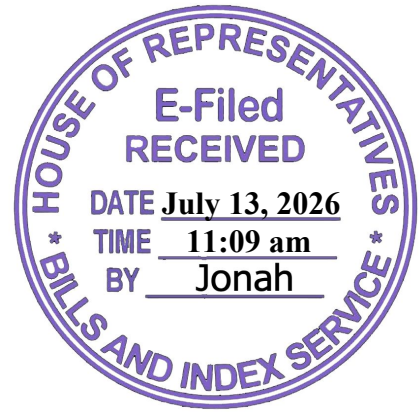




**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City**

**Twentieth Congress
1st Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 10050**



Introduced by Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho

EXPLANATORY NOTE

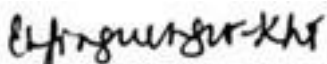
Sports bring Filipinos together, inspire national pride, and showcase the country's talent and determination on the world stage. Every time a Filipino athlete competes internationally, whether in the Olympic Games, World Championships, or regional sporting events, they carry not only our flag but also the hopes and aspirations of the nation. Through their discipline, perseverance, and sacrifices, they become symbols of Filipino excellence and resilience.

Yet behind every medal and victory is a story of years of relentless training, physical hardship, and personal sacrifice. While these athletes dedicate the best years of their lives to representing the country, many face uncertainty once their competitive careers come to an end. After retirement, some struggle with financial difficulties, lingering injuries, limited employment opportunities, and inadequate access to healthcare. Despite the recognition they receive during their athletic careers, many are left without sufficient long-term support.

Although Republic Act No. 10699, otherwise known as the National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act, provides cash incentives and benefits for outstanding athletic achievements, it does not establish a comprehensive system that ensures the continued welfare, health, and dignity of our national athletes after retirement.

By passing this measure, the State affirms that the service and sacrifices of our athletes do not end when they leave the playing field. Those who have devoted their lives to bringing honor and glory to the Philippines deserve more than applause and medals they deserve lasting security, dignity, and the assurance that the nation they proudly represented will continue to stand by them for the rest of their lives.

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


REP. ELISA T. KHO, M.D., FPCCP



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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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**Twentieth Congress
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Introduced by Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho

AN ACT GRANTING DISTINCTIVE HONORS AND PRIVILEGES TO NATIONAL ATHLETES, CREATING A NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND FOR SPORTS HEROES, 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 "Bayaning Atletang Pilipino Act."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to promote physical education and encourage sports programs to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry. The State further recognizes that athletes who achieve international distinction serve as inspirations to the youth and ambassadors of goodwill, and are therefore entitled to distinctive state honors, social security protection, and lifetime privileges commensurate with their contributions to national prestige.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act:

- (a) National Athlete refers to any Filipino citizen, athlete, or sports icon who is a member of the national training pool and has officially represented the Philippines in international sports competitions sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), or the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC).
- (b) Sports Heroes refers to national athletes who have won gold, silver, or bronze medals in the Olympic Games, World Championships, Asian Games, Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, or equivalent world-class elite sports events.
- (c) Distinctive honors refers to state recognized awards, medals of honor, and ceremonial titles bestowed upon elite sports figures.

SECTION 4. Distinctive Honors and the Order of National Athletes. – There is hereby created the Order of National Athletes (Orden ng mga Bayaning Atleta), which shall serve as the highest state

recognition bestowed upon retired or active Filipino sports heroes. The award shall be jointly administered by the PSC, the POC, and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), conferred annually by the President of the Philippines.

SECTION 5. Lifetime Privileges and Benefits. – In addition to existing incentives under Republic Act No. 10699, all accredited sports heroes shall be entitled to the following lifetime privileges:

- (a) Comprehensive Healthcare- Automatic enrollment in a premium, fully subsidized National Health Insurance Program (PhilHealth) bracket, alongside a supplemental lifetime medical care allowance to cover sport-related injuries and chronic illnesses.
- (b) Lifelong Pension- A monthly, tax-free retirement pension scheme starting at the age of forty-five (45) or upon formal retirement from the national pool, the baseline amount of which shall be determined by the PSC based on medals won.
- (c) Dependent Education Grants- Full tertiary education tuition scholarships in any state university or college (SUC) for up to two (2) legitimate or recognized dependents of the sports hero.
- (d) Livelihood and Employment Assistance- Mandatory technical-vocational or entrepreneurial training via TESDA, and priority hiring in government sports development agencies and public academic institutions as coaches, consultants, or athletic directors.

SECTION 6. Creation of the National Endowment Fund for Sports Heroes. – There is hereby established a permanent trust fund to be known as the National Endowment Fund for Sports Heroes (the "Fund"), which shall be used exclusively to finance the retirement benefits, pensions, medical emergency grants, and death benefits of accredited national sports heroes.

The Fund shall be managed by a Board of Trustees chaired by the Chairperson of the PSC, with representatives from the Department of Finance (DOF), GSIS, POC, and two (2) retired national athletes.

SECTION 7. Funding Sources. – The Fund shall be constituted from the following sources:

- (a) An initial seed capital of Five Hundred Million Pesos (₱500,000,000.00) to be appropriated from the National Treasury;
- (b) Ten percent (10%) of the gross annual income share of the national government from the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), which shall be automatically remitted directly to the Fund;
- (c) Donations, endowments, and grants from local or international private entities, which shall be declared tax-deductible under the National Internal Revenue Code.

SECTION 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the PSC, in coordination with the Games and Amusements Board (GAB),

the POC, the DBM, and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,