

2  
NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'22 JUL 14 P3:28

SENATE

S. No. 622

RECEIVED BY: 

---

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

---

**AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF  
NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE THROUGH ENHANCED  
CULTURAL HERITAGE EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND CULTURAL  
MAPPING, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.  
10066 OR THE NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT OF 2009**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Culture is the narrative that binds Filipinos, regardless of ethnicity, social class, or educational background, into a common chronicle of tradition, trials, and triumph. It is a story of our nation's journey throughout the centuries.

UNESCO has recognized cultural mapping as a crucial tool and technique in preserving the world's tangible and intangible cultural assets.<sup>1</sup> The documentation of these cultural elements covers a wide range of areas, namely: (1) built heritage such as architecture, (2) tangible heritage such as traditional dwellings, (3) intangible heritage such as indigenous skills, and (4) natural heritage. The fundamental goal of cultural mapping is to educate and help the nation visualize its rich heritage while allowing for the reflection of what it stands to lose as a result of its collective apathy.

To further strengthen heritage conservation in the country, this bill seeks to amend Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the "*National Cultural Heritage Act*

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://bangkok.unesco.org/content/cultural-mapping> (July 4, 2017)

*of 2009", to mandate local government units (LGUs) to conduct a cultural heritage mapping of their areas for both tangible and intangible, and natural and built heritage.*

For the above-cited reasons, the passage of this bill is urgently sought.



**LOREN LEGARDA**

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'22 JUL 14 P3:28

SENATE  
S. No. 622

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

---

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

---

AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF  
NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE THROUGH ENHANCED  
CULTURAL HERITAGE EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND CULTURAL  
MAPPING, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.  
10066 OR THE NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT OF 2009

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

1 Section. 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the  
2 "National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009," is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following  
4 terms shall be defined as follows:

5 (a) "Adaptive reuse" shall refer to the utilization of buildings, other  
6 built-structures, and sites of value for purposes other than those  
7 that were originally intended to conserve the site, their engineering  
8 integrity, and their design authenticity.

9 (b) "Anthropological area" shall refer to any place where studies of  
10 specific ethnolinguistic groups are undertaken, the properties of  
11 which are of value to our cultural heritage.

12 (c) "Antique" shall refer to a cultural property found locally which is  
13 one hundred (100) years in age, more or less, the production of  
14 which has ceased.

15 (d) "Archaeological area" shall refer to any place, whether above or  
16 underground, underwater or at sea level, containing fossils,

1 artifacts and other cultural, geological, botanical, and zoological  
2 materials which depict and document culturally relevant  
3 paleontological, prehistoric, and/or historic events.

4 (e) "Archives" shall refer to public and private records in any format  
5 which have been selected for permanent preservation because of  
6 their evidential, historical informational value; otherwise known as  
7 archival materials collections or archival holdings; the place  
8 (building/room/storage area) where archival materials are kept  
9 and preserved; and an organization or agency or part thereof  
10 whose main responsibility is to appraise, arrange, describe,  
11 conserve, promote and make archival materials available for  
12 reference and research, also known as archival agency

13 (f) "Built heritage/TANGIBLE HERITAGE" shall refer to  
14 architectural and engineering structures such as, but not limited to,  
15 bridges, government buildings, houses of ancestry, traditional  
16 dwellings, quartels, train stations, lighthouses, small ports,  
17 educational, technological, and industrial complexes, and their  
18 settings, and landscapes with notable historical and cultural  
19 significance. **PROTECTION OF THESE STRUCTURES SHALL**  
20 **ALSO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE MAINTENANCE**  
21 **OF THE INTEGRITY OF ITS VISUAL CORRIDOR AND/OR**  
22 **LINE OF SIGHT.**

23 (g) "Collector" shall refer to any person or institution that acquires  
24 cultural property for purposes other than sale.

25 (h) "Commission" shall refer to the National Commission for Culture  
26 and the Arts (NCCA).

27 (i) "Conservation" shall refer to all the processes and measures of  
28 maintaining the cultural significance of cultural property,  
29 including but not limited to the preservation, restoration,  
30 reconstruction, protection, adaptation, or any combination thereof.

31 (j) "Cultural agencies" shall refer to the following national  
32 government agencies with their specific areas of responsibility:



1 National Museum (cultural property); the National Library  
2 (books); National Historical Institute (Philippine history); National  
3 Archives (documents); Cultural Center of the Philippines (culture  
4 and the arts); and *Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino* (language).

5 (k) "Cultural education" shall refer to the teaching and learning of  
6 cultural concepts and processes.

7 (l) "Cultural heritage" shall refer to the totality of cultural property  
8 preserved and developed through time and passed on to posterity.

