

RECORD OF THE SENATE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2001

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 3:22 p.m., the session was resumed with the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr., presiding.

The President. The session is resumed. The Majority Leader is recognized.

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, may I ask the Secretary to read the Additional Reference of Business.

The President. The Secretary will please read the Additional Reference of Business.

Senator Drilon. Mr. President.

The President. Sen. Franklin M. Drilon is recognized.

Senator Drilon. Mr. President, on a point of personal privilege and with the permission of the Chair before we read the Additional Reference of Business.

The President. Yes, Senator Drilon.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF SENATOR DRILON (On Retention of Sen. Osmeña (J.) as Finance Committee Chair)

Senator Drilon. Mr. President, in one of the national dailies today, there was a news article which, permit me to read, for the record, a part of that said:

The anti-Estrada, now considered administration senators, have agreed that all committee heads and other Senate posts will not be touched but they want Senator John Osmeña replaced by Senator Franklin Drilon as chair of the Finance Committee.

Mr. President, I wish to thank some of my colleagues for the confidence that they have reposed in this representation. But I wish to state that I believe it is to the national interest that we retain the present chairman of the Committee on Finance.

Mr. President, we have barely ten days from today, ten session days, and nothing will be served by this representation's replacing Sen. John H. Osmeña as chairman of the Finance Committee. We simply would not have the physical time nor the effort to go through the thousands of pages of the General Appropriations Bill, much less sitting down in the Bicameral Conference Committee when we sit with our counterparts in the House.

I must emphasize that we must pass a budget, especially for the Comelec, considering that we have the forthcoming election in May. If we do not have the election because of lack of funds, then there will be a constitutional crisis in July when there will be no more Congress as all the terms of the congressmen and half of the Senate would have expired. Therefore, it is to the interest of the nation that we must pass the budget for the Comelec.

Likewise, Mr. President, the foreign-assisted projects wherein, I think, about nearly P60 billion is allocated and about a third of that would be local counterpart funds. Again, these are projects which are on the pipeline and the execution of which will be delayed if we do not have a budget.

So, for all of these reasons, Mr. President, I would like to manifest that we should have the budget debated as soon as possible so that we can have it enacted in the manner or in that shape which we believe is to the best interest of the country.

Thank you very much, Mr. President.

The President. Thank you, Senator Drilon.

Senator John Osmeña is recognized.

Senator J. Osmeña. Thank you, Mr. President.

I would like to express my gratitude to my dear friend, Sen. Franklin Drilon, for his remarks and for the confidence that he has reposed in me.

I have always maintained, Mr. President, that the chairmanship of the committees in this Chamber are at the disposal of a Majority that can be put together in the Chamber. And that when the time comes which, I think, it will be either now or in July when we return to become the Minority, I have no reservations or no hesitation on yielding the chairmanship of a committee or any committee that I may hold to whoever is chosen by the Majority. That is the cardinal rule here in the Senate.

Now, on the matter of the approval of the budget which Senator Drilon correctly points out carries with it a lot of very essential items of appropriations, I would like to report to the Chamber that as a result of the efforts of some friends, I saw the President—President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo—yesterday at five o'clock in the afternoon in the residence of her late father, President Diosdado Macapagal, in Forbes Park. And together with the secretary of Finance, Secretary Alberto G. Romulo, who is our colleague here in the prior sessions, I presented to them the abstract of the budget. I told the President and Secretary Romulo that we were running out of time in the Senate; that the deficit that we are foreseeing in the Committee on Finance which will be reflected in the report of the Committee on Finance is going to be

recommending its approval without amendments.

Sponsors: Senators Osmeña (J.), Aquino-Oreta, Biazon, Coseteng, Enrile, Honasan, Jaworski, Magsaysay Jr., Osmeña III, Roco, Sotto III and the members of the Committee on Finance

The President. To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SPECIAL ORDERS

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I move that we transfer from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders Committee Report No. 408 on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 870, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY;

Committee Report No. 411 on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 873, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT TO THE AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND CANADA;

Committee Report No. 512 on Senate Bill No. 2226, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ECOZONE AND FREE PORT IN GENERAL SANTOS CITY, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE GENERAL SANTOS CITY ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREE PORT AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Committee Report No. 467 on Senate Bill No. 2210, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT IN SOUTHERN PALAWAN, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE SOUTHERN PALAWAN ECOZONE AND FREEPORT AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

and Committee Report No. 468 on Senate Bill No. 2211, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TOURISM POLICY, CREATING THE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

LOPMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The President. Is there any objection? *[Silence]* There being none, the motion is approved.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR TATAD (To Correct Action Previously Taken on H. Ct. Res. No. 45)

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, may I make a manifestation to correct an action taken by the Chamber yesterday.

