



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9435



Introduced By Representative Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 14 Section 19 paragraph 1 of our Constitution mandates that:

"The State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry."

One way to encourage the youth to engage and excel in sports is through financial support as this will enable them to train, compete, and succeed at the highest levels.

Government grants are a significant source of financial support, particularly for athletes competing in Olympic sports or representing their countries in international competitions. Countries with strong governmental involvement in sports often provide financial assistance through state-sponsored programs aimed at developing athletic talent. These grants help cover training costs, medical expenses, and travel fees, which are critical for athletes preparing for international competitions. And most often, the athletes receiving strong governmental support are those who win the most medal and shine brightly in the competition.

This bill seeks to strengthen local sports program to develop the skills of young athletes through institutionalizing three program funds that will be used for: giving young athletes vouchers to help pay for their registration, membership, participation, and training fees; supporting local sports clubs, recreation clubs, and sports organizations for projects and programs; and assisting local sports clubs, recreation clubs, and sports organizations in improving sports facilities.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



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



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AN ACT
STRENGTHENING LOCAL SPORTS PROGRAMS TO DEVELOP YOUNG
ATHLETES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. – Article XIV, Section 19 (1) of the Constitution provides that the State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry.

Pursuant to the aforementioned policy, the State shall appropriate funds for the upgrade of sports facilities and extend financial assistance in the form of sports vouchers to mitigate the cost of participation in a sports club, recreation club, sports association, or sports organization of their choice: *Provided*, That the sports club, recreation club, sports association, or sports organization is duly accredited or recognized by the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC).

SEC. 2. Program Funds. – To further promote sports and its benefits among the youth, the PSC shall allocate adequate resources to financially support the affiliation of young athletes, including those with disabilities, who cannot afford to join any local sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization by reason of financial constraints. For this purpose, the PSC shall manage and administer three (3) separate funds, as follows:

- a) **Get Started Fund.** – The fund shall be used to assist young athletes, including those with disabilities, with a discount voucher of up to Three thousand pesos (P3,000.00) annually to help pay for their membership, registration, participation, training, or general fees, including the purchase of sports equipment and uniforms. The vouchers can be redeemed at any sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization that is duly accredited or recognized by the PSC and have facilities and activities which can provide the proper, well-equipped, safe, healthy, comfortable, and accessible venue, and opportunities for training and competition: *Provided*, That the voucher providers are registered with the program.
- b) **Get Going Fund.** – The fund shall be used to support local sports clubs, recreation clubs, sports associations, and sports organizations with funding of up to Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) annually for sustainability of existing projects and programs that promote grassroots sports development; and
- c) **Get Playing Fund.** – The fund shall provide up to Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) annually in order to assist local sports clubs, recreation clubs, sports associations, and sports organizations in improving sports facilities and encourage more young athletes to become actively involved in the sports activity of their choice.

SEC. 3. Eligibility Criteria. – To avail of the sports voucher, the young athlete must be:

- a) Under the age of eighteen (18) and is actively engaged in any sports;
- b) A member of any local sports club, recreation club, sports association, or organization duly accredited or recognized by the PSC; and
- c) A resident in the locality where the sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization is located.

SEC. 4. Conditions for the Use of the Voucher. – The use of the sports voucher shall be governed by the following terms and conditions:

- a) It shall not be redeemable for cash;
- b) It is non-transferrable to any person except to another PSC-accredited or recognized local sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization: *Provided*, That the transfer can be done only once a year: *Provided further*, That the transfer must be applied prior to the actual use and enjoyment of the sports facilities;
- c) It cannot be reused once redeemed by any PSC-accredited or recognized local sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization; and
- d) Only one (1) voucher shall be payable to an eligible athlete per calendar year.

SEC. 5. *Sports Vouchers Providers.* - To be eligible under the program, the sports club, recreation club, sports association or organization must be affiliated to a National Sports Association, duly recognized by the Philippine Olympic Committee and the PSC.

SEC. 6. *Appropriations.* – The initial amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the PSC. Thereafter, such amount shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The PSC shall, in consultation with various national sports associations, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days after its effectivity.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, issuances, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are deemed amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,