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SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

APPROVED BY: *Jua*

S. B. No. 196

Introduced by SENATOR JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Because the State recognizes the youth's role in nation-building, it necessarily recognizes its responsibility to provide opportunities to all its youth, including its student-athletes, or those who desire to hone their skills in sports and athletics. Sports and physical development are basic elements in the education and formation of the youth. Unfortunately, the present public and private school educational system provides inadequate support to the student-athlete.

The only way public school students can pursue sports within the public school structure is through the Palarong Pambansa or Philippine National Games that is, if they are talented enough to be recruited. In terms of curriculum, physical education is taught but this is bulked with health and music in just one academic subject. While the DepEd has identified one high school in each region as schools with a Special Program in Sports (SPS), there is no clear training program and selection criteria in place. The private school system, on the other hand, provides more opportunities for exposure in sporting activities not only because PE is treated as a separate academic subject, but because of the availability of varsity teams that participate in inter-school leagues across the country. However, reports from these private schools have shown that a substantial number of student athletes had academic difficulties. This low academic performance can primarily be attributed to the lack of time to study and complete projects.

The Philippine High School for Sports (PHSS) will have an academic curriculum that will teach the needed academic skills but at the same time provide the needed time and support for developing the students' sports skills.

Moreover the PHSS will help the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) in training and developing future world-class national athletes, who will be better trained, better equipped and better supported because of their holistic development within PHSS. The PHSS system also

aims to provide the student athletes with skills, which will make them employable immediately after high school.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'J' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that curves upwards at the end.

JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA



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1 SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
2 REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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9 Introduced by Senator JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

11 **AN ACT CREATING AND ESTABLISHING
12 THE PHILIPPINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR SPORTS**

13 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled:*

14 **Section 1. Short title.** - This Act shall be known as "The Philippine High School for
15 Sports (PHSS) Act."

16 **Section 2. Declaration of Principles.** - The Philippine Constitution recognizes the vital
17 role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual,
18 intellectual, and social well-being. It is likewise mandated that the State shall promote physical
19 education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including
20 training for international competitions, foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the
21 development of a healthy and alert citizenry.

22 It is therefore declared the policy of the State to maximize the athletic abilities of
23 students with the end in view of producing world-class athletes with solid academic background.
24 In line with this, an educational system to foster the total development of the youth, with special
25 emphasis on the enhancement and development of their skills in sports is hereby established.

26
27 **Section 3. Creation and Establishment of the Philippine High School for Sports.** -
28 There is hereby created and established a national high school to be known as the Philippine
29 High School for Sports (PHSS). This shall be attached to the Department of Education (DepEd)
30 which shall [also] coordinate with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) for policy and
31 program formulation and implementation on subjects pertaining to sports.

32
33 **Section 4. Purpose of the PHSS.** - The PHSS shall offer [, on a full and partial
34 scholarship basis] a secondary course with special emphasis on developing the athletic skills of
35 the students through subjects pertaining to physical education and sports development, with the
36 end in view of preparing its students who have shown their early potential of excelling in sports
37 for a sports-related career while undergoing quality secondary education. The Board may agree
38 to accept paying students based on the criteria for eligibility for scholarships as established.

39
40 **Section 5. Director of the PHSS.** - The PHSS shall be headed by a Director, who shall
41 serve for a period of four (4) years and shall be eligible for reappointment. He shall be appointed
42 by the Board of Trustees, as created in Section 6. The Board shall also fix his compensation.

1 His functions, powers and duties, in addition to those specifically provided for in this law, shall
2 be those usually pertaining to the office of the principal of any high school in the Philippine
3 educational system.

4
5 **Section 6. Board of Trustees.** – The exercise of the corporate powers of the phss is
6 hereby vested exclusively in the board of trustees, hereinafter referred to as the board, and in
7 the director, insofar as authorized by said board, and shall serve for a period of three (3) years.

8 The PHSS shall have a board of trustees, which shall be composed of the following members:
9 secretary of the deped or his representative, the chairperson of the psc or his representative,
10 the director of the phss, one (1) representative each from the senate and the house of
11 representatives, and four (4) representatives from the sports community: *provided*, that the four
12 (4) representatives from the sports community shall be chosen from among a list of persons
13 qualified in the field of sports, as recommended by the search committee constituted by the
14 director in consultation with the chairperson of the philippine sports commission, based on the
15 normal standards and qualification for the position: *provided further*, that the members shall
16 elect from among themselves the chair of the board. All members who are not receiving regular
17 compensation from the government shall receive *per diem* per session of the board.