Yesterday, we approved House Concurrent Resolution No. 45 under Committee Report No. 491. The Majority Leader mistakenly referred to this as an approval on Second Reading. May I move that this be reflected in our records as an adoption of the concurrent resolution because this was a concurrent resolution rather than a joint resolution.

The President. Is there any objection? *[Silence]* There being none, the motion is approved.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON S. NO. 1734/H. NO. 12029 (National Athletes, Coaches or Trainers Benefits and Incentives Act of 2000)

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, we have before us the Bicameral Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1734 and House Bill No. 12029.

I ask that the distinguished chairman of the Senate panel, Senator Jaworski, be recognized to sponsor this report.

The President. Senator Jaworski is recognized.

REPORT OF SENATOR JAWORSKI

Senator Jaworski. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, our Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports is happy to report back to this Chamber the result of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1734 and House Bill No. 12029.

After having met and fully discussed the subject matter, the Senate and the House panels have adopted the following—here are some important highlights:

Sections 2, 4, 5, 14, 15 and 16 of the Senate version were adopted *in toto* as Sections 2, 4, 5, 14, 15 and 16 of the reconciled version.

Section 3 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 3 of the reconciled version with the insertion of the word "SHALL" before the word "refer" in paragraphs (a) and (b), and with Section 3(c) being restyled to read as follows:

Under letter (c): INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS SHALL REFER TO INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS WHICH ARE SANCTIONED BY THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (IOC) OR HELD EVERY FOUR (4) YEARS INCLUDING QUALIFYING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TEAM SPORTS WHEREIN ONLY ONE (1) OR TWO (2) COUNTRIES MAY QUALIFY FOR THE OLYMPICS OR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS.

COMPETITIONS GRANTING PRIZE MONEY OR THOSE HELD IN HONOR OF ANY PERSONALITY OR SPONSOR SHALL NOT BE INCLUDED.

Section 8, Mr. President, of the reconciled version was taken from Section 1 of the House version with the addition of two provisos to read as follows:

PROVIDED, THAT FOR DEMONSTRATION AND EXHIBITION SPORTS EVENTS IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES, WINNING NATIONAL ATHLETES SHALL RECEIVE FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE CASH AWARDS FOR OLYMPIC MEDALISTS AS HEREIN PROVIDED.

And another paragraph:

PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN (SEA) GAMES, MONETARY INCENTIVES SHALL BE GIVEN STARTING 2001 TO THE WINNING ATHLETES OR TEAMS WHO HAVE EQUALED OR SURPASSED THE EXISTING GAME RECORDS OR THE PREVIOUS PLACING IN NON-MEASURABLE EVENTS.

Mr. President, Section 3 of the House version was restyled to read as follows:

SECTION 9. *BENEFITS, PRIVILEGES AND INCENTIVES FOR PAST ACHIEVERS.* ANY NATIONAL ATHLETE WHO, PRIOR TO THE ENACTMENT OF THIS ACT, HAD WON GOLD, SILVER, OR BRONZE MEDALS IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION EXCEPT SOUTHEAST ASIAN (SEA) GAMES, SHALL BE ENTITLED TO THE BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 4 AND FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE CASH INCENTIVES PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 8 OF THIS ACT. SUCH INCENTIVES SHALL BE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CASH AWARD RECEIVED UNDER ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 352 AND THE CASH AWARD PROVIDED UNDER THIS ACT, and was adopted as Section 9 of the reconciled version.

Mr. President, copies of the report have been distributed to our colleagues and considering that we have read the more important highlights of this bill, we would like to request that the other provisions be considered as read.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The President. Before we act on that, the Chair would like to declare a one-minute recess for a conference between Senator Jaworski and the Majority Leader, if there is no objection. *[There was none.]*

Senator Jaworski. Thank you.

It was 3:40 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:43 p.m., the session was resumed.

The President. The session is resumed. The Majority Leader is recognized.

