

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

'04 JUN 30 12:52

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SENATE

S. B. No.     88    

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Introduced by Senator LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 provides:

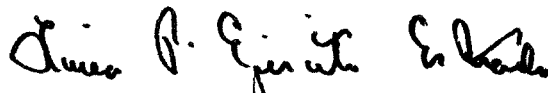
"The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy."

Millions of Filipino live and work overseas while continuing to vote and pay taxes in the Philippines. They help in the economy and serve as economic, political, and cultural "ambassadors" of the country.

Hence, the National Statistics Office should undertake a census of all Filipinos residing abroad in a special census and eventually in regular censuses as they, albeit living abroad, deserve to receive the same benefits and privileges local residents get.

This bill seeks to provide for an interim census of Filipinos residing abroad for the purpose of eventually including them in regular census.

In view hereof, the early passage of this proposed measure is highly recommended.



LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator

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S. B. No. 28

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Introduced by Senator LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA

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**AN ACT**  
**TO PROVIDE FOR AN INTERIM CENSUS OF FILIPINOS RESIDING**  
**ABROAD AND TO REQUIRE THAT SUCH INDIVIDUALS BE INCLUDED IN**  
**REGULAR CENSUSES**

*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 “Census of Filipinos  
Abroad Act.”

SECTION 2. *Counting Of Filipinos Residing Abroad.* –

(a) In General. – The National Statistics Office shall –

(1) take a special census of all Filipinos residing abroad within 360  
days after the enactment of this Act.

(2) submit the final tabulations under the special census to the  
President of the Philippines and both Houses of Congress within  
nine (9) months after the date specified in paragraph (1), broken  
down into all appropriate categories, including –

(A) Filipinos residing abroad affiliated with the Government,  
and their dependents; and

(B) Filipinos residing abroad not affiliated with the  
Government, and their dependents;

(3) the office, for purposes of facilitating the census scheme, shall:

- (A) develop counting methodologies;
  - (B) define the purposes for which any information could or should be used; and
  - (C) whether Filipinos residing abroad can be included in the regular census for purposes of the apportionment of Representatives in Congress and, if so, how it should be done; and
- (4) take appropriate measure – (a) to provide for the inclusion of Filipinos residing abroad in the next regular census thereafter; (b) Interim Report On Special Census – Not later than ninety (90) days after the enactment of this Act, the National Statistics Office shall submit to the appropriate committees of both Houses of Congress a report which shall include –
- (1) a summary of how the plans and preparations for carrying out the special census are proceeding;
  - (2) a brief description or outline of how the tabulations in the special census are to be carried out; and
  - (3) information identifying any experts, consultants, interest groups, or persons who were consulted in connection with the special census.

SECTION 3. *Authorization Of Appropriations.* – Such sum as may be necessary to carