



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
 First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9135



INTRODUCED BY HON. FAUSTINO MICHAEL T. DY III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 8757, enacted in 1999, established the **Philippine Sports Hall of Fame** to honor Filipino athletes, coaches, and trainers who have brought pride and distinction to the country. While the law has served as an important recognition mechanism, developments in sports governance, athlete mobility, international standards, and public expectations over the past two decades necessitate its strengthening and modernization.

International best practices demonstrate that sports halls of fame function not only as honorific institutions but also as custodians of national sports heritage, instruments of education, and platforms for inspiration. Comparable institutions in Australia, Canada, and the United States have expanded their mandates to include sports administrators, officials, innovators, and builders, as well as the systematic preservation of sports history and the promotion of ethical standards in sport.

In the Philippine setting, the existing law remains limited in scope. It focuses primarily on medal-based achievements, provides minimal guidance on governance and transparency, and does not expressly address issues such as public nominations, ethical disqualification, due process in removal of inductees, or the establishment of a permanent physical or digital repository of Philippine sports history. Moreover, outstanding contributors to sports development—such as grassroots builders, officials, sports scientists, and administrators—are not adequately recognized under the present framework.

This bill seeks to strengthen and expand the Philippine Sports Hall of Fame by:

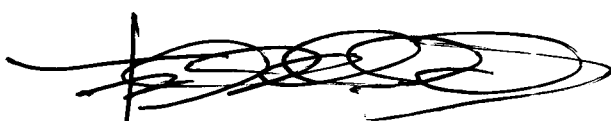
- (1) Clarifying and broadening its purpose as both an honorific and heritage institution;
- (2) Introducing the Distinguished Honors and Legacy Awards, which shall be

special Hall of Fame recognitions conferred upon individuals for exceptional leadership and lifetime contributions to Philippine sports;

- (3) Providing clear eligibility rules that reflect modern realities, including post-retirement periods and recognition of Filipino athletes with dual citizenship who represented the Philippines;
- (4) Institutionalizing standards of integrity, ethics, and due process for both selection and removal of inductees;
- (5) Enhancing transparency and public participation through open nomination procedures;
- (6) Providing for a permanent physical and/or digital Hall of Fame and historical repository; and
- (7) Allowing the acceptance of donations and endowments, subject to existing government accounting and auditing laws, to ensure sustainability.

By strengthening Republic Act No. 8757, this measure aims to preserve the legacy of Philippine sports excellence, inspire future generations of Filipinos, and align the country's Sports Hall of Fame with international best practices while remaining firmly grounded in Philippine law, values, and institutions.

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



HON. FAUSTINO MICHAEL T. DY III
5th District, Isabela



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INTRODUCED BY REP. FAUSTINO MICHAEL T. DY III

**“AN ACT
 STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS HALL OF
 FAME, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8757, ENTITLED
 “AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS HALL OF FAME AND
 APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “**Philippine Sports Hall of Fame Strengthening Act.**”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote physical education and encourage sports programs, leagues, and competitions to foster self-discipline, teamwork, excellence, and patriotism.

In pursuit thereof, the State shall recognize and preserve the achievements, values, and legacy of outstanding Filipino athletes, coaches, trainers, and sports builders whose contributions have brought honor and distinction to the Philippines and inspired national pride.

SEC. 3. *Purpose.* – There is hereby established a Philippine Sports Hall of Fame, hereinafter referred to as the Sports Hall of Fame, to formally recognize and enshrine Filipino athletes, coaches, trainers, and sports contributors who have demonstrated outstanding excellence, leadership, and service in sport.

The Sports Hall of Fame shall serve as:

- (1) The premier institutional recognition in Philippine sports;

- (2) A permanent custodian of Philippine sports history and heritage;
- (3) An educational and cultural resource accessible to the public; and
- (4) A platform for inspiring excellence, integrity, and national pride among present and future generations.”

SEC. 4. *Screening Committee.* – A Screening Committee shall be created by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) to receive nominations for and screen nominees to the Sports Hall of Fame. The Committee shall be composed of the following:

- (a) The Chairperson of the Philippine Sports Commission, as Chairperson;
- (b) The President of the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), as Vice Chairperson;
- (c) The Chairperson of the Games and Amusements Board, as Member;
- (d) Two (2) representatives from POC-accredited national sports associations, to be selected by the POC General Assembly; and
- (e) Two (2) representatives from the private sector, to be selected by the Philippine Sports Commission, *en banc*, upon the recommendation of relevant groups and individuals.