MOTION OF SENATOR TATAD (Report of Sen. Jaworski on S. No. 1734 / H. No. 12029 Be Considered Read into the Record)

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, we are informed that the... While the photocopies of the report are available in the Chamber, we have not received the original report. I therefore move that we consider the report as having been read but I would move that we suspend action on the said report until we shall have received the original copy of the same.

The President. Yes. So, the report will be considered read as manifested by Senator Jaworski and subject to the final action by this Chamber upon receipt of the original report.

Senator Tatad. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

Senator Jaworski. Thank you, Mr. President.

The following is the whole text of the Conference Committee Report:

JOINT EXPLANATION OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON THE DISAGREEING PROVISIONS OF SENATE BILL NO. 1734 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 12029

The Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1734 and House Bill No. 12029, after having met and fully discussed the subject matter in a conference, hereby report to their respective Houses the following, that:

1. The conferees agreed to use the Senate version as the working draft of the bicameral meeting;

2. Section 1 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 1 of the reconciled version by changing the figure "2000" to "2001" and adding the phrase "OR SPORTS BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 2001";

3. Sections 2, 4, 5, 14, 15 and 16 of the Senate version were adopted *in toto* as Sections 2, 4, 5, 14, 15 and 16 of the reconciled version;

4. Section 3 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 3 of the reconciled version with the insertion of the word "shall" before the word "refer" in paragraphs (a) and (b) and with Section 3(c) being restyled to read as follows:

"(c) *International Competitions* - shall refer to international sports competitions which are sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or held every four (4) years including qualifying championships in team sports wherein only one (1) or two (2) countries may qualify for the Olympics or World Championships.

"Competitions granting prize money or those held in honor of any personality or sponsor shall not be included."

5. Section 6 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 6 of the reconciled version with the word "LAST" being inserted between the article "the" and the word "day" and by adding the phrase "AS CERTIFIED BY THE PSC" between the word "training" and the punctuation mark ".";

6. Section 7 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 7 of the reconciled version with the following amendments:

(a) the phrase "as provided for in the next preceding section" was deleted; and

(b) the terms "primary beneficiaries" and "secondary beneficiaries" were defined;

7. Section 8 of the reconciled version was taken from Section 1 of the House version with the addition of two proviso to read as follows:

"PROVIDED, THAT FOR DEMONSTRATION AND EXHIBITION SPORTS EVENTS IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES, WINNING NATIONAL ATHLETES SHALL RECEIVE FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF THE CASH AWARDS FOR OLYMPIC MEDALISTS AS HEREIN PROVIDED."

"PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT FOR SEA GAMES, MONETARY INCENTIVES SHALL BE GIVEN STARTING 2001 TO THE WINNING ATHLETES OR TEAMS WHO HAVE EQUALED OR SURPASSED THE EXISTING GAME RECORDS OR THE PREVIOUS PLACING IN NON-MEASURABLE EVENTS."

8. Section 3 of the House version was restyled to read as follows:

"SEC. 9. *Benefits, Privileges and Incentives for Past Achievers.* - Any national athlete who, prior to the enactment of this Act, had won gold, silver or bronze medals in international competitions except SEA Games, shall be entitled to the benefits and privileges provided under Section 4 and fifty percent (50%) of the cash incentives provided under Section 8 of this Act. Such incentives shall be the difference between the cash award received under Administration Order No. 352 and the cash award provided under this Act.";

and was adopted as Section 9 of the reconciled version;

9. Section 10 of the Senate version was restyled and was adopted as Section 10 of the reconciled version to read as follows:

"SEC. 10. *Incentives for Coaches and Trainers.* - Coaches and trainers shall also be entitled to cash awards if they have personally trained and rendered service to the athletes or teams at least one (1) year prior to the international competition. Certification to this effect by the individual athlete or team captain shall be in writing.

"The incentives for the coaches and trainers shall be equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the cash awards for gold, silver and bronze medalists.

"There is hereby created a body to be known as the Philippine Coaches Accreditation Council that shall accredit and recognize coaches and trainers. It shall be composed, among others, of representatives from the PSC, POC and the academic community, preferably a professor in physical education or sports science.";

10. Section 11 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 11 of the reconciled version by deleting the word "private" and in lieu thereof, inserting the word "INDIVIDUALS";

11. Section 12 of the reconciled version was taken from Section 12 of the Senate version. It was, however, amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 12. *Funding.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of the cash incentives and retirement benefits program of this Act shall be taken from the net cash income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), to be remitted directly as a special account to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) of the PSC. This is in addition to the regular income share of the PSC pursuant to Republic Act No. 6847.

