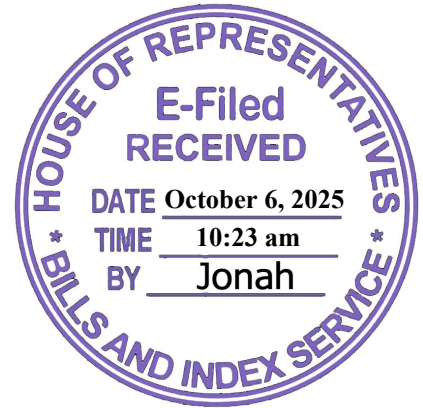


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5123**



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**Introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA**

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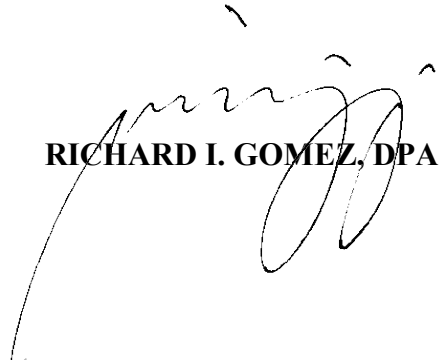
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As mandated by Republic Act No. 10588, entitled “An Act Institutionalizing the Conduct of the Palarong Pambansa and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, the Palarong Pambansa is the country's premier and most foundational sporting event under the Department of Education. The event is composed of two divisions, the Elementary Division, which is participated by students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 and the Secondary Division, which is participated by students from Grades 7 to 12. For the most part, the Palaro is the introductory sporting competition for the majority of the Filipino youth. This is where dreams of bringing home Olympic medals for the country are born.

Therefore, for young Filipino athletes, the Palaro is not only the venue to develop the values of discipline, hard work and excellence in sports but also a model of integrity and fairness in sports. It is imperative that, at this level, our athletes are exposed to utmost professionalism and fairness in the conduct of competitions.

In this pursuit, this bill amends R.A. 10588 to include in the National Screening and Accreditation Committee (NSAC)'s accreditation of participations, the accreditation of referees and judges in each specific sport. Moreover, this bill would mandate that only licensed referees and judges shall be shortlisted for accreditation for the Palarong Pambansa.

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

  
**RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA**

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5123**

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**AN ACT MANDATING THE USE OF LICENSED REFEREES AND JUDGES  
ACCREDITED BY THE NATIONAL SCREENING AND ACCREDITATION  
COMMITTEE (NSAC) DURING OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS OF THE PALARONG  
PAMBANSA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10588**

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

**SECTION 1.** Article V, Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10588 or the "Palarong Pambansa Act of 2013," is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 13. ***The National Screening and Accreditation Committee (NSAC)***. – The Board shall constitute the NSAC that will evaluate and verify the authenticity of the documents submitted by the athletes, coaches, ~~and~~ chaperones, REFEREES AND JUDGES applying for accreditation. The NSAC shall accredit qualified athletes, coaches, chaperones, REFEREES AND JUDGES and shall submit a masterlist to the Board at least two (2) months before the Palarong Pambansa."

**SEC. 2.** The NSAC shall, thirty (30) days after the ratification of this Act, release the updated Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 10588 to include the requirements of this Act, *Provided that*, all referees and judges included in the masterlist for the Palarong Pambansa must have the necessary licenses specific to each sporting event.

**SEC. 3. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in force.

**SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,