9 **(M) "CULTURAL HERITAGE MAPPING" SHALL REFER TO THE**  
10 **APPROACH USED TO IDENTIFY, RECORD, AND USE**  
11 **CULTURAL RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES FOR BUILDING**  
12 **COMMUNITIES. IT IS A SET OF ACTIVITIES AND**  
13 **PROCESSES FOR EXPLORING, DISCOVERING,**  
14 **DOCUMENTING, EXAMINING, ANALYZING,**  
15 **INTERPRETING, PRESENTING AND SHARING**  
16 **INFORMATION RELATED TO PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES,**  
17 **SOCIETIES, PLACES AND THE MATERIAL PRODUCTS AND**  
18 **PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PEOPLE AND PLACES.**

19 ~~[(m)]~~ (N) "Cultural heritage worker" shall refer to an individual  
20 undertaking cultural heritage work.

21 ~~[(n)]~~ (O) "Cultural institution" shall refer to entities engaged primarily  
22 in cultural work.

23 ~~[(o)]~~ (P) "Cultural property" shall refer to all products of human  
24 creativity by which a people and a nation reveal their identity,  
25 including churches, mosques and other places of religious worship,  
26 schools and natural history specimens and sites, whether public or  
27 privately-owned, movable or immovable, and tangible or  
28 intangible.

29 ~~[(p)]~~ (Q) "Dealers" shall refer to natural or juridical persons who  
30 acquire cultural property for the purpose of engaging in the  
31 acquisition and disposition of the same.

1           [(q)] (R) "Heritage zone" shall refer to historical, anthropological,  
2           archaeological, artistic geographical areas and settings that are  
3           culturally significant to the country, as declared by the National  
4           Museum and/or the National Historical Institute.

5           [(r)] (S) "History" shall refer to a written record of past events relating  
6           to Philippine history.

7           [(s)] (T) "Historical landmarks" shall refer to sites or structures that are  
8           associated with events or achievements significant to Philippine  
9           history as declared by the National Historical Institute.

10          [(t)] (U) "Historical monuments" shall refer to structures that honor  
11          illustrious persons or commemorate events of historical value as  
12          declared by the National Historical Institute.

13          [(u)] (V) "Historical shrines" shall refer to historical sites or structures  
14          hallowed and revered for their history or association as declared by  
15          the National Historical Institute.

16          [(v)] (W) "Historical street name" shall refer to a street name that has  
17          been in existence for at least fifty (50) years and over time has been  
18          considered historic.

19          [(w)] (X) "Important cultural property" shall refer to a cultural property  
20          having exceptional cultural, artistic, and historical significance to  
21          the Philippines, as shall be determined by the National Museum  
22          and/or National Historical Institute.

23          [(x)] (Y) "Intangible cultural heritage" shall refer to the practices,  
24          representations, expressions, knowledge, and skills, as well as the  
25          instruments, objects, and artifacts associated therewith, that  
26          communities, groups, and individuals recognize as part of their  
27          cultural heritage, such as: (1) oral traditions, languages and  
28          expressions; (2) performing arts; (3) social practices, rituals, and  
29          festive events; (4) knowledge and practices concerning nature and  
30          the universe; and (5) traditional craftsmanship.

31          [(y)] (Z) "Intangible cultural property" shall refer to the peoples'  
32          learned processes along with the knowledge, skills and creativity

1 that inform and are developed by them, the products they create  
2 and the resources, spaces, and other aspects of social and natural  
3 context necessary for their sustainability.

4 [(z)] (AA) "Library" shall refer to an institution where the collection of  
5 books, manuscripts, computerized information, and other materials  
6 are organized to provide physical, bibliographic and/or intellectual  
7 access to the public, with a librarian that is trained to provide  
8 services and programs related to the information needs of its  
9 clientele.

10 [(aa)] (BB) "Museum" shall refer to a permanent institution that  
11 researches, acquires, conserves, communicates, and exhibits the  
12 material evidence of humans and their environment for purposes  
13 of education or leisure.

14 [(bb)] (CC) "National cultural treasure" shall refer to a unique cultural  
15 property found locally, possessing outstanding historical, cultural,  
16 artistic and/ or scientific value which is highly significant and  
17 important to the country and nation, and officially declared as such  
18 by the pertinent cultural agency.

19 [(cc)] (DD) "Nationally significant" shall refer to historical, aesthetic,  
20 scientific, technical, social and/ or spiritual values that unify the  
21 nation by a deep sense of pride in their various yet common  
22 identities, cultural heritage, and national patrimony.

23 (EE) "NATURAL HERITAGE" SHALL REFER TO THE FLORA AND  
24 FAUNA, THE NATURAL BIOLOGICAL AND PHYSICAL  
25 COMPONENTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND OTHER  
26 RELATED ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY, WHETHER  
27 TERRESTRIAL, WETLAND, OR MARINE.

