



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 11386



Introduced by Representative Jernie Jett V. Nisay

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State has a responsibility to ensure that this heritage is not lost to modernization and changing ways of life. When an indigenous game disappears, a part of the culture and knowledge carried by generations may disappear with it.

Preserving these games therefore means preserving our cultural diversity, strengthening the identity of indigenous communities, and ensuring that future generations remain connected to their roots and the story behind it.

This proposed measure now seeks to preserve and promote indigenous games through regular competitions, educational activities, documentation, research, and continued community participation, in consultation with the indigenous peoples to whom these traditions belong. Cultural heritage is not only something to be remembered. It is something that must be kept alive.

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


REP. JERNIE JETT V. NISAY
Pusong Pinoy Partylist



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AN ACT
PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS GAMES OF THE PHILIPPINES, 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 Indigenous Games Preservation Act.*”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – Article II, Section 22 of the Constitution provides that the State shall recognize and promote the rights of indigenous cultural communities within the framework of national unity and development. Furthermore, Article 31.1 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples enjoins all State signatories to take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of the indigenous peoples’ rights which include the maintenance, control, and development of their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and expression, oral traditions, literatures, designs, sports, and traditional games.

Pursuant to the aforesaid mandates, it is incumbent upon the State to lay down specific policy directives to promote the interest of our indigenous peoples, preserve the intangible cultural heritage as living heritage and help people connect with their historical roots. The State shall take the necessary steps to preserve the indigenous peoples’ games which serve as the best avenue for their self-expression, and for promoting peace, harmony, goodwill, and camaraderie among them.

SEC. 3. Indigenous Games. – The term “indigenous games” refer to the traditional sports and games distinctly connected and rooted in the traditions, customs, and practices, and reflect the rich cultural heritage of the different indigenous cultural communities or indigenous peoples, handed down from generation to generation such as *bunong braso*, *ginnuyudan*, *hilahang lubid*, *kadang-kadang*, *karera sa sako*, *luksong-tinik*, *patintero*, *syato*, *unggoy-unggoyan*. These include

1 games played by the indigenous communities, usually accompanied by
2 indigenous materials and implements, in observance of indigenous peoples'
3 rituals, celebration of cultural festivals, expression of socialization, entertainment,
4 and competition.

5
6 **SEC. 4. Annual Regional and National Indigenous Sports**

7 **Competitions.** –The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) shall, in coordination
8 with the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), the National Commission on
9 Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and the local government units (LGUs), conduct
10 annual regional and national indigenous sports competitions.

11
12 The host LGU shall, in coordination and consultation with the concerned
13 indigenous cultural communities or indigenous peoples, identify which games or
14 sports events shall be included in the regional and national indigenous sports
15 competitions.

16
17 **SEC. 5. Other Means of Preserving the Indigenous Games.** – The NCIP
18 and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) shall, in
19 coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on
20 Higher Education (CHED), the PSC, POC, LGUs, and the Philippine Information
21 Agency (PIA), initiate measures to preserve indigenous games in the country, such
22 as the inclusion of indigenous games as part of the curriculum and other
23 appropriate school activities in the basic and higher education system, the
24 production of documentary and other materials on indigenous games, and the
25 conduct of regular demonstration of such games in the *Palarong Pambansa*
26 and in other national sports events.

27
28 The NCIP and the NCCA shall likewise conduct research on the various sports
29 and games traditionally played by different indigenous groups, in consultation
30 with the concerned indigenous cultural communities or indigenous peoples, to
31 ensure the preservation and continuity of the indigenous games.

32
33 **SEC. 6. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the implementation of
34 this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

35
36 **SEC. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The PSC and the NCIP as
37 the lead agencies shall, in coordination with the POC, NCCA, DepEd, CHED,
38 LGUs, and PIA, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of
39 this Act within sixty (60) days after its effectivity.

40
41 **SEC. 8. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is held
42 invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force
43 and effect.

44
45 **SEC. 9. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, executive orders, issuances, decrees,
46 rules, and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are
47 deemed amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.

48
49 **SEC. 10. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
50 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

1 *Approved,*