The impressive medal haul by the Philippine team during the recently concluded 2019 Southeast Asian Games has been a source of pride for our people. The Philippines championed over 10 other nations winning 387 medals, amassing an all-time high of 149 Gold medals. The dominant performance displayed by our athletes has intensified our expression of national pride and evoked a sense of national unity.

In recognition of their immense role in promoting nationalism, national identity, and unity as well as their sacrifices during their practices, it is only appropriate that we provide our national athletes and their coaches with higher incentives from the government as they prepare and compete in international competitions. While R.A. No. 10699 provided for expanded incentives for our national athletes and coaches, there is a need to increase the said cash incentives under the law to reflect the gratitude this country has for the enormous work and sacrifice that our national athletes and coaches have put in to bring pride and honor to the Philippines.

The added incentives will encourage Filipinos to engage in sports – especially those which have yet to attract mainstream popularity – and represent the country in the future. This measure will also provide additional support for the recipients to further hone their skills and expertise – whether here in the Philippines or abroad. Finally, it is also our hope that the increased cash incentives can also help our national athletes to be
AN ACT
FURTHER EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF INCENTIVES GRANTED TO NATIONAL ATHLETES AND COACHES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10699 OR THE "NATIONAL ATHLETES AND COACHES BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT."

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

SECTION 1. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 10699 otherwise known as the "National Athletes and Coaches Benefits and Incentives Act", is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 8. Cash Incentives for Athletes – National athletes and other athletes who are not officially or currently members of the national training pool but who have otherwise represented the country in international sports competition, who win gold, silver and bronze medals in international sports competitions shall be entitled to cash incentives in the following amounts:

a. Individual Events
1. For Gold Medalists:
XXX
v. [Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00)] SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P600,000.00) for Asian Beach Games, and Asian-level competitions held at least every two (2) years with at least twenty-five (25) countries participating, and qualifying competitions for World-level and Asian-level games;
vi. [Three hundred thousand pesos (P300,000.00)] FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P400,000.00) for SEA Games; and

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vii. [One hundred fifty thousand pesos (P150,000.00)] TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00) for ASEAN Para Games.

2. For Silver Medalists:

v. [Two hundred fifty thousand pesos (P250,000.00)] THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P350,000.00) for Asian Beach Games, and Asian-level competition held at least every two (2) years with at least twenty-five (25) countries participating, and qualifying competitions for World-level and Asian-level games;

vi. [One hundred fifty thousand pesos (P150,000.00)] TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P250,000.00) for SEA Games; and

vii. [Seventy-five thousand pesos (P75,000.00)] ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P125,000.00) for ASEAN Para Games.

3. For Bronze Medalists:

v. [One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00)] ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P150,000.00) for Asian Beach Games, and Asian-level competitions held at least every two (2) years with at least twenty-five (25) countries participating and qualifying competition for World-level and Asian-level games;

vi. [Sixty thousand pesos (P60,000.00)] ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) for SEA Games; and

vii. [Thirty thousand pesos (P30,000.00)] FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) for ASEAN Para Games.

SEC. 3. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, executive orders or rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. Effectivity Clause. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of the general circulation.

Approved.