28 [(dd)] (FF) "Natural property of cultural significance" shall refer to  
29 areas possessing outstanding ecosystems with flora and fauna of  
30 national scientific importance under the National Integrated  
31 Protected Areas System.



1 [(ee)] (GG) "NCCA Portal Cultural Databank" refers to the specific  
2 domain in the Commission's intranet for cultural information that  
3 is accessed only internally with control and confidentiality. It  
4 includes the registry of national cultural property

5 [(ff)] (HH) "Prehistory" shall refer to the period of human history before  
6 the introduction of the forms of writing.

7 [(gg)] (II) "Registry" shall refer to the Philippine Registry of Cultural  
8 Property which is the registry of all cultural property of the country  
9 deemed of significant importance to our cultural heritage.

10 [(hh)] (JJ) "Restoration" shall refer to the action taken or the technical  
11 intervention to correct deterioration and alterations.

12 [(ii)] (KK) "Tangible cultural property" shall refer to a cultural property  
13 with historical, archival, anthropological, archaeological, artistic,  
14 and architectural value, and with exceptional or traditional  
15 production, whether of Philippine origin or not, including antiques  
16 and natural history specimens with significant value."

17 Sec. 2. A new Section 14 of R.A. No. 10066 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

18 **"ARTICLE V**

19 **CULTURAL MAPPING**

20 **SEC. 14. CULTURAL MAPPING BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
21 **UNITS. - LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS ARE HEREBY MANDATED**  
22 **TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE CULTURAL HERITAGE**  
23 **MAPPING OF THEIR AREAS, INCLUDING TANGIBLE AND**  
24 **INTANGIBLE HERITAGE AND NATURAL AND BUILT HERITAGE**  
25 **STRUCTURES. THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS SHALL**  
26 **MOBILIZE AND PARTNER WITH CONCERNED AGENCIES TO**  
27 **ENSURE PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS**  
28 **ACT. ALL FINDINGS AND OUTPUTS SHALL BE SUBMITTED AND**  
29 **REGISTERED IN THE PHILIPPINE REGISTRY OF CULTURAL**  
30 **PROPERTY.**

31 **APART FROM CULTURAL AGENCIES, LOCAL**  
32 **GOVERNMENT UNITS ARE ALSO ENJOINED TO WORK WITH**



1 THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES FOR THE CONDUCT OF CULTURAL  
2 MAPPING:

3 (A) COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) FOR  
4 INSTITUTING CULTURAL AWARENESS IN STATE  
5 UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES;

6 (B) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) FOR THE  
7 INVENTORY OF NATURAL FIBER IN THE COUNTRY;

8 (C) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) FOR INSTITUTING  
9 CULTURAL AWARENESS IN BASIC EDUCATION;

10 (D) DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL  
11 RESOURCES (DENR) FOR THE INVENTORY OF NATURAL  
12 PARKS, BIODIVERSITY AND ENDEMICITY;

13 (E) DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS  
14 (DPWH) FOR ITS PROGRAMS ON HERITAGE ZONES AND  
15 SITES AND PLACES OF SIGNIFICANCE;

16 (F) DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST)  
17 FOR ITS INVENTORY OF NATURAL SOURCES OF DYES  
18 AND OTHER PERTINENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
19 FOR THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY SECTOR IN THE COUNTRY;

20 (G) DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT) FOR THEIR EXISTING  
21 TOURISM PLANS FOR DECLARED NATIONAL AND  
22 WORLD HERITAGE SITES."

23 The succeeding sections shall be renumbered accordingly.

24 Sec. 3. Section 39 of R.A. No. 10066 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 "SEC. 39. *Cultural Heritage Education Programs.* - Within one (1) year  
26 from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education, the Technical  
27 Education and Skills Development Authority and the Commission on  
28 Higher Education, in consultation with the Commission, shall set forth in  
29 its teaching programs nationwide the following cultural heritage  
30 education programs with emphasis at the provincial, city and municipal  
31 levels:

1 (a) Protection, conservation and preservation of cultural heritage  
2 properties;

3 (b) Instructional materials in print, film, and broadcast media on the  
4 cultural and historical significance of cultural properties; [and]

5 **(C) INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS, SKILLS, AND**  
6 **PRACTICES (IKSSP) THROUGH THE APPROPRIATE**  
7 **"SCHOOLS OF LMNG TRADITIONS (SLTS)" MODELS; AND**

8 [(c)] (D) Visitation, public accessibility, and information dissemination  
9 on designated local cultural properties."

10 Sec. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act shall be declared  
11 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions or parts thereof not otherwise  
12 affected shall remain in full force and effect.

13 Sec. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, or rules and  
14 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or  
15 modified accordingly.

16 Sec. 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
17 complete publication either in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of  
18 general circulation.

Approved,