EXPLANATORY NOTE

At present, Republic Act 9064, known as the Sports Incentives Act, confines the awarding of cash bonuses to medal winners in the Olympics, World Championships, Asian Games and SEA Games. Similarly, coaches and trainers of athletes involved in these competitions are the only ones entitled to cash bonuses. Athletes and coaches of athletes who won medals in international competitions outside of these tournaments are not entitled to bonuses from the government.

It is high time that athletes representing the country in other international competitions similar to the four competitions mentioned above also be recognized and be given bonuses for bringing pride and honor to the Philippines. Athletes like the Philippine Dragon Boat team who continuously win in various international tournaments like the Asian Beach Games.

Further, athletes competing in the Paralympic Games should also be included in the coverage of Republic Act 9064.

Also, athletes participating in sports that are excluded in the Olympic program like billiards, bowling and chess should also be given recognition upon bringing home medals from international tournaments.

Past achievements in these non-Olympic sports omitted. There should be no discrimination in sports and equality must be applied to our deserving athletes, whose victories in international competitions and championships inspire and unify our people.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ
EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF INCENTIVES EXTENDED TO THE NATIONAL ATHLETES AND COACHES AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9064 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 2001", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representative of the Philippines in congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9064, otherwise known as "National Athletes, Coaches and Trainers Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"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. IT SHALL ALSO REFER TO ATHLETES WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL TRAINING POOL BUT WHO HAVE OTHERWISE REPRESENTED THE COUNTRY IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS. ATHLETES WHO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARALYMPIC GAMES ARE ALSO COVERED UNDER THIS ACT;

(b) 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.

THIS SHALL ALSO INCLUDE INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS SANCTIONED BY INTERNATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS (ISFs) OR DIFFERENT INTERNATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES FOR SPORTS WHEREIN SAID COMPETITION IS BEING PARTICIPATED IN BY NO LESS THAN TWENTY (20) COUNTRIES. THE PARALYMPIC GAMES ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THE COVERAGE OF THIS ACT.

Competitions granting prize money or those held in honor of any personality or sponsor shall not be included."
SEC 2. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 4. Benefits and Privileges for National Athletes, Coaches and Trainers—Any national athlete, coach and trainer, AS DEFINED HEREIN, 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 FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OR ENJOYMENT OF THE NATIONAL ATHLETE, COACH OR TRAINER;

(b) minimum of twenty percent (20%) discount on admission fees charged by theatres, cinema houses and concert halls, circuses, carnivals, and other similar places of culture, leisure and amusement FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OR ENJOYMENT OF THE NATIONAL ATHLETE, COACH OR TRAINER;

SEC 3. Section 8 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 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 medallists:

(1) [Five] SEVEN million pesos [(P5,000,000.00)]
   (P7,000,000) for Olympic Games;

(2) [Two] THREE million five hundred thousand pesos
   [(P2,500,000.00)]  (P3,500,000) for [quadrennial] World Championships, WORLD CUP, WORLD GAMES OR WORLD LEVEL CHAMPIONSHIPS THAT DO NOT OFFER PRIZE MONEY;

(3) [One] TWO million pesos [(P1,000,000.00)]
   (P2,000,000) for Asian Games; and

(4) [One] TWO hundred thousand pesos
   [(P100,000.00)]  (P200,000) for Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS.

(b) For silver medallists:

(1) [Two] THREE million five hundred thousand pesos
   [(P2,500,000.00)]  (P3,500,000) for Olympic Games;

(2) [One] TWO million pesos [(P1,000,000.00)]
   (P2,000,000) for [quadrennial] World Championships, WORLD CUP, WORLD GAMES OR WORLD LEVEL CHAMPIONSHIPS THAT DO NOT OFFER PRIZE MONEY;
SEC 3. Section 10 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 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 who win in international competitions 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, DULY ATTESTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE NATIONAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS (NSAs).

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

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 4. A new Section 13 is hereby added to read as follows:

PROVIDED, THAT ONE (1) OF THE TWO (2) SENATORS AND
ONE (1) OF THE TWO (2) HOUSE MEMBERS SHALL BE
NOMINATED BY THE RESPECTIVE MINORITY LEADERS
OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE IS HEREBY MANDATED
TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT FOR A
PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SHALL SET THE GUIDELINES AND
OVERALL FRAMEWORK FOR THE MONITORING OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT AND SHALL ADOPT ITS
INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURES.

SEC 5. Sections 13, 14, 15 and 16 of RA 9064 are hereby renumbered accordingly.

SEC 6. 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 7. 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 8. 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.