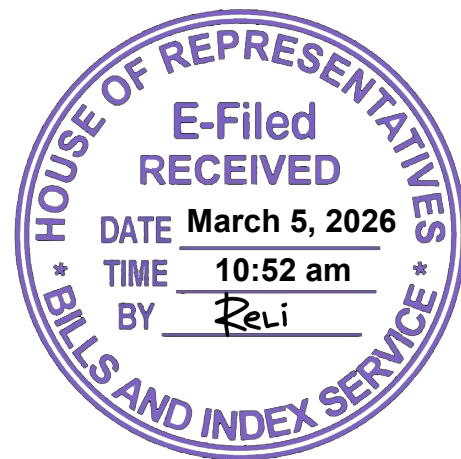


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 8298**



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Introduced by **Representative Ryan S. Recto**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This proposed measure seeks to amend Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9167 or "*An Act Creating The Film Development Council Of The Philippines (FDCP), Defining Its Powers And Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, And For Other Purposes*" by inserting a new subsection that establishes a Classic Filipino Film Restoration Program. The proposed program shall authorize the FDCP to assess and identify classic Filipino films in need of restoration and to undertake their restoration, digitization and long-term preservation.

Republic Act No. 9167, which created the FDCP, mandates the agency to promote and develop the Philippine film industry. While the FDCP has undertaken initiatives related to film promotion and development, there remains a need to expressly empower and mandate the Council to systematically address the preservation, restoration and digitization of classic Filipino films as part of its core functions.

Despite increasing awareness of the importance of film preservation, the Philippines continues to face significant challenges in this area, most notably the lack of sustainable funding. In practice, private institutions are often better positioned to undertake restoration initiatives, as ownership of film rights allows them to commercially distribute restored works and recover associated costs.

A notable example is the ABS-CBN Film Restoration initiative, which successfully undertook the scanning, enhancement, restoration and remastering of more than two hundred forty (240) motion pictures, including films dating as far back as 1939. Through this effort, culturally and historically significant Filipino films were reintroduced to contemporary audiences, underscoring the value and impact of systematic restoration programs.

Furthermore, the bill provides that restored films shall be made accessible to the public through cinematheques, museums, educational institutions, and digital platforms, subject to existing copyright laws. This ensures that restored works are not only preserved but are also utilized for education, research, and cultural appreciation, thereby strengthening national identity and promoting film literacy among present and future generations.

Ultimately, this proposed amendment recognizes classic Filipino films as important cultural assets and underscores the State's role in preserving and making them accessible as part of the nation's cultural legacy.

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



**Ryan S. Recto**  
**Representative**  
6<sup>th</sup> District, Batangas

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A CLASSIC FILIPINO FILM RESTORATION PROGRAM**  
**AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9167, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT**  
**CREATING THE FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF THE PHILIPPINES,**  
**DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

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

1       SECTION 1. Section 3 of the Republic Act No. 9167, otherwise known as "*An*  
2       *Act Creating the Film Development Council of the Philippines, Defining Its Powers and*  
3       *Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and For Other Purposes*", is hereby amended  
4       to read as follows:

5  
6       **(12) TO ESTABLISH A CLASSIC FILIPINO FILM RESTORATION**  
7       **PROGRAM, MANDATED TO ASSESS AND DETERMINE CLASSIC**  
8       **FILIPINO FILMS IN NEED OF RESTORATION, AND TO CARRY OUT**  
9       **THEIR RESTORATION, DIGITIZATION, AND LONG-TERM**  
10       **PRESERVATION.**

11  
12       ***PROVIDED, THAT,* THE RESTORED FILM SHALL BE MADE ACCESSIBLE**  
13       **TO THE PUBLIC THROUGH CINEMATHEQUES, MUSEUMS,**  
14       **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND DIGITAL PLATFORMS, SUBJECT**  
15       **TO COPYRIGHT LAWS.**

16  
17       Sec. 2. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared  
18       unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in  
19       full force and effect.

20  
21       Sec. 3. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and  
22       regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.  
23

1           Sec. 4. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
2 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

3  
4           *Approved,*