

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6744



Introduced by HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING

AN ACT PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS GAMES OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 17, Article II of the 1987 Constitution states, “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.”

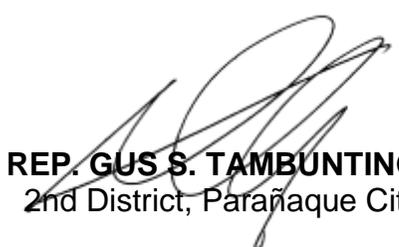
This proposed measure aims to empower the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), and Local Government Units (LGUs) to conduct annual regional and national indigenous sports competitions.

Among these games are *patintero*, *tumbang preso*, *siato*, *taguan pung*, and *tumbang preso*.

This proposed measure which seeks to preserve the indigenous games in the Philippines has already been approved for a third and final reading in the 17th and 18th Congress. However, it has yet to become a law due to time constraints.

This bill aims to preserve the indigenous games that have been passed down by our ancestors. These indigenous games hope to develop Filipino youth's physical and mental health.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. GUS S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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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 “Philippine Indigenous Games Preservation Act”.

SEC.2. Declaration of policy – [Article II, Section 22 of 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the [State shall recognize and promote the rights of indigenous cultural communities within the framework of national unity and development. Furthermore, Article 31.1 of the United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous People enjoins all State signatories to take effective measures to recognize and protect the exercise of the indigenous peoples’ rights which include the maintenance, control, and development of their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge and traditional expression, oral traditions, literature, designs, sports and traditional games, among others.

Under the aforesaid mandates, it is, therefore, incumbent upon the state to lay down specific policy directives to promote the interests of our indigenous peoples, to strengthen our cultural heritage and our historical roots. To further this policy, the State shall take the necessary steps to preserve the indigenous peoples’ games which serve as the best avenue for self – expression, and for promoting peace, harmony, goodwill

and camaraderie among them.]

Sec. 3. Indigenous Games. – Indigenous games refer to the traditional sports and games or activities inherent to the different indigenous cultures communities reflecting their rich cultural heritage, traditions, or customs handed down from generation to generation such as, but not limited to, dug out, canoe races, precision- around obstacles or rapids, supok or sampit, sungka, kadang-kadang, tumbangpreso, piko, and sepak takraw and such other games distinct from the indigenous communities.

Sec. 4. Preservation of Indigenous Games. – the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCAA), in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), shall initiate measures to preserve indigenous games in the country, such as the inclusion of games as part of the curriculum in the basic education system of our schools, the production of documentaries or other useful means, and the conduct of regular demonstrations of such games in national events and appropriate school activities.

The NCAA shall likewise research the various sports traditionally played by different indigenous groups within the region to ensure the preservation and development of these games.

Sec. 5. Annual Regional and National Indigenous Games. The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), in coordination with the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), and the local government Units (LGUs) shall conduct annual regional and national indigenous sports competitions.

The host LGU shall have the prerogative to choose which sport events shall be included in the national and regional Indigenous games competitions.

Sec. 6 implementing Rules and Regulations. – the NCAA and the DepEd as the lead agencies in coordination with the PSC, POC, and LGUs, shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this act within 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 thereby 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 Acts are deemed, amended, modified, or replaced accordingly.

Sec. 9 Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect 15 days after its publication in the official gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.