

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5288**



Introduced by
KABATAAN Party-list Rep. RENEE LOUISE M. CO,
Gabriela Women's Party Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO, and
ACT Teachers Party-list Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL FILIPINO YOUTH MUSEUM

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Filipino youth played key roles in the nation's historic struggle for liberation, justice, peace, and prosperity.

No less than the 1987 Constitution recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building, mandating the State to "promote and protect the physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being of the youth." Article II, Section 13 further declares that the State "recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being." Republic Act No. 8044, the Youth in Nation-Building Act, institutionalizes this constitutional mandate by promoting youth involvement in public and civic affairs.

Throughout Philippine history, the youth have stood at the forefront of the people's struggles against colonialism, dictatorship, and oppression. Andres Bonifacio, who founded the Katipunan at age 29, and Emilio Jacinto, the "Brains of the Katipunan" who wrote revolutionary treatises while still in his early twenties, exemplified the revolutionary fervor of Filipino youth against Spanish colonial rule. Jose Rizal penned his world-altering novels exposing colonial atrocities before reaching thirty, while Marcelo H. Del Pilar and Mariano Ponce used their youth to fuel the Propaganda Movement's demands for reforms and recognition of Filipino rights.

The tradition of youth militancy continued through the American colonial period, the Japanese occupation, and into the contemporary era. During the Marcos dictatorship, young activists became the vanguard of resistance against authoritarian rule. Edgar Jopson, former student council president who abandoned privilege to organize workers and peasants, was killed at 36. Lean Alejandro, student leader and congressional aspirant, was assassinated at 27. Emmanuel Lacaba, poet and revolutionary, fell in battle at 27. Lilirosa Hilao became the first known female desaparecida under Martial Law at only 23 years old. Countless other young Filipinos—students, workers, peasants, and urban poor youth—were tortured, disappeared, or martyred in the struggle to restore democratic rights and freedoms.

Despite these historical facts, a national institution dedicated to the heritage, heroism, and martyrdom of the Filipino youth is yet to be established. The youth's historic contributions to people's struggles for freedom, rights, and equality should not go unvalued and unnoticed, leaving a gap in our collective memory as a nation.

Furthermore, knowledge of the Filipino youth's contributions to nation-building is crucial in developing people's appreciation of history, which in turn will aid them in discerning and rejecting any attempts at revision, and to challenge the youth of today in heeding the call to fulfill their role as the hope of our nation.

By learning how previous generations of youth analyzed social conditions, organized their communities, and fought for transformative change, today's youth can draw lessons applicable to current struggles. The museum would thus serve not merely as a repository of the past but as an educational institution that inspires and equips the youth to fulfill their role as a leading force in the ongoing struggle for genuine freedom and democracy.

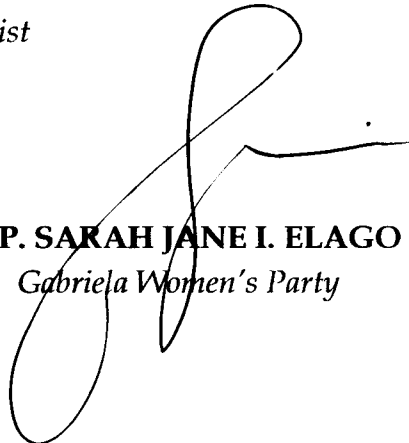
In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



REP. RENEE LOUISE M. CO
KABATAAN Party-list



REP. ANTONIO L. TINIO
ACT Teachers Party-list



REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Gabriela Women's Party

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5288**

Introduced by
KABATAAN Party-list Rep. RENEE LOUISE M. CO,
Gabriela Women's Party Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO, and
ACT Teachers Party-list Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL FILIPINO YOUTH MUSEUM

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This act shall be known as the “National Filipino Youth Museum Act of 2025.”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

- a. Recognize the historic contributions of the youth to nation-building;
- b. Celebrate the youth whose various individual and collective efforts have caused to dramatically and significantly advance the Filipino youth's struggle against inequality, injustice, and impunity;
- c. Honor the role and heroism of the youth in the liberation from foreign invasion and occupation against the Spanish, American, and Japanese;
- d. Honor individual youth whose specific achievements have enriched and impacted any and all aspects of Filipino life; and
- e. Commemorate modern-day youth heroes, heroines, and martyrs who struggled against injustice, oppression, and exploitation especially during Martial Law.

SECTION 3. Creation of the National Filipino Youth Museum. – To carry out the above policy, the National Filipino Youth Museum, hereinafter referred to as the Youth Museum, is hereby created and established.

SECTION 4. *Organization, Operation, and Administration.* – The organization, operation, and administration of the Youth Museum shall follow the general and standard structures, management and operations established, mandated and practiced by the National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA) and other appropriate agencies.

SECTION 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The NCCA shall formulate, within thirty (30) days from its effectivity, the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – Such sums as may be necessary for the purpose of carrying out this Act are hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – Should any part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof not affected not thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, decrees, proclamations, implementing rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,