SEC. 5. *Functions of the Screening Committee.* – The Screening Committee shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- (a) To receive, accept, and process nominations for induction into the Philippine Sports Hall of Fame and for the conferment of awards under this Act, in accordance with the qualifications, criteria, and procedures prescribed herein and in the rules promulgated by the Committee. A Hall of Fame Secretariat shall be created to assist the Steering Committee in executing its functions;
- (b) To formulate, adopt, and promulgate detailed rules, standards, and criteria governing the nomination, screening, evaluation, and selection of inductees and award recipients, consistent with the policies and provisions of this Act, and to issue its internal rules of procedure;
- (c) To evaluate and screen all nominees as to eligibility, qualifications, merit, integrity, citizenship, representation, ethical conduct, and compliance with the eligibility period and other requirements prescribed under this Act;
- (d) To verify the authenticity, accuracy, and sufficiency of documentary evidence submitted in support of nominations, and to require the submission of additional information or clarification, as may be necessary;
- (e) To conduct public hearings, meetings, consultations, or deliberations, *motu proprio* or upon request, as may be necessary to ensure transparency, public participation, and informed decision-making;
- (f) To ensure compliance with transparency requirements by causing the publication of the applicable criteria and the official list of nominees prior to final selection, in coordination with the Philippine Sports Commission;

- (g) To deliberate and approve, by vote, the final list of inductees to the Philippine Sports Hall of Fame and the recipients of Distinguished Honors and Legacy Awards, in accordance with the substantive and procedural requirements of this Act;
- (h) To exercise disciplinary authority over nominees and inductees, including the conduct of proceedings for disqualification or removal from the Philippine Sports Hall of Fame on grounds provided under this Act, subject to due process requirements, including notice and opportunity to be heard;
- (i) To approve, by majority vote of all its members, the removal of an inductee from the Philippine Sports Hall of Fame, and to order the corresponding removal of such inductee's name, honors, and exhibits from official records and displays;

SEC. 6. *Categories of Induction and Qualification Criteria.* – Induction into the Sports Hall of Fame may be made under the following categories recognizing individuals whose achievements have significantly advanced Philippine sports:

A. Athlete Category – Filipino athletes who have achieved exceptional competitive distinction and brought honor to the Philippines through outstanding athletic performance.

(a) Qualifications:

- (1) Must have won at least a Gold Medal in the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games in an official medal event;
- (2) Other athletes who qualify under the provisions of Republic Act No. 10699, otherwise known as the Expanded National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act; and
- (3) A World Champion in any professional sports competition.

(b) Additional Qualifying Standards:

- (1) Must be a Filipino citizen at the time of competition;
- (2) Must have represented the Philippines officially;
- (3) Demonstrated sportsmanship, integrity, and compliance with anti-doping rules; and
- (4) Individual or team events are eligible (team awards may be conferred individually or collectively, as defined by policy).

B. Coach and Trainer Category – Filipino coaches and trainers who have demonstrated exceptional competence and contributed significantly to the success of Filipino athletes in major international and professional sports competitions.

(a) Qualifications:

- (1) Must have coached or trained an athlete who won at least a Gold Medal in the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games in an official medal event;
- (2) Other coaches and trainers who qualify under the provisions of Republic Act No. 10699, otherwise known as the Expanded National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act; and
- (3) Must have coached or trained a World Champion in any professional sports competition.

(b) Additional Qualifying Standards:

- (1) Demonstrated direct coaching responsibility during the medal-winning period;
- (2) Recognized accreditation by national or international sports bodies; and
- (3) Consistent record of athlete development and ethical coaching practice.

SEC. 7. *Distinguished Honors and Legacy Awards.* – There are hereby established the Distinguished Honors and Legacy Awards, which shall be special Hall of Fame recognitions conferred upon individuals for exceptional leadership and lifetime contributions to Philippine sports.

Recipients of the Distinguished Honors and Legacy Awards shall be inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame under distinct honors category, and shall be officially listed and recorded as Hall of Fame inductees.

A. Sports Executive Leadership Award – This category recognizes Filipino individuals who have rendered outstanding, measurable, and nationally significant service to Philippine sports outside direct athletic competition, and whose leadership, professional expertise, or institutional contributions have materially advanced the country's sporting excellence, sustainability, and development.

(a) Eligible fields of contribution include:

- (1) Sports administration and governance.

(b) Minimum Qualification:

- (1) Must have demonstrated substantial and verifiable contributions that led to, enabled, or sustained athletic success at the Southeast Asian (SEA) Games level or higher, whether through policy leadership, program implementation, technical innovation, or institutional support.

(c) Higher Merit Consideration:

- (1) Priority shall be given to nominees whose contributions resulted in one or more of the following:

- (a) Sustained Asian-level or world-level competitiveness of Filipino athletes or national teams;
- (b) Major institutional reforms, systems, or programs with national scope and enduring impact; or
- (c) Long-term development of elite, developmental, or grassroots sports structures, including talent identification, athlete pathways, or capacity-building frameworks.

