



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4371

Introduced by Representative Katrina Reiko Chua-Tai

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish the Zamboanga City Sports Academy and Training Center in Zamboanga City.

Section 19(1), Article XIV (Education, Science and Technology, Arts, Culture, and Sports) of the Constitution provides that *“The State shall 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.”*

Zamboanga City has long distinguished itself as a cradle of athletic excellence, producing exceptional talents who have achieved remarkable success on both national and international stages. Among its most notable basketball icons are Alfonso R. Marquez, a two-time Olympian who represented the Philippines in the 1960 and 1968 Olympic Games; Rudy B. Lingganay, Jr., a prominent figure in the Maharlika Pilipinas Basketball League (MPBL); Cris Michael S. Tolomia, whose outstanding career began with the FEU Tamaraws in the University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP); and Andy Mark C. Barroca, a key player for the Magnolia Chicken Timplados Hotshots in the Philippine Basketball Association (PBA).

In the Olympic arena, Zamboanga City proudly claims two pioneering athletes: Eumir Felix Marcial, bronze medalist in middleweight boxing at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, and Hidilyn F. Diaz-Naranjo, who etched her name in history by winning the Philippines’ first-ever Olympic gold medal in the women’s 55kg weightlifting category at the same events.

These historic milestones reflect the innate athleticism, discipline, and resilience of the people of Zamboanga City. However, despite these achievements, homegrown athletes continue to face significant challenges arising from the absence of modern training facilities, the scarcity of development programs, and inadequate national government funding. These gaps greatly hinder the growth and potential of future champions from the region.

The establishment of a dedicated sports academy and training center in Zamboanga City shall ensure that the youth, local athletes, and emerging talents are provided with access to a proper venue, state-of-the-art facilities, modern equipment, and comprehensive training programs.

The facility shall serve as a principal hub for sports development in the Zamboanga Peninsula, operating under the guidance and in coordination with the Philippine Sports Commission. It shall feature world-class infrastructure, well-structured training programs, and comprehensive athlete development, encompassing various sporting disciplines. More than just an infrastructure project, its establishment represents a strategic investment in the future of Filipino athletes, the promotion of public health, and the bolstering of national pride.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katrina', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

KATRINA REIKO CHUA-TAI



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1 **AN ACT**
2 **ESTABLISHING THE ZAMBOANGA CITY SPORTS ACADEMY AND**
3 **TRAINING CENTER IN THE CITY OF ZAMBOANGA AND**
4 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
7 *Congress assembled:*

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9 SECTION 1. ***Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*Zamboanga*
10 *City Sports Academy and Training Center Act.*”

11 SEC. 2. ***Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the declared policy of the State to
12 recognize sports as a vital instrument for fostering nationalism, promoting social
13 progress, and advancing holistic human development. The State shall promote
14 physical education, support participation in international competitions, and
15 guarantee equitable access to sports programs and opportunities, with particular

1 emphasis on empowering the underprivileged, the elderly, persons with
2 disabilities, women, and children.

3 To this end, the State shall establish, maintain, and support a
4 comprehensive and integrated sports education and training system that advances
5 the athletic talents and skills of individuals of all ages, particularly the youth who
6 are the foundation of the country's future in sports.

7 SEC. 3. ***Zamboanga City Sports Academy and Training Center.*** – The
8 Zamboanga City Sports Academy and Training Center, hereinafter referred to as
9 the “*Academy and Training Center*” is hereby established in the City of
10 Zamboanga. The Academy and Training Center shall consist of the Zamboanga
11 City Sports Academy, hereinafter referred to as the “*Academy*,” and Zamboanga
12 City Sports Training Center, hereinafter referred to as the “*Center*,” which are
13 both located in a sports complex that shall be established for the purpose, to be
14 known as the Zamboanga City Sports Complex.

15 The Academy shall offer primary and secondary education designed to
16 develop the athletic skills and talents of students with notable potential in sports.
17 Its curriculum shall focus on academic learning and sports-related subjects that
18 may enhance the athletic abilities of the students.

19 The Center shall serve as an extension office of the Philippine Sports
20 Commission (PSC) for the conduct and implementation of its existing sports
21 programs and the primary venue for athletic training and related development
22 activities.

1 SEC. 4. ***Sports Council.*** – A Sports Council, chaired by the Chairperson
2 of the PSC and composed of the Chairperson of the Games and Amusements
3 Board (GAB), Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd), and Executive
4 Director of the National Academy of Sports (NAS) as members, is hereby created.

