

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH (17th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2628



Introduced by: Representative Jose L. Atienza, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Education in our country is perceived as a valuable gift from parents to their children and the kind of education they receive from our educational system greatly contributes to their future success. The Department of Education, Culture, and Sports (DECS) was reorganized in 2001 as the Department of Education (DepEd) and since then, the learning of our Philippine culture and arts has not been as in-depth as before. Aside from culture and the arts, the sports development in the youth has also devolved into minor participation during school intramurals and similar events.

This has also contributed to the current Filipino youth's estrangement from our cultural dances, traditional music, arts and crafts. Our artists have also found it difficult to showcase their works now because there is no interest from the biggest segment of the Philippine Population, the youth. The number of professionals in the field of the culture and the arts - traditional dancers, traditional musicians, painters, sculptors, and poets, has dwindled. Furthermore, government support for our artists in the form of much-needed funding is almost non-existent. They are able to continue in their craft and in showcasing the Filipino cultural arts through the support of philanthropists.

Likewise, the state of sports in this country is very disappointing. We do not fare well in international competitions. Most of our medals come from individual sporting disciplines such as boxing, bowling, billiards, and ice-skating. It should not be a surprise then that we have not been winning medals in team sports because since the DECS devolved into the DepEd, the proper teaching of team sports to young students, is no longer a priority in the majority of schools.

This bill seeks the restoration of the original functions of the DepEd back to the Department of Education, Culture and Sports as it used to be. With the realization of this measure, we shall have properly guided the youth towards the conservation of our rich history and heritage, the promotion of arts and culture, the strengthening of their minds and bodies, and molding them into the leaders and custodians of our country's future.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this legislative measure is earnestly sought.



HON. JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.
Representative
BUHAY Party-List

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AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE CULTURAL AND SPORTS TRAINING OF THE FILIPINO
YOUTH BY RE-ORGANIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) INTO
THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE, AND SPORTS (DECS),
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 "Department of Education, Culture, and Sports Act of 2016."

SECTION 2. Declaration of State Policies. This Act shall be anchored on the following provisions from the 1987 Philippine Constitution:

- (a) Section 13 of Article II states that "the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth, patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs";
- (b) Section 17 of Article II states that "the State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development";
- (c) Section 15 of Article XIV states that "arts and letters shall enjoy the patronage of the State. The State shall conserve, promote, and popularize

the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations”;

- (d) Section 18 of Article XIV states that “the State shall ensure equal access to cultural opportunities through the educational system, public or private cultural entities, scholarships, grants and other incentives, and community cultural centers, and other public venues”; and
- (e) Paragraph (2) of Section 19 of Article XIV states that “all educational institutions shall undertake regular sports activities throughout the country in cooperation with athletic clubs and other sectors.”

SECTION 3. Renaming of the Department of Education. This Act shall enable the Department of Education to revert to its previous and more complete name, the Department of Education, Culture, and Sports (DECS), which reflects a renewed and a more comprehensive approach of the department to the total development of the Filipino Youth. Section 6 of RA 9155 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 6. Governance. – The Department of Education, Culture and Sports shall be vested with authority, accountability and responsibility for ensuring access to, promoting equity in, and improving the quality of basic education **WITH AN EQUAL FOCUS ON** Arts, Culture, and Sports.

SECTION 4. Bureau of Physical Education and School Sports (BPESS) – Section 9 of RA 9155 entitled “Abolition of the Bureau of Physical Education and School Sports” is hereby repealed and again re-established under the Department of Education, Culture, and Sports. The majority of the needed personnel for the BPESS shall be outsourced from the Philippine Sports Commission.

SECTION 5. Functions of the BPESS. The Bureau of Physical Education and School Sports shall have the following function:

- a. Develop the general fitness of elementary and high school students through sports education;
- b. Promote social and cultural integration through the revival of indigenous games;
- c. Identify and nurture sports talents and promote excellence in sports, traditional games and other physical activities;
- d. Ensure that every school will be teaching at least eight (8) kinds of sports to have diversity and to allow young students to find the perfect sports for them;

- e. Ensure that all schools shall participate and send student representatives to district-level sports fest or fun games;
- f. Conduct workshops for teachers on Sports Education and Sports Science;
- g. Perform other functions as may be provided by law.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). - The present Department of Education, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days after its effectivity. The IRR for the re-establishment of the BPESS shall be formulated by the Department in consultation with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC);

SECTION 7. Appropriations. The necessary funds for the operations of these two bureaus shall be annually allocated in the General Appropriations Act under the budget of the incoming Department of Education, Culture, and Sports;

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts therefor inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed and modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause - If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act shall be adjudged by any Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder of this Act, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph or part therefor directly involved.

SECTION 10. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved.