

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9064, April 05, 2001]

**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. *Short 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 Education 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 the 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) to cover for his/her funeral services: *Provided, That if*