

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'22 JUL 18 AIO :17

SENATE
S. No. 699

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING AND ORGANIZING THE PHILIPPINE ELECTRONIC SPORTS
COMMISSION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

E-sports have increasingly become popular and have grown exponentially in the last decade, along with the equally massive developments in technology and enhanced accessibility of the internet. What was initially seen as amusement and past time has become a full-fledged sport in recent years and conquered the world of competitive sporting arena.

E-sports have been officially included as a medal sport in the 2019 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games hosted by the Philippines. It featured six video game titles – "Arena of Valor," "DoTA 2," "Hearthstone," "Mobile Legends: Bang Bang," "StarCraft II," and Tekken 7" – which were played on three platforms (PC, mobile and console). The Philippines bested the neighboring countries as it won five medals in this event. Filipino e-sports athletes and gamers continuously proved their might and prowess as with the recent win in the Mobile Legends: Bang Bang M2 World Championship.

This proposed measure recognizes and harnesses the immense potential of Filipino youth and homegrown e-sports athletes to excel and attain international prestige in this emerging sport. The bill aims to establish a Philippine Electronic Sports Commission which will oversee and organize the e-sports activities in the country, and establish a long-term development master plan for the sport. It also seeks to institute measures to assist our student players by providing support

programs, establish necessary infrastructure for e-sports, and promote international cooperation and tournaments relating to e-sports.

In this light, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – Short Title. This Act shall be known as "*E-Sports Act of*
2 *2022*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to nurture the youth
4 and assist in harnessing their best potentials. Pursuant to this policy, this Act shall
5 implement measures to organize and develop the field of e-sports in the country, assist
6 our student players by providing support programs, establish infrastructure for the
7 culture and industry of e-sports.

8 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

- 9 a) *E-sports* means electronic video games in online or streaming platforms in
10 which players, individually or by teams, compete with one another for a
11 score or for victory;
- 12 b) *E-sports industry* means the industry of creating added value with goods
13 and services relating to e-sports;
- 14 c) *E-sports player* means a person registered with an e-sport organization;
- 15 d) *E-sports organization* means a corporation or organization established for
16 the purpose of engaging in activities or a business relating to e-sports;

1 e) *E-sports facilities* means stadiums, gadgets, equipment, machineries and
2 other facilities for e-sports.

3 *Sec. 4. Establishment of Philippine Electronic Sports (E-sports) Commission*
4 (*PESC*). – The Philippine Electronic Sports (E-sports) Commission is hereby established
5 as the governing body to organize, oversee and monitor e-sports activities in the
6 country. It shall be an independent body from the existing Philippine Sports
7 Commission.

8 *Sec. 5. Board of Trustees.* – The PESC shall be administered by a Board of
9 Trustees hereinafter referred as the Board, to be composed of the following:

- 10 a) Secretary of the Department of Education, as Chairperson;
- 11 b) Secretary of the Department of Tourism as Vice-Chairperson;
- 12 c) Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications
13 Technology;
- 14 d) Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education;
- 15 e) Chairperson of the Philippine Sports Commission;
- 16 f) Two representatives from the private sector; and
- 17 g) Chairperson of the Philippine E-sports Commission.

18 The members of the Board enumerated in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and
19 (e) shall serve as ex-officio members. The ex-officio members of the Board may
20 designate their respective alternates who shall be the officials next-in-rank to them
21 and whose acts shall be considered as the acts of their principals.

22 The members of the Board enumerated in subparagraphs (f) and (g) shall be
23 appointed by the President of the Philippines.

24 The appointive members of the Board shall serve for four (4) years and may
25 be reappointed for a second term, unless sooner removed for a cause.

26 *Sec. 6. Powers and Functions.* – In order to achieve the purposes of this Act,
27 the Board shall have the following powers and functions:

- 28 a) Serve as the national sports association for e-sports and the sole-
29 accrediting body of e-sports organizations;
- 30 b) Formulate and implement uniform policies, rules and format for e-sports
31 activities in the Philippines;

- 1 c) Establish a master plan for the medium and long-term development of e-
- 2 sports;
- 3 d) Promote international tournaments and events relating to e-sports and
- 4 international cooperation and exchange in e-sports;
- 5 e) Promote scientific activities for e-sports and the creation of the
- 6 infrastructure therefor;
- 7 f) Secure financial resources for the development of e-sports;
- 8 g) Establish an e-sports industry support center which shall extend counseling
- 9 services, among others;
- 10 h) Come up with mechanisms promoting a well-balanced family-education-e-
- 11 sports life of the student players; and
- 12 i) Select individuals, organizations, enterprises, etc., that have significantly
- 13 contributed to the development of e-sports to reward them for their
- 14 contributions.

15 **Sec. 7. *Organizational Structure and Staffing Pattern.*** – The Board shall
16 determine the organizational structure and staffing pattern of the PESC subject to the
17 evaluation by the Civil Service Commission and of the Organizational Position
18 Classification and Compensation Bureau of the Department of Budget and
19 Management.

20 **Sec. 8. *Chairperson of PESC.*** – The PESC shall be headed by a Chairperson who
21 shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines for a term of four (4) years and
22 may be reappointed for a second term.

23 The Chairperson shall have the following powers and functions:

- 24 a) Execute the policies, rules and format approved by the Board and be
- 25 responsible for the efficient discharge of management and operational
- 26 functions;
- 27 b) Submit for the consideration and approval of the Board proposed measures,
- 28 policies, and rules as deemed necessary or proper for the effective
- 29 implementation of the purposes and objectives of the Act;
- 30 c) Represent the PESC in all dealings with other persons or entities, whether
- 31 domestic or foreign, and whether government or private; and

1 d) Exercise other functions and powers and perform such other duties as may
2 be vested or reposed by the Board.

3 Sec. 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this
4 Act shall have an independent line item in the annual General Appropriations Act
5 (GAA).

6 Sec. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within sixty (60) days
7 from the effectivity of this Act, the Chairperson of the Philippine Sports Commission
8 (PSC), in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), Department of
9 Tourism (DOT), Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT),
10 Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and other concerned agencies, shall
11 promulgate the implementing rules and regulations and other issuances as may be
12 necessary to ensure the effective implementation of this Act.

13 Sec. 11. *Separability Cause.* – Should any part or provision of this Act be
14 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected
15 thereby shall retain in full force and effect.

16 Sec. 12. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances,
17 rules and regulations which may be inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act,
18 are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

19 Sec. 13. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
21 circulation.

Approved,