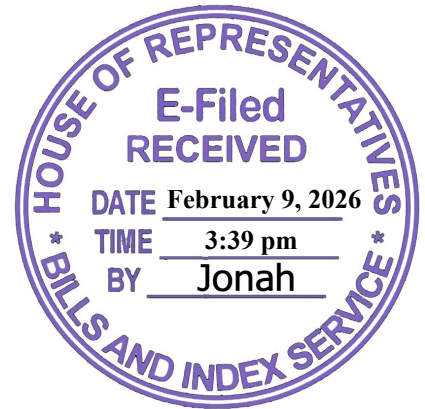


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7685



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The cultural identity of a nation is rooted not only in its language and arts but also in its traditional games and sports. In the Philippines, indigenous games (collectively known as *Laro ng Lahi*) serve as a vital link to our pre-colonial history, embodying the values of community, agility, and ingenuity.

However, with the rapid rise of digital entertainment and globalized sports, these traditional games are fast becoming a memory. Many indigenous communities possess unique physical activities that are at risk of disappearing entirely.

This bill seeks to mandate the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd) and the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), to document, preserve, and mainstream these games. By institutionalizing indigenous sports competitions and integrating them into the national curriculum, we ensure that the "spirit of play" that defined our ancestors continues to inspire future generations of Filipinos.

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


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7685

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

AN ACT PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS GAMES AND SPORTS OF THE PHILIPPINES, MANDATING THEIR INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM AND SPORTS EVENTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "Philippine Indigenous Games Preservation Act."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education and cultural integrity. The State shall conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources.

SEC. 3. *Objectives.* – This Act aims to:

1. Preserve and promote traditional games and sports as a pillar of Filipino cultural identity;
2. Conduct a nationwide research and inventory of indigenous games;
3. Integrate these games into the educational system and national sports meets.

SEC. 4. *Mandatory Research and Documentation.* – The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), in coordination with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples

(NCIP), shall conduct a comprehensive study to document the history, rules, and mechanics of all known indigenous games in the Philippines.

SEC. 5. *Inclusion in Schools and National Sports Meets.* –

- DepEd and CHED: The Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education shall integrate *Laro ng Lahi* in the Physical Education (PE) curriculum at all levels.
- Palarong Pambansa: The PSC shall ensure that indigenous games are included as regular or demonstration sports in the *Palarong Pambansa* and other national sports competitions.

SEC. 6. *Annual National Indigenous Games.* – The PSC shall organize an annual "National Indigenous Games" to showcase traditional sports from various regions, ensuring participation from different Indigenous Cultural Communities (ICCs).

SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the PSC and DepEd. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the PSC, DepEd, and NCIP shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,