5 SEC. 5. ***Powers and Functions.*** – The Sports Council shall:

6 (a) Formulate and implement policies, plans, and programs that
7 promote the development and harness the potential of students and athletes;

8 (b) Provide an integrated curriculum framework to optimize the
9 potential of the students;

10 (c) Establish, maintain, and upgrade school facilities, equipment, and
11 training resources in accordance with national and international standards;

12 (d) Promote and sustain strategic partnerships and alliances with local,
13 national, and international sports organizations, educational institutions, and
14 training centers to enhance the competitiveness and exposure of students and
15 athletes;

16 (e) Monitor, review and revise, if necessary, the programs and projects
17 of the Academy and Training Center;

18 (f) Generate resources and obtain logistical and financial support for the
19 programs and projects of the Academy and Training Center;

20 (g) Accept donations, grants and endowments;

21 (h) Develop career advancement and continuing education programs for
22 its personnel, coaches, and trainers;

1 (i) Establish guidelines for public-private partnerships in the
2 implementation of all its programs; and

3 (j) Perform such other functions as may be required to achieve the
4 objectives of this Act.

5 SEC. 6. ***Organizational Structure.*** – The management and operation of
6 the Academy and Training Center shall be headed by an executive director and
7 assisted by two (2) deputy directors to be appointed by the Sports Council. The
8 Academy and Center shall each be under the direct supervision of a deputy
9 director, who shall be responsible for its operation, maintenance, and program
10 implementation.

11 SEC. 7. ***Powers and Functions of the Executive Director.*** – The executive
12 director shall:

13 (a) Implement and enforce policies, decisions, orders, rules and
14 regulations determined by the Sports Council;

15 (b) Exercise administrative and supervisory functions over the planning,
16 implementation and evaluation of the policies and programs of the Academy and
17 Training Center;

18 (c) Prepare, recommend and submit to the Sports Council the budget of
19 the Academy and Training Center;

20 (d) Appoint the officers and employees of Academy and Training Center;

1 (e) Submit regular and annual reports on the operations, status of
2 programs and projects, and the financial condition of the Academy and Training
3 Center to the Sports Council;

4 (f) Enter into contracts, incur obligations, acquire and dispose of assets
5 of the Academy and Training Center, within the limits of the authority determined
6 by the Sports Council;

7 (g) Assist the Sports Council in generating and obtaining logistical and
8 financial support for the programs and projects of the Academy and Training
9 Center; and

10 (h) Exercise and perform such other powers, functions, and duties as
11 may be authorized or assigned by the Sports Council.

12 SEC. 8. ***Sectoral and Industry Task Forces.*** – The Sports Council may
13 create sectoral and industry task forces, technical working groups, advisory
14 bodies, or committees for the furtherance of the objectives of this Act. The
15 members of the sectoral and industry task forces may come from the agencies of
16 the national government, government-owned and -controlled corporations, local
17 government units, the academe, civil society organizations, sports organizations,
18 and sports-related industrial organizations. The manner of selection of such
19 members shall be provided under the rules and regulations to be formulated to
20 implement the provisions of this Act.

21 SEC. 9. ***Human Resource Complement.*** – The Sports Council shall
22 recommend to the PSC, GAB and DepEd the number of personnel necessary for

1 the operation of the Academy and Training Center. The PSC, GAB and DepEd
2 shall review such recommendation for the creation of positions in their respective
3 departments or agencies and submit the same to the Department of Budget and
4 Management for approval.

5 The City Government of Zamboanga may provide additional personnel for
6 the operation and maintenance of the Zamboanga City Sports Complex.

7 SEC. 10. ***Construction and Operation.*** – The construction and operation
8 of the Zamboanga City Sports Complex and the Academy and Training Center
9 shall be funded by the City of Zamboanga. The PSC and the Office of the
10 President of the Philippines may also provide funds for its construction and
11 operation.

12 SEC. 11. ***Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial
13 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current budgets of the
14 PSC, GAB, and DepEd. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the
15 continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
16 Appropriations Act in the respective budget of the concerned agencies.

17 The City Government of Zamboanga may provide additional funding for
18 the operation and maintenance of the Zamboanga City Sports Complex and
19 Academy and Training Center as may be approved by their *Sanggunian*.

20 SEC. 12. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days
21 after the effectivity of this Act and convening of the Sports Council, the Sports

1 Council shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
2 implementation of this Act.

3 SEC. 13. ***Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, and regulations
4 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
5 accordingly.

6 SEC. 14. ***Separability Clause.*** – If any section or provision of this Act is
7 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall continue to
8 be in full force and effect.

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

11 Approved,