

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
20TH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 10495



Introduced by: **REP. JOEL R. CHUA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In recent years, Filipino athletes have continued to make the nation proud by excelling on the global stage. From the Olympics and the Asian Games to international competitions across various sports, they have demonstrated that Filipino talent can compete with the best in the world. Their achievements have inspired countless young Filipinos to dream bigger and pursue excellence through sports.

These successes, however, must be matched with sustained investment at the grassroots level. Many cities and municipalities still lack adequate sports and recreational facilities where children, aspiring athletes, and ordinary citizens can safely train, exercise, and stay active. Without accessible venues, many promising athletes never get the opportunity to develop their talents.

This measure seeks to establish the Local Sports Development Fund to provide every city and municipality with dedicated financial assistance for the construction, rehabilitation, and maintenance of public sports and recreational facilities.

Recognizing that every peso of public funds must be properly accounted for, the bill likewise requires the creation of a publicly accessible online transparency portal where citizens can easily monitor the amount of funding received by their city or municipality, the projects undertaken, and how these funds are being utilized. This promotes accountability, strengthens public trust, and ensures that resources intended for sports development truly benefit the communities they are meant to serve.

Now is the time to build on the momentum created by the remarkable achievements of our Filipino athletes. By investing in local sports infrastructure, we can discover and nurture future champions while promoting healthier and more active communities.

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



JOEL R. CHUA

Representative, 3rd District, Manila

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE LOCAL SPORTS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, DEVELOPMENT, AND MAINTENANCE OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, 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 "Local Sports Development Fund."

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote physical fitness, sports development, healthy recreation, and the holistic well-being of all Filipinos. The State recognizes that accessible sports and recreational facilities are essential in encouraging active lifestyles, fostering community engagement, discovering athletic talent, even preventing juvenile delinquency, and improving public health.

Towards this end, the State shall provide financial assistance to all cities and municipalities for the establishment, improvement, rehabilitation, and maintenance of sports and recreational facilities that are accessible, safe, and inclusive.

Section 3. Creation of the Local Sports Development Fund. – There is hereby created a Local Sports Development Fund (LSDF) to provide financial assistance to every city and municipality for the development of sports and recreational infrastructure.

Each city and municipality shall receive an annual allocation from the Fund, subject to the availability of appropriations and in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations.

Section 4. Purpose of the Fund. - The Local Sports Development Fund shall be used exclusively for the following:

- (a) Construction, acquisition, expansion, rehabilitation, and upgrading of sports complexes, gymnasiums, covered courts, athletic tracks, swimming pools, football fields, multipurpose courts, and other sports facilities;

(b) Development of public parks, playgrounds, open recreational spaces, jogging paths, bicycle tracks, fitness parks, and similar community recreational facilities;

(c) Acquisition of sports equipment, fixtures, and other necessary amenities; and

(d) Installation of lighting systems, drainage, sanitation facilities, seating, accessibility features for persons with disabilities, and other safety improvements;

Section 5. Priority Projects. – In utilizing the Fund, priority shall be given to cities and municipalities that:

(a) Have no adequate public sports complex or recreational facility;

(b) Serve geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas;

(c) Have high population density but limited open recreational spaces; or

(d) Demonstrate substantial need based on objective criteria established by the DILG and PSC.

Section 6. Local Sports Development Plan. – To qualify for funding, every city and municipality shall prepare and adopt a Local Sports Development Plan, identifying priority infrastructure projects, estimated costs, implementation schedules, and programs for facility operation and maintenance.

Section 7. Implementing Agencies. – The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and the concerned local government units, shall administer and oversee the implementation of this Act.

The DILG and PSC shall formulate standards for the planning, construction, operation, accessibility, and maintenance of sports and recreational facilities.

Section 8. Use and Accessibility. – Facilities funded under this Act shall:

(a) Be owned and operated by the concerned local government unit;

(b) Be accessible to the general public at reasonable hours;

(c) Prioritize the use of schools, youth organizations, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and community sports organizations; and

(d) Be maintained in a safe, clean, and serviceable condition.

Section 9. Transparency, Accountability, and Public Disclosure. – Each beneficiary city and municipality shall maintain separate accounting records for all funds received under this Act and shall submit annual financial and accomplishment reports to the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), detailing the amount received, projects undertaken, expenditures incurred, implementation status, and current condition of the sports and recreational facilities.

The DILG shall establish and maintain a publicly accessible online Local Sports Development Fund Transparency Portal, which shall contain, for every city and municipality:

- (a) The amount of Local Sports Development Fund allocation received;
- (b) The approved projects and their respective locations;
- (c) The amount obligated and disbursed for each project;
- (d) The implementation status of every project, including target and actual completion dates;
- (e) Photographs and other relevant documentation showing the progress and completion of projects; and
- (f) Such other information as may be necessary to ensure transparency and public accountability.

All information shall be updated at least quarterly and shall be made available to the public free of charge.

The Commission on Audit (COA) shall conduct regular audits of all funds disbursed under this Act, without prejudice to any other audit authorized by law.

Section 10. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the concerned agencies. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DILG, in coordination with the PSC, DPWH, Department of Budget and Management (DBM), other concerned agencies and at least two (2) representatives from related non-governmental organizations, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 12. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 13. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 14. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.