

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5728**



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**Introduced by Hon. FREDERICK W. SIAO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Every medal earned and every new competition record set in international sports competitions are milestones in a lifelong journey of learning and both intensive and extensive application of multidisciplinary training. These milestones deserve commensurate and appropriate formal recognition in terms of qualification to join or progress in the civil service in the Philippines and in the profession of sports.

This bill recognizes the daily toil of aspiring athletes and players, especially those from backgrounds of poverty, marginalization, or injustice, in the thousands of gymnasiums, fitness centers, stadiums, courts, other sports facilities, and even the roads and fields they have turned into their practice and competition venues. Truly, “those who have less in life, should have more in law,” as President Ramon Magsaysay so eloquently said with words that reverberate through Philippine history.

In focus in this pivotal legislative measure, are the Filipino athletes, as well as their coaches, trainers, and competition officials, who have overcome tremendous odds and have devoted their lives to sports excellence and demonstrated their love of country by representing the Philippines with sterling achievement.

This bill is one of a tandem of bills recognizing the professional level of expertise of Filipino athletes who set international records or win in established and reputable international sports competitions, including those sanctioned or recognized by the Olympic movement’s world governing bodies for sports.

In this bill, it is proposed that a podium finish, which means reaching the top three ranks for gold, silver and bronze, or the setting of new competition records in such international competitions shall automatically entitle the athletes civil service eligibility for implementation by the Civil Service Commission because such accomplishments are manifest proof of the high-level of professional expertise of the achieving athletes.

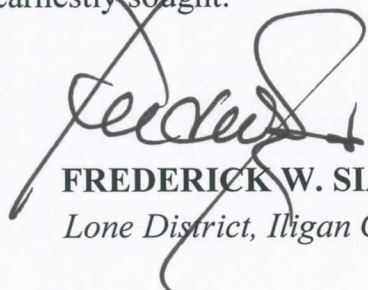
This bill is consistent with the Philippine Qualifications Framework Act. This bill also updates the PQF Act (RA 10968) by giving the PQF – National Coordinating Council the authority to apply the appropriate academic equivalency to the demonstrated competence of the internationally-accomplished athletes as evidenced by either the podium finish or the setting of a new competition record, to be credited toward the award

of either a baccalaureate degree or a masteral degree by a higher education institution accredited by the Commission on Higher Education to implement the Expanded Tertiary Education Equivalency and Accreditation Program (ETEEAP).

This bill also specifies that qualifying or participating in international regional competitions recognized by the world sports governing bodies, the Asian Games, the Olympic qualifying tournaments, world championships, and the Olympics, shall also merit the award of appropriate and commensurate credit in the context of the Continuing Professional Development Act (RA 10912), the PQF Act (RA 10968), and the equivalency program of the Commission on Higher Education known as the ETEEAP.

Furthermore, the spirit and intent of this bill is similar to the Grant of Foreign School Honor Graduate Eligibility as expressed in the Civil Service Commission's Resolution No. 1302714 promulgated on 17 December 2013.

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



**FREDERICK W. SIAO**  
*Lone District, Iligan City*

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**AN ACT**  
**GRANTING AUTOMATIC CIVIL SERVICE PROFESSIONAL ELIGIBILITY**  
**AND CAREER PATHS TO ATHLETES, THEIR COACHES, TRAINORS, AND**  
**MANAGEMENT TEAM, WHO ACHIEVE PODIUM FINISH OR SET NEW**  
**COMPETITION RECORDS IN INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS,**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the *“International Filipino Sports Achievers Recognition and Career Development Act.”*

Section 2. **Automatic Grant of Civil Service Professional Eligibility.** All Filipino athletes, their coaches, trainors, and management team, who achieve podium finish in international sports competitions or set new competition records in such sports events, shall be automatically entitled to civil service professional eligibility that will qualify them for permanent appointment in regular plantilla positions in government or similar to the Grant of Foreign School Honor Graduate Eligibility as expressed in the Civil Service Commission’s Resolution No. 1302714 promulgated on 17 December 2013.

For Filipino athletes and players who are already in the civil service when they earned their medal-winning or record-setting international sports achievement, they shall be promoted two salary grades higher than their current salary grade.

Section 3. **Sports Development Office in every Local Government Unit.** There is hereby established a Sports Development Office (SDO) in every province, city, municipality, and barangay in the country. The SDO shall have regular plantilla positions. It shall be headed by a Sports Director and staffed with at least five (5) Sports Coaches, three Physical Conditioning Specialists, and three (3) Administrative/Clerical Personnel.

The local government chief executive may augment this core of regular plantilla personnel with job order, contractual, and casual personnel, subject to the availability of funds, upon recommendation of the Sports Director, and approval of the Provincial Board, City Council, Municipal Council, or Barangay Council as the case may be.

**Section 4. Academic Degree Equivalency of International Sports Achievement.** Consistent with the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) as established in Republic Act 10968, the PQF – National Coordinating Council is hereby authorized to apply the appropriate academic equivalency to the demonstrated competence of the internationally-accomplished athletes as evidenced by either the podium finish or the setting of a new competition record, to be credited toward the award of either a baccalaureate degree or a masteral degree by a higher education institution accredited by the Commission on Higher Education to implement the Expanded Tertiary Education Equivalency and Accreditation Program (ETEEAP).

**Section 5. Crediting International Sports Achievement for Continuing Professional Development and Tertiary Education Equivalency.** Qualifying or participating in international regional competitions recognized by the world sports governing bodies, the Southeast Asian Games, the Asian Games, the Olympic qualifying tournaments, world championships, and the Olympics, shall also merit the award of appropriate and commensurate credit consistent with the Continuing Professional Development Act (RA 10912), the PQF Act (RA 10968), and the equivalency program of the Commission on Higher Education known as the Expanded Tertiary Education Equivalency and Accreditation Program (ETEEAP).

**Section 6. Appropriations.** Funding for the implementation of this Act shall be provided in the annual General Appropriations Act. Funding support for the sports development offices of local governments shall come from the internal revenue allotment of the LGUs. An LGU Sports Development Support Fund is hereby established and with which the Department of Budget and Management shall set aside the IRA funds for the SDOs of LGUs.

**Section 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** The Civil Service Commission, the Department of Interior and Local Government, the Philippine Sports Commission, and the Department of Budget and Management shall jointly formulate the implementing rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act not later than ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act.

**Section 8. Separability.** - If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 9. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, executive orders, and administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**Section 10. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the online version of the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or with established internet website presence.

Approved.