IS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL TREASURY."

All succeeding sections after the insertion of the new provisions are hereby renumbered accordingly

Sec. 2. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any part, section, or provision of this Act is declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

Sec. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication either in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.