

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3668



Introduced by REP. DENNIS "TOM" L. HERNANDEZ

**AN ACT
PROVIDING ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES FOR NATIONAL ATHLETES AND
COACHES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10699,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL ATHLETES AND COACHES
BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Recent sporting events have proven what we have long known: the Philippines is a strong contender in international competition. From the Gilas Olympic Qualifying Team's upset over world no. 6 Latvia to Carlos Yulo's two Olympic golds within a day of each other, the world is seeing what Filipino athletes can achieve. But none of this success happened overnight.

Our athletes and coaches dedicate countless hours to training, perfecting their skills, and pushing their physical limits. Despite the efforts of conditioning coaches and physical therapists to ensure safe training, the physical strain can still lead to injuries.

This bill proposes to amend the existing law to include coaches and trainers among those eligible for incentives, in recognition of their vital role in preparing our athletes for competition. It also seeks to include former members of the national training pool, who may have retired but have proudly represented the country in the past.

While we reward athletes who bring home medals, we must also acknowledge those who gave their all but did not reach the podium.

These amendments will ensure that national athletes and their coaches can access the medical care they need to continue representing the country at the highest level.

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


REP. DENNIS "TOM" L. HERNANDEZ
4th District of Rizal



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Be it enacted by the Senate and the 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:

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

a. X x x

b. X x x

1. Regular major competitions [~~such as~~] **INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO** the Summer Olympic Games, Winter Olympic Games, Asian Games, Asian Winter Games, Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, Youth Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Asian Park Games, Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games, Asian Beach Games and Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Para Games;

2. X x x

3. X x x

4. X x x

Competitions granting prize money shall not be included.

c. National athletes shall refer to athletes, including persons with disabilities who are Filipino citizens, **CURRENT AND FORMER** 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 shall refer to coaches, **MEMBERS OF THE COACHING STAFF, AND TRAINERS**, of national athletes, who are Filipino citizens, **CURRENT AND FORMER** members of the national coaches training pool, recognized and accredited by the PSC and POC, or the PSC and NPC PHIL in the case of AWD coaches who have represented the country as official coaches to national athletes in international sports competitions.

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

SECTION 4. *Benefits and Privileges for National Athletes and Coaches.* – Any national athlete and coach, as defined herein and who is currently registered as such shall be entitled to the following:

- a. The grant of twenty percent (20%) discount from all establishments relative to the utilization of transportation services, hotels and other lodging establishments, restaurants and recreation centers and purchase of ~~{medicine and}~~ sports equipment anywhere in the country for the actual and exclusive use or enjoyment of the national athlete and coach;
- b. X x x
- c. Free medical and dental consultations in ~~{government}~~ hospitals and similar establishments anywhere in the country;
 - c-1. THE GRANT OF FIFTY PERCENT (50%) DISCOUNT ON ALL MEDICAL SERVICES AND PROCEDURES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO, HOSPITALIZATION, PHYSICAL THERAPY, SURGERIES, POST-OPERATIVE MEDICINE, POST-OPERATIVE REHABILITATION, PROVIDED, THAT THE MEDICAL PROCEDURE IS FOR AN INJURY SUSTAINED IN THE ATHLETE'S OR COACH'S LINE OF WORK;**
 - c-2. THE GRANT OF FIFTY PERCENT (50%) DISCOUNT ON THE PURCHASE OF MEDICINE ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE ACTUAL AND EXCLUSIVE USE OR ENJOYMENT OF THE NATIONAL ATHLETE AND COACH;**
- d. X x x
- e. X x x
- f. X x x
- g. X x x
- h. X x x

Such privately-owned establishments shall enjoy tax deductions equivalent to the discounts extended to the national athletes and coaches under paragraphs (a), ~~[and]~~ (b), (c), (c-1) AND (c-2) hereof, subject to the rules and regulations to be issued by the Secretary of Finance, as recommended by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, within ninety (90) days upon the effectivity of this Act: *Provided*, That the failure of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) to promulgate the rules and regulations shall not prevent the implementation of aforementioned benefits.

SEC. 3. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provisions of this Act are declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,