

(H. B. 339)  
(Reconsidered)

**(No. 21)**

(Approved January 23, 2006)

**AN ACT**

To amend Act No. 36 of May 1, 1996 in order to officially designate the “Raúl Juliá Award” as the “Raúl Juliá Theatrical Arts Scholarship,” provide that the House of Representatives shall make public the notices as well as the awarding thereof, and that the costs of said publicity shall not be taken from the amount of the award, to provide on the event of a vacancy in the competition, and on the continuity of the regulations to be adopted for the granting of the award.

**STATEMENT OF MOTIVES**

During the Seventh Regular Session in 1996, the Twelfth Legislature paid posthumous homage to the distinguished Puerto Rican actor Raúl Juliá through the creation of a scholarship that shall be known as the Raúl Juliá Award, to be financed and granted by the House of Representatives.

This scholarship, worth fifteen thousand (15) dollars, would be bestowed annually on a student who excels in theatrical arts, who has distinguished him/her self in community service, and who wishes to pursue studies in drama outside of Puerto Rico. To such purposes, a Nominating Committee designated by the Speaker of the House would be created with the participation of five (5) persons involved in the field of theatrical arts, representing the University of Puerto Rico and the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture.

Despite of the fact that it was created by law, this program has not received the publicity it deserves. On the one hand, the language provides that the granting process thereof would be established through regulations by the House of Representatives, but it is not clear whether it is an administrative regulation, to be issued by the Speaker and remain in effect even when the composition of the Body changes, or if it is a Legislative Regulation, which must be approved every four years. On the other hand, the name “Raúl Juliá Award” creates confusion between this and the well-known award of the same name associated with the San Juan Cinema Fest.

Through this Act, the processes to enforce this incentive for the young Puerto Rican talents are clarified and at the same time, it renames the incentive with a name that better reflects its purpose.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:**

Section 1.- Section 1 of Act No. 36 of May 15, 1996, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 1.- The “Raúl Juliá Theatrical Arts Scholarship” is hereby created, to be conferred to a student who excels in the field of theatrical arts and who has also distinguished him/her self in community service, and who wishes to pursue studies in drama outside of Puerto Rico.”

Section 2.- Section 4 of Act No. 36 of May 15, 1996, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 4.- The Nominating Committee shall have the task of selecting the student who shall receive the Raúl Juliá Theatrical Arts Scholarship no later than the third week of May of each year. The House of Representatives shall establish through regulations all other details concerning the granting of the award. Said regulations shall require specific provisions for the publication and disclosure to the general public and the artistic and teaching

communities of the notice of nominations and the results of the awards ceremony. In order to ensure its continuity, after the election and swearing in of the House of Representatives upon general elections, the regulation previously in force shall continue in effect until the incoming House of Representatives takes the corresponding actions.”

Section 3.- Section 6 of Act No. 36 of May 15, 1996, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 6.- The House of Representatives of Puerto Rico shall annually set aside the sum of fifteen thousand (15,000) dollars from its General Budget for the granting of the Award. Provided, that said sum shall be integrally transferred to defray expenses related to the studies of the award-winning student. The administrative, publicity, and disclosure costs of this award shall not be deducted from the prize, but rather from the publicity budget of the House of Representatives. If in any year, the award is declared vacant for any reason whatsoever, the funds shall be reserved for the award ceremony of the next year.”

Section 4.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 21 (H.B. 339) (Reconsidered) of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Legislature of Puerto Rico:

**AN ACT** to amend Act No. 36 of May 1, 1996 in order to officially designate the “Raúl Juliá Award” as the “Raúl Juliá Theatrical Arts Scholarship,” provide that the House of Representatives shall make public the notices as well as the awarding thereof, and that the costs of said publicity shall not be taken from the amount of the award, to provide on the event of a vacancy in the competition, and on the continuity of the regulations to be adopted for the granting of the award,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 13<sup>th</sup> of July of 2006.

Francisco J. Domenech  
Director

