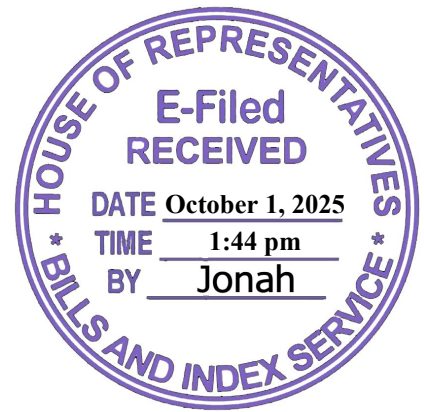


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5053



Introduced by **HON. VINCENZO RENATO LUIGI R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE, HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA, AND HON. TERRY L. RIDON**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to create the National Film Archive of the Philippines (NFAP) to be managed by the Film Development Council as part of the State's policies to conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations for all the country's artistic and historic wealth constitutes the cultural treasure of the nation and shall be under the protection of the State.

The Filipino film culture dates back to 1919 when Jose Nepomuceno, the founder of Philippine movies, released the film *Dalagang Bukid*. However, it was in 1950s to 1970s, when legendary filmmakers, such as Lino Brocka and Lamberto Avellana, gained popularity and international recognition for their films that featured themes on socio-political issues and portrayal of realistic Filipino life and culture. This period is also considered as the Golden Age of Philippine Cinema. In the 2000s, independent filmmakers emerged, which became momentous as Filipinos embraced their films and other filmmakers recognized its quality and depth.

As these artistic creations reflect the evolution of Filipino film industry and changing socio-economic landscape of our country, it is imperative to ensure their preservation. However, a major challenge in the early decades of filmmaking is the availability of advanced technology for its proper preservation, maintenance, and archiving.

In the 19th Congress, this bill was filed and deliberated by the Committee on Creative Industries. During its deliberation, the Philippine Film Archive stated that even if there is already an existing Philippine Film Archive since 2011, the proposed institutionalization of the agency shall be the solution to their overdue problem on the lack of capacity building of their staff, funding for the archive, and availability of storage for the market. In 2024, the Philippine Film Archive kept 56,000 elements composed of films from 35 millimeters, 16 millimeters, 8 millimeters, and tapes from various formats such as VHS, Betacam, U-matic and mini DVs, among those are 47 films by our National Artists.

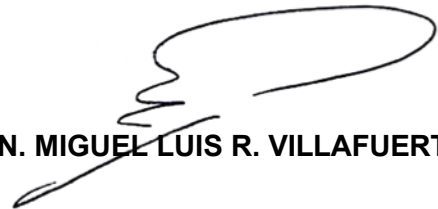
In response to this matter, the Philippine Film Archive was created in 2011 under Section 3 of the Republic Act No. 9167. It has set its 10-point agenda to strengthen its efforts in restoring locally produced films. Among these agenda is the establishment of a permanent archiving facility to further empower the agency in the acquisition, preservation, digitization, and protection of our film and audiovisual collections. The facility also aims to provide better access to audiovisual contents to the public.

To materialize the vision of the Philippine Film Archive to the National Film Archive of the Philippines (NFAP) and ensure the systematic archiving of films, this bill aims to institutionalize and rename the NFAP to be managed and maintained by the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP). The NFAP is mandated to formulate and implement an archival administration program on cinematographic films, conduct archival research, acquire film prints and digital masters of films with enduring archival value, and other functions aimed to ensure the protection and preservation of cinematic heritage of our country.

In light of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is humbly sought.

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HON. VINCENZO RENATO LUIGI R. VILLAFUERTE

A handwritten signature in black ink, characterized by a large, open loop at the top and a series of smaller, connected strokes below.

HON. MIGUEL LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, sweeping loop at the top and a series of smaller, connected strokes below.

HON. TSUYOSHI ANTHONY G. HORIBATA

A handwritten signature in blue ink, featuring a large, sweeping loop at the top and a series of smaller, connected strokes below.

HON. TERRY L. RIDON

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AN ACT
CREATING THE NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE OF THE PHILIPPINES TO BE MANAGED BY THE FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “National Film Archive Act.”

SECTION. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of Filipino national culture based on the principle of unity in diversity a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression. Furthermore, all the country’s artistic and historic wealth constitutes the cultural treasure of the nation and shall be under the protection of the State which may regulate its disposition.

SECTION. 3. *Creation of the National Film Archive of the Philippines.* – There is hereby created a National Film Archive of the Philippines, which shall be managed and maintained by the Film Development Council.

SECTION. 4. *Powers and Functions.* – The National Film Archive of the Philippines shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Plan, formulate, and implement an archival administration program for the efficient recovery, restoration, conservation, preservation, maintenance, utilization and disposal of cinematographic films including the adoption of security measures and film protection program;
- b. Review and approve films nominated for inclusion in the National Film Archive;
- c. Conduct archival research using materials here and abroad, including background studies about films considered for inclusion in the National Film Archive;
- d. Acquire through transfer, donation, purchase or any other means film prints and digital masters of films which have enduring archival value;
- e. Ensure the preservation and conservation of existing and future film archival resources of the government;
- f. Reproduce and authenticate copies of cinematic films, subject to copyright laws;
- g. Facilitate the acquisition of a permanent and suitable building for the National Film Archives to house the country’s film archival holdings;
- h. Promote appreciation of and build cultural values from the cinematic films in

- the National Film Archive;
- i. Provide for access to the Film Archive for scholarly and research process, subject to reasonable guidelines;
 - j. Make Filipino films readily available for education, historical, and cultural purposes to all segments of Philippine society, as well as the international community;
 - k. Give technical assistance to all government offices, instrumentalities, and agencies, national or local, in the planning, implementation and evaluation of their film archives administration program; and
 - l. Conduct training programs, on film archives management, including the establishment of an archival system for both public and private sectors.

The National Film Archive of the Philippines shall be headed by an Executive Director with a rank equivalent to a bureau director and shall be assisted by two (2) Deputy Executive Directors.

The President of the Philippines shall appoint the Executive Director and the two (2) Deputy Executive Directors from a list of nominees submitted by the Film Development Council: *Provided*, That said officials to be appointed shall be knowledgeable of the artistic, historical, cultural and/or technical aspects of film evaluation, restoration and/or world-class archiving standards.

The Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Directors shall serve for a term of two (2) years and shall be eligible for reappointment for a second term; *Provided*, That no director shall serve for more than two (2) consecutive terms: *Provided further*, That if any director fails to complete a term, the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired portion of the term of the director whom he/she succeeds, unless re-appointed: *Provided finally*, That such service of the unexpired portion shall not be counted as a term.

The National Film Archives shall establish its own staffing pattern, and salary and compensation scheme, within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, subject to the rules and regulations of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Civil Service Commission (CSC).

SECTION. 5. *Obligations of Film Companies and Individual Producers.* – Film companies and individual producers shall submit, at a reasonable cost, a copy of their film to the National Film Archive within three (3) months from its official release.

SECTION. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Film Development Council shall, in consultation with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines, National Commission for the Culture and the Arts, and the National Archives of the Philippines, issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions hereof.

SECTION. 7. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All acts, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended.

SECTION. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any portion or provision of this Act be declared unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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

Approved,