A separate fund equivalent to not less than sixty percent (60%) of existing National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) shall be automatically set aside for the training and preparation of national athletes covered by this Act.

Not less than five percent (5%) of the National Sports Development Fund shall be set aside for the selection of individual athletes at the elementary and high school levels in track and field, swimming, badminton, table tennis and similar individual sports events where the Philippines can develop into world class competitors. Said fund shall be administered by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS).

12. Section 13 of the Senate version was restyled by including the CHED, TESDA and other con-

cerned agencies in promulgating and issuing the Implementing Rules and Regulations and was adopted as Section 13 of the reconciled version;

13. An omnibus amendment to the word "trainor" was accepted, changing it to the word "trainer";

14. An omnibus amendment to the conjunction "or" between the words "coaches" and "trainers" was accepted, changing it to the conjunction "AND"; and

15. The title of the reconciled bill was taken and was adopted from the title of the Senate version.

In case of conflict between the statements/ amendments stated in this Joint Explanation and that of the provisions of the consolidated bill in the accompanying Conference Committee Report, the provisions of the latter shall prevail.

(Sgd.) JAIME DLS. JACOB
Chairman, House Panel

(Sgd.) ROBERT S. JAWORSKI
Chairman, Senate Panel

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1734, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING CASH AND OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINORS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

and House Bill No. 12029, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING CASH INCENTIVES TO FILIPINO ATHLETES WINNING GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE MEDALS IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES, ASIAN GAMES, SEA GAMES AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, INCLUDING THEIR RESPECTIVE COACHES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

after having met and discussed the subject matter in full and free conference, has agreed and does hereby recommend to their respective Houses that Senate Bill No. 1734, in consolidation with House Bill No. 12029,

be approved in accordance with the attached copy of the bill as reconciled and approved by the conferees.

Approved,

**CONFEREES ON THE PART OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

(Sgd.) JAIME DLS. JACOB
Chairman

(Sgd.) RANJIT R. SHAHANI

(Sgd.) JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

(Sgd.) GILBERT O. M. DUAVIT

(Sgd.) ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS

(Sgd.) ARIEL A. ZARTIGA

**CONFEREES ON THE PART
OF THE SENATE**

(Sgd.) ROBERT S. JAWORSKI
Chairman

(Sgd.) VICENTE C. SOTTO III

(Sgd.) JUAN M. FLAVIER

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

AN ACT GRANTING CASH AND OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "National Athletes, Coaches and Trainers Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001" or "Sports Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001."

SEC. 2. *Statement of Policy.* - The State shall promote excellence in sports and through sports by providing for the welfare of national athletes, coaches and trainers competing for the country and particular benefits and incentives for those who have brought

honor and recognition to the country by winning in international competitions.

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

(a) *National Athletes* - shall refer to athletes who are Filipino citizens, members of the national training pool, recognized and accredited by the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) and the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and who have represented the country in international competitions;

(b) *National Coaches and Trainers* - shall refer to coaches and trainers who are Filipino citizens, members of the national coaches and trainers pool, recognized and accredited by the PSC and who have represented the country as official coaches and trainers to national athletes in international competitions;

(c) *International Competitions* - shall refer to international sports competitions which are sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or held every four (4) years including qualifying championships in team sports wherein only one (1) or two (2) countries may qualify for the Olympics or World Championships.

Competitions granting prize money or those held in honor of any personality or sponsor shall not be included.

SEC. 4. *Benefits and Privileges for National Athletes, Coaches and Trainers.* - Any national athlete, coach and trainer who is currently registered as such before the PSC shall be entitled to the following:

(a) the grant of twenty percent (20%) discount from all establishments relative to the utilization of transportation services, hotels, and other lodging establishments, restaurants and recreation centers and purchase of medicine and sports equipment anywhere in the country;

(b) minimum of twenty percent (20%) discount on admission fees charged by theaters, cinema houses and concert halls, circuses, carnivals, and other similar places of culture, leisure and amusement;

(c) free medical and dental consultations in private or public hospitals and similar establishments anywhere in the country and medical insurance program to be provided by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC);

(d) a comprehensive social security program to be formulated by the Social Security System within one hundred eighty (180) days from the approval of this Act;

(e) priority in existing livelihood programs being undertaken by various government agencies subject to the guidelines and qualifications by the implementing body; and

(f) priority in national housing programs, affordable "pabahay" loans and other housing opportunities subject to the guidelines and qualifications set by the National Housing Authority (NHA) or the Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF).

