Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4424

Introduced by Representative Jorge Antonio P. Bustos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) was created to be the principal government agency for raising and providing funds for health programs, medical assistance and services, and charities of national character through the conduct of charity sweepstakes races, lotteries, and other similar activities. At present, PCSO remains as an indispensable arm of the government that provides funding for essential health and welfare activities and programs nationwide.

However, under Republic Act No. 10963, otherwise known as the “Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN),” amending the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended, which was approved on December 27, 2018, additional taxes were imposed on PCSO. These new tax impositions include, among others: a) 20% final tax on winnings above P10,000 from Philippine Charity Sweepstakes and lotto; b) 30% corporate income tax payment; and c) increase in the documentary stamp tax on tickets, lotto and other authorized number games from 10% to 20%.

These changes in PCSO’s tax treatment are inconsistent with the nature of PCSO as a charitable institution. In line with settled jurisprudence, PCSO is a charitable institution because it provides services to the public which would otherwise fall on the shoulders of government. Thus, as a matter of policy, taxes are forgone in favor of charitable institutions because they assume part of the burden to address public needs, and the loss of taxes by the government is
compensated by its relief from doing public works which would have been funded by appropriations from the National Treasury.

In view of the foregoing, the taxation of PCSO must be rationalized so that it may fulfill its mandate, and ultimately, assist the National Government in raising and providing funds for charity.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

CONG JORGE ANTONIO P. BUSTOS
AN ACT
RATIONALIZING THE TAX TREATMENT FOR THE PHILIPPINE
CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS
AMENDED

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

SECTION 1. Section 24 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997,
as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 24. Income Tax Rates. — xxx

“(A) xxx

“(B) Rate of Tax on Certain Passive Income: —

“(1) Interests, Royalties, Prizes, and Other Winnings. — A

final tax at the rate of twenty percent (20%) is hereby

imposed upon the amount of interest from any currency

bank deposit and yield or any other monetary benefit

from deposit substitutes and from trust funds and
similar arrangements: royalties, except on books, as well as other literary works and musical compositions, which shall be imposed a final tax of ten percent (10%); prizes (except prizes amounting to Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000) or less which shall be subject to tax under Subsection (A) of Section 24; and other winnings (except winnings [amounting to Ten thousand pesos (P10,000) or less] from Philippine Charity Sweepstakes and Lotto which shall be exempt), derived from sources within the Philippines: Provided, however, That interest income received by an individual taxpayer (except a nonresident individual) from a depository bank under the expanded foreign currency deposit system shall be subject to a final income tax at the rate of fifteen percent (15%) of such interest income: Provided, further, That interest income from long-term deposit or investment in the form of savings, common or individuals trust funds, deposit substitutes, investment management accounts and other investments evidenced by certificates in such form prescribed by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas
(BSP) shall be exempt from the Tax imposed under this Subsection: *Provided, finally*, That should the holder of the certificate pre-terminate the deposit or investment before the fifth (5th) year, a final tax shall be imposed on the entire income and shall be deducted and withheld by the depository bank from the proceeds of the long-term deposit or investment certificate based on the remaining maturity thereof:

"xxx."

SEC. 2. Section 27 of the same Code is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 27. *Rates of Income Tax on Domestic Corporations.* –

“(A) In General. – xxx

“xxx

“(C) *Government-owned or -Controlled Corporations, Agencies or Instrumentalities.* – The provisions of existing special or general laws to the contrary notwithstanding, all corporations, agencies, or instrumentalities owned or controlled by the Government, except the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), the Social Security System (SSS), **THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE (PCSO)**, the Philippine
Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC), and the local water districts shall pay such rate of tax upon their taxable income as are imposed by this Section upon corporations or associations engaged in similar business, industry, or activity.

“xxx.”

SEC. 3. Section 190 of the same Code is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 190. Stamp Tax on Jai-alai, Horse Race, Tickets, Lotto or Other Authorized Numbers Games.—On each jai-alai, horse race ticket, lotto, or other authorized numbers games, there shall be collected a documentary stamp tax of [Twenty-centavos (P0.20)] TEN CENTAVOS (P0.10): Provided, That if the cost of the ticket exceed One peso (P1.00), an additional tax of [Twenty-centavos (P0.20)] TEN CENTAVOS (P0.10) on every One peso (P1.00), or fractional part thereof, shall be collected.”

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Finance shall, within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, issue the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. All laws, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,