18 **Section 7. Powers and Functions of the Board of Trustees.** – The Board shall have
19 all the powers and prerogatives of a board of directors of a private corporation. It shall also have
20 the following powers, among others:

21 (a) To fix the site of the PHSS;

22 (b) To receive and appropriate for the ends herein specified such sums as may be
23 provided by law for the support of the PHSS;

24 (c) To approve appointments made, and contracts entered into, by the Director in
25 connection with the employment of teachers, lecturers and other employees of the
26 school, to fix their compensation and other conditions of employment, and to remove
27 them for cause after proper investigation;

28 (d) To import duty-free sports education and training books and/or publications upon
29 certification by the deped that such imported books and/or publications are for sports
30 education and training purposes in accordance with the provisions of the tariff and
31 customs code, as amended;

32 (e) [To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, as the Board may deem
33 proper to impose, after due and comprehensive consultation with the students
34 concerned;] To provide and approve fellowships and training for faculty members

35 (f) To approve the grant of scholarships, stipends and such other allowances to
36 deserving students;

1 (g) To establish the criteria for the selection and admission of students which shall
2 include, among others, national competitive trials and examinations;

3 (h) To develop the athletic potential of every student together with a sound and strong
4 academic base;

5
6 (i) To provide a training program for students with the end goal of creating athletes who
7 are competitive in the national, South East Asian, Asian, and Olympics level;

8
9 (j) To approve the issuance of certificates or diplomas to successful candidates for
10 graduation;

11 (k) To solicit and receive in trust, legacies, gifts, and donations of real and personal
12 property of all kinds and to administer the same for the benefit of the PHSS or for aid to
13 any of its students;

14 (l) to develop a curriculum that will meet the objectives of the act; and

15
16 (m) To perform any and all other acts incident to or required by virtue of its creation.

17
18 **Section 8. Quorum of the Board of Trustees.** – A quorum of the Board shall consist of
19 majority of all the members holding office at the time the meeting is called.

20
21 **Section 9. Annual Report.** - On or before the first of April of each year the Board shall
22 submit to the Department Of Education a detailed report on the progress, condition and needs
23 of the PHSS.

24
25 **Section 10. Executive Council.** - There shall be an Executive Council consisting of the
26 Director, the Assistant Director, as provided in Section 11, the heads of departments, and such
27 other ranking faculty members or officials of the PHSS, as may be determined by the Board.

28 The Council shall have the power to screen and select the students subject for
29 admission, to select students who shall be recipients of scholarships, stipends and other
30 allowances, and to develop the curricula, course or study, and rules of discipline. The Council
31 shall implement and execute the policies laid down by the Board and exercise such other
32 functions, powers and duties as the Board may prescribe.

33
34 **Section 11. Assistant Director of the PHSS.** – There shall be an Assistant Director
35 who shall assist the Director. In the absence of the Director, he shall assume the administrative
36 and supervisory functions of the Director. He shall be appointed by the Chairperson of the
37 Board subject to the approval of the same Board, which shall also fix his compensation.

1 **Section 12. Registrar of the PHSS.** - There shall be a Registrar of the School who
2 shall also act as Secretary of the Board, to be appointed by the Director with the approval of the
3 Board. He shall keep all records of the PHSS.

4 **Section 13. Treasurer of the PHSS.** - There shall be a Treasurer of the PHSS who
5 shall be appointed by the Director, with the approval of the Board.

6 All accounts and expenses of the PHSS are public in nature, and shall be subject to
7 auditing by the Commission on Audit (COA).

8 **Section 14. Tax Exemptions of the PHSS.** - The PHSS shall be exempt from payment
9 of all taxes, fees, assessments and other charges of the Government, its branches and
10 subdivisions.

11 It shall likewise be exempt from the payment of customs duties, taxes and tariffs on the
12 importation of sportswear, equipment, books, supplies, instruments, materials and goods,
13 including those donated to the PHSS, *PROVIDED*, That these are of international sports
14 standards and are not available from local manufacturers, *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, That the
15 importation shall only be in such numbers as may be required in the development of various
16 sports and/or training of the students.

17 The PHSS shall also be exempt from withholding taxes on the honoraria or fees paid by
18 the PHSS to visiting lecturers or professors from abroad.

19 **Section 15. Tax Deduction or Exemption of Donations and Contributions.** - All
20 legacies, gifts and donations for the benefit of the PHSS, or for its support and maintenance, or
21 for aid to any of its students shall be tax-exempt and shall be an allowable deduction from the
22 gross-income of the donors.
23

24 **Section 16. Sports High School Fund.** - All incomes and donations to the PHSS
25 created under this Act shall be formed into a fund, to be known as the Sports High School Fund,
26 which the PHSS shall be authorized to retain, without need of a separate approval from any
27 government agency, and subject only to existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.
28 This fund shall be expended as authorized by the Board exclusively for the purpose of this Act.
29

30 **Section 17. Funding.** - To carry out the purposes of this Act the amount of One
31 Hundred Million Pesos (Php 100,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated and shall be made
32 available from the funds of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, this
33 amount to be utilized for the expenses of the PHSS, for the purpose above described shall be
34 provided in the yearly General Appropriation Act.

35 **Section 18. Additional Funding** - Various sources of revenue shall be explored, such
36 as a combination of government funding, private sponsorship/scholarships, profit generation,
37 among others;
38

1 **Section 19. Separability Clause.** - If any part or provision of this Act shall be held
2 unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions thereof which are not affected thereby shall continue
3 to be in full force and effect.

4
5 **Section 20. Repealing Clause.** — All other laws, decrees, executive order and other
6 administrative issuances and parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
7 are hereby modified, superseded or repealed accordingly.

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9 **Section 21. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
10 publication in the Official Gazette or in a major daily newspaper of national circulation in the
11 Philippines.

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13 *Approved,*
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