



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 7469



Introduced by **Representative KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI**
1st District, Zamboanga City

AN ACT
FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610, AS AMENDED BY
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9231, BY PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE
EARNINGS OF CHILD PERFORMERS AND ATHLETES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 7610, as amended by Republic Act No. 9231, declares it the policy of the State to provide special protection to children from all forms of abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, and discrimination. Republic Act No. 9231 further strengthened this policy by prohibiting the worst forms of child labor. It allows the employment of children in public entertainment, information, media, and sports under conditions that ensure their safety, health, morals, and overall development. These legislative measures are consistent with international standards. In particular, ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999) obligates States to take immediate and effective measures to prohibit and eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC, 1989) likewise guarantees children the right to protection from economic exploitation. It also ensures that children benefit from the fruits of their labor (Articles 32 and 31).

Child performers and athletes, as public figures, make valuable contributions to our communities. Their dedication and talent in entertainment, media, public information and sports bring joy and set a positive example.

Despite these safeguards, current laws still let parents, guardians, or other adults control and spend the money child performers and athletes earn. As a result, children often have no financial security or future benefits. This puts them at risk of economic exploitation and goes against Republic Act No. 7610, Republic Act No. 9231, and the international instruments cited above.

This bill addresses this gap by requiring that part of child performers' and athletes earning be set aside in a trust fund or savings account in the child's name. This protects children's earnings, allowing lawfully employed children to access funds when they reach the age of majority. Additionally, they may use these funds earlier for essential needs such as education or medical care, subject to appropriate safeguards.

The measure affirms that those who control a child's earnings act in a fiduciary capacity and must prioritize the child's best interests. It complements Republic Act No. 9231 and strengthens the State's commitment to preventing economic abuse and promoting the long-term welfare of working children. Let us work together to support this initiative and ensure the protection and empowerment of all working children, in line with international labor standards and the rights of the child under ILO Convention No. 182 and the CRC.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



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

SECTION 1. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7610 or otherwise known as the
“Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation, and Discrimination Act” is
hereby amended to include a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

“SECTION 12. *Employment of Children.* - Xxx:

(1) Xxx; or

(2) Xxx:

(a) Xxx;

(b) Xxx; and;

(c) Xxx; AND;

(D)CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 12 OF THIS ACT, AS
AMENDED, WHICH ALLOWS THE EMPLOYMENT OF
CHILDREN IN PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT, INFORMATION,
MEDIA, AND SPORTS UNDER STRICT CONDITIONS, THE
EARNINGS OF A CHILD SO EMPLOYED SHALL BE
SUBJECT TO SPECIAL PROTECTION.

A MINIMUM OF THIRTY PERCENT (30%) OF THE GROSS
INCOME EARNED BY A CHILD PERFORMER OR
WORKING CHILD IN ENTERTAINMENT, INFORMATION,
MEDIA, AND SPORTS SHALL BE SET ASIDE AND
DEPOSITED IN A TRUST FUND OR SAVINGS ACCOUNT IN
THE NAME OF THE CHILD, TO BE MAINTAINED IN A
GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE BANKING INSTITUTION
DULY AUTHORIZED BY LAW.

1 THE TRUST FUND SHALL BE HELD EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE
2 BENEFIT OF THE CHILD AND SHALL NOT BE WITHDRAWN,
3 ENCUMBERED, OR USED BY THE PARENT, GUARDIAN,
4 EMPLOYER, MANAGER, OR ANY OTHER PERSON, EXCEPT
5 UPON AUTHORITY OF THE PROPER COURT AND ONLY FOR
6 PURPOSES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE CHILD'S
7 EDUCATION, HEALTH, SUBSISTENCE, OR OVERALL
8 DEVELOPMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BEST
9 INTEREST OF THE CHILD.

10 PARENTS, LEGAL GUARDIANS, EMPLOYERS, TALENT
11 MANAGERS, PRODUCERS, OR ANY PERSON HAVING
12 CUSTODY, CONTROL, OR SUPERVISION OVER THE CHILD'S
13 EMPLOYMENT OR EARNINGS SHALL BE DEEMED TO ACT
14 IN A FIDUCIARY CAPACITY. THEY SHALL BE JOINTLY AND
15 SEVERALLY LIABLE FOR ANY MISUSE,
16 MISAPPROPRIATION, OR FAILURE TO PRESERVE THE
17 PROTECTED PORTION OF THE CHILD'S EARNINGS.

18 ANY VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSIDERED
19 AN ACT OF ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION AND CHILD LABOR
20 ABUSE UNDER THIS ACT AND SHALL BE PENALIZED IN
21 ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 14 HEREOF, WITHOUT
22 PREJUDICE TO CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LIABILITIES.

23 SECTION 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Labor and
24 Employment (DOLE), in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development
25 (DSWD), the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC), and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
26 (BSP), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act within ninety
27 (90) days from its effectivity. Such rules shall form part of the conditions for the issuance of a
28 Child Employment Permit under Republic Act No. 9231.

29 SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared
30 unconstitutional, the remainder shall continue to be in full force and effect.

31 SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws inconsistent with this Act are hereby
32 amended or repealed accordingly.

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

35 Approved,