Such privately-owned establishments shall enjoy tax credits equivalent to the discounts extended to the athletes.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) shall, as soon as possible, provide for the rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. Scholarships. - A national athlete who wins in an international competition or any one qualified member of his/her immediate family within the fourth civil degree of consanguinity shall be entitled to scholarship benefits in the form of tuition fees in state colleges and universities in order to complete a college or university degree. The winning national athlete shall likewise be given priority in the availment of state college and university scholarship grants.

Likewise, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Technical Skills and Development Authority (TESDA) shall give priority to winning national athletes who seek scholarship grants and study under their programs subject to the qualifications for all applicants.

Private colleges and universities shall likewise be encouraged to adopt a similar program in their institutions for winning national athletes.

SEC. 6. Retirement Benefits. - Any national athlete, coach and trainer who wins in an international competition or has coached or trained such winning national athlete shall receive a lump sum amount equivalent to twenty-five percent (25%) of his/her total cash incentives computed from the start of his/her active sports career as a member of the national training pool or national coaches and trainers pool up to the last day of retirement from active competition or training as

certified by the PSC. Such lump sum amount shall be extended sixty (60) days after filing of the retirement papers.

SEC. 7. Death Benefits. - Upon the death of any national athlete, coach and trainer, his/her primary beneficiaries shall be entitled to a lump sum benefit of Thirty Thousand pesos (P30,000.00) to cover for his/her funeral services: *Provided*, That if he/she has no primary beneficiaries, his/her beneficiaries shall be entitled to said benefits.

For purposes of this Act, primary beneficiaries shall refer to the legitimate spouse, legitimate or illegitimate children. Secondary beneficiaries shall refer to the parents, and in their absence, to the brothers or sisters of such athlete, coach and trainer.

SEC. 8. Cash Incentives for National Athletes. - National athletes who win gold, silver and bronze medals in international competitions shall be entitled to cash awards in the following amounts:

A. INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

(a) For gold medalists:

(1) Five million (P5,000,000.00) for Olympic Games;

(2) Two million five hundred thousand pesos (P2,500,000.00) for quadrennial World Championships;

(3) One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) for Asian Games; and

(4) One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) for Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games).

b. For silver medalists:

(1) Two million five hundred thousand pesos (P2,500,000.00) for Olympic Games;

(2) One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) for quadrennial World Championships;

(3) Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) for Asian Games; and

(4) Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) for the SEA Games.

(c) For bronze medalists:

(1) One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) for Olympic games;

(2) Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) for quadrennial World Championships;

(3) One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) for Asian Games; and

(4) Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) for the SEA Games.

B. TEAMEVENTS:

For competitions with less than five (5) participants per team, the team shall receive the same cash awards for individual medal winners as herein provided, to be divided equally among the team members actually present during the competition.

For competitions with five (5) or more participants per team, the team shall receive twice the cash awards for individual winners, to be divided equally among the team members actually present during the competition.

Provided, That for demonstration and exhibition sports events in the Olympic Games, winning national athletes shall receive fifty percent (50%) of the cash awards for Olympic medalists as herein provided.

Provided, further, That for SEA Games, monetary incentives shall be given starting 2001 to the winning athletes or teams who have equaled or surpassed the existing game records or the previous placings in non-measurable events.

SEC. 9. *Benefits, Privileges and Incentives for Past Achievers.* - Any national athlete who, prior to the enactment of this Act, had won gold, silver or bronze medals in international competitions except SEA Games, shall be entitled to the benefits and privileges provided under Section 4 and fifty percent (50%) of the cash incentives provided under Section 8 of this Act. Such incentives shall be the difference between the cash award received under Administrative Order No. 352 and the cash award provided under this Act.

