Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Youth and Sports Development and the Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No. 5808, introduced by Rep. Jake Vincent S. Villa, entitled:

AN ACT
ASSISTING YOUNG ATHLETES BY PROVIDING PROGRAMS AND INCENTIVES FOR THEIR DEVELOPMENT

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 10504, entitled:

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

Respectfully submitted,

REP. ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

REP. FAUSTINO MICHAEL T. DY III
Chairperson
Committee on Youth and Sports Development

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY
Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10504
(In substitution of House Bill No. 5808)

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

Be it enacted by the Senate and the 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, or sports organization of their choice: Provided, That the sports club, recreation club, or sports organization is duly accredited 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 in local sports club, recreation club, or sports organizations which facilities and activities can provide them the proper venue and opportunities for training and competition. 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 as well as athletes who cannot afford to join any local sports club, recreation club, or sports organization by reason of financial constraints. Young athletes shall be provided with a discount voucher of up to Three thousand pesos (P3,000.00) annually to help pay for their registration, membership, participation, and training fees. The vouchers can be redeemed at a sports club, recreation club, or sports organization registered with the program;

b) Get Going Fund. – The fund shall be used to support local sports clubs, recreation clubs, and sports organizations with funding of up to Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) annually for projects and programs that
provide opportunities for more young athletes to become involved in sports; 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, 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 recognized or duly accredited local sports club, recreation club, or sports organization; and

c. A resident in the locality where the sports club, recreation club, or sports organization is located.

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

a. It shall not be redeemable for cash;

b. It is non-transferable to any person except to another local sports club, recreation club, or sports organization;

c. It is transferable to another local sports club, recreation club, or sports organization only once a year: Provided, That the transfer is applied for prior to the actual use and enjoyment of the sports facilities;

d. It cannot be reused once redeemed by the local sports club, recreation club, or sports organization; and

e. Only one (1) voucher shall be payable to an eligible athlete per calendar year.

SEC. 5. 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. 6. 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. 7. **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. 8. **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. 9. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,