(d) Additional Standards:

- (1) The nominee's impact must be clearly documented, evidence-based, and independently verifiable, demonstrating national significance rather than isolated or short-term achievements; and
- (2) Contributions may be cumulative and non-medal-based, provided they show clear outcomes, sustainability, and measurable benefit to Philippine sports development or international competitiveness.

(e) Key Rule:

- (1) Only one (1) Sports Executive Leadership Award shall be conferred per award cycle, underscoring its status as a distinct, premier recognition for strategic and institutional leadership in Philippine sports.

B. Lifetime Achievement in Sports Award – The Lifetime Achievement in Sports Award is the highest honorary distinction conferred upon individuals whose cumulative, exceptional, and enduring contributions to Philippine sports have produced profound national impact and helped shape the long-term development, integrity, and international standing of Philippine sports.

This award transcends single achievements or competitive results and recognizes a legacy of service, leadership, and influence sustained over decades.

(a) Qualification Criteria – A nominee must meet all of the following:

- (1) Must have rendered at least forty (40) years of distinguished service, achievement, or leadership in Philippine sports;
- (2) Contributions may span multiple roles, including but not limited to sports executive, administrator, scholar, medical or scientific expert, advocate, or builder of sports institutions and systems; and
- (3) Must demonstrate a clear, long-term national impact, evidenced by lasting programs, institutions, policies, athlete development pathways, or cultural influence on Philippine sports beyond a single event, competition, or sport.

(b) Additional Considerations

- (1) The award may be conferred posthumously, in recognition of individuals whose legacy continues to significantly benefit Philippine sports;
- (2) Competitive success, while relevant, is not a prerequisite, provided that the nominee's overall contribution demonstrates transformational and enduring value to the national sports landscape.

(c) Key Rule

- (1) Only one (1) Lifetime Achievement in Sports Award shall be conferred per award cycle, emphasizing its status as a supreme honor reserved for truly extraordinary and irreplaceable contributions to Philippine sports.

SEC. 8. *Public Nomination and Transparency.* – Nominations may be submitted by national sports associations, sports organizations, educational institutions, former inductees, or members of the public, subject to rules promulgated by the Screening Committee.

The Philippine Sports Commission shall publish the criteria and list of nominees prior to final selection to ensure transparency and public participation.

SEC. 9. *Nationality and Representation.* – Nominees must be Filipino citizens at the time of their athletic achievement and contributions, Hall of Fame nominations and awarding. Dual citizens may qualify provided they competed under Philippine colors or accreditation.

SEC. 10. *Eligibility Period.* – Athlete, coach and trainer nominees shall be eligible for induction beginning three (3) years after their retirement from active elite competition.

SEC. 11. *Character, Integrity, and Disqualification.* – Nominees must possess proven integrity, sportsmanship, and ethical conduct.

Any nominee or inductee who has been finally convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude, found guilty of doping, match-fixing, or other grave violations of sports ethics shall be disqualified or removed from the Sports Hall of Fame, subject to due process.

SEC. 12. *Removal of Inductees.* – An inductee may be removed from the Sports Hall of Fame upon finding grounds under Section 11 hereof.

Removal shall require due notice, opportunity to be heard, and approval by the majority votes of the Screening Committee and shall result in the removal of the inductee's name and exhibits from official records and displays.

SEC. 13. *Permanent Hall and Repository.* – The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) shall establish or designate a permanent physical and/or digital site to serve as the official Philippine Sports Hall of Fame.

The Hall shall maintain archives, historical records, memorabilia, educational materials, and digital exhibits, and may establish traveling or regional exhibitions in coordination with local government units and educational institutions.

SEC. 14. *Induction Schedule and Venue.* – Induction into the Sports Hall of Fame shall be conducted biennially at the Heroes Hall of Malacañang Palace, or such other venue as may be designated, to be graced by the President of the Philippines or his/her duly authorized representative.

SEC. 15. *Appropriations and Supplemental Funding.* – The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Philippine Sports Commission under the current General Appropriations Act.

Further, the Sports Hall of Fame may receive donations, grants, sponsorships, endowments, and bequests, subject to existing government accounting, auditing, and procurement laws.

All funds shall be used exclusively for the maintenance, promotion, educational programs, and preservation activities of the Sports Hall of Fame.

SEC. 16. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Philippine Sports Commission, in consultation with the Philippine Olympic Committee and other stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations.

SEC. 17. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

SEC. 18. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules or regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 19. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

APPROVED,