SEC. 10. *Incentives for Coaches and Trainers.* - Coaches and trainers shall also be entitled to cash awards if they have personally trained and rendered service to the athletes or teams at least one (1) year prior to the international competition. Certification to this effect by the individual athlete or team captain shall be in writing.

The incentives for the coaches and trainers shall be equivalent to fifty percent (50%) of the cash awards for gold, silver and bronze medalists.

There is hereby created a body to be known as the Philippine Coaches Accreditation Council that shall accredit and recognize coaches and trainers. It shall be composed, among others, of representatives from the PSC, POC and the academic community, preferably a professor in physical education or sports science.

SEC. 11. *Adjustment of Cash Incentives.* - The PSC is hereby authorized to adjust the schedule of incentives in Section 8 hereof, based on studies, consultations and public hearings with relevant agencies to reflect the economic needs of the athletes. No memorandum, order, or issuance shall diminish the prescribed schedule of incentives. Donations and gifts from individuals, institutions or groups shall be construed as distinct and separate from the cash incentives provided herein.

SEC. 12. *Funding.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of the cash incentives and retirement benefits program of this Act shall be taken from the net cash income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), to be remitted directly as a special account to the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) of the PSC. This is in addition to the regular income share of the PSC pursuant to Republic Act No. 6847.

A separate fund equivalent to not less than sixty percent (60%) of existing NSDF shall be automatically set aside for the training and preparation of national athletes covered by this Act.

Not less than five percent (5%) of the NSDF shall be set aside for the selection of individual athletes at the elementary and high school levels in track and field, swimming, badminton, pingpong and similar individual sports events where the Philippines can develop into world class competitors. Said fund shall be administered by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS).

SEC. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The PSC, in coordination with the POC, DECS, CHED, TESDA, among others, and other concerned agencies shall promulgate and issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations within sixty (60) days upon approval of this Act.

SEC. 14. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining sections of this Act or the application of such provision or part hereof to other persons or circumstance shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 15. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 16. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its approval and publication in the *Official Gazette* and/or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,

BILL ON SECOND READING
S. No. 2216 — Art Authentication Act of 2000
(Continuation)

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I move that we now resume consideration of Senate Bill No. 2216 under Committee Report No. 489.

The President. Is there any objection? [*Silence*] There being none, the motion is approved.

Senator Tatad. We are now in the period of individual amendments. Sen. Raul S. Roco had previously made a reservation to examine the bill for any possible individual amendment. It appears that the draft is completely satisfactory. And in his own words: "It has reached the apotheosis of perfection almost."

So if there are no individual amendments being proposed, I move that the period of individual amendments be closed.

The President. Is there any objection? [*Silence*] There being none, the motion is approved.

Senator Tatad. I move that we approve on...

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR AQUINO-ORETA
(To Correct the Title of S. No. 2216)

Senator Aquino-Oreta. Mr. President, before we go, may I just make a small manifestation—a little correction regarding my sponsorship speech yesterday? For the record, I humbly enter into the *Record* and, as a consequence, into the *Journal* the title of Senate Bill No. 2216 as covered under Committee Report No. 489. The title will be

AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF ART FORGERY, PROVIDING PENALTIES THERETO, BROADENING THE POWERS OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM'S PANEL OF EXPERTS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND OTHER PURPOSES.

The President. All right. So noted.

Senator Aquino-Oreta. Thank you, Mr. President.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF S. NO. 2216

Senator Tatad. I move that we suspend consideration of Senate Bill No. 2216.

The President. Is there any objection? [*Silence*] There being none, the motion is approved.

RESOLUTION ON SECOND READING
P. S. Res. No. 870 — Ratification of the Patent
Cooperation Treaty

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I move that we now consider on Second Reading Senate Resolution No. 870 under Committee Report No. 408.

The President. Is there any objection? [*Silence*] There being none, the motion is approved.

Consideration of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 870 is now in order. With the permission of the Body, the Secretary will read only the title of the resolution without prejudice to inserting in the *Record* the whole text thereof.

The Secretary. Proposed Senate Resolution No. 870, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFI-
CATION OF THE PATENT COOPERATION
TREATY

The following is the whole text of the resolution:

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 870

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFI-
CATION OF THE PATENT COOPERATION
TREATY

WHEREAS, the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT) was adopted at Washington on 19 June 1970, entered into force on 24 January 1978 and became operational on 01 June 1978. It was amended in 1979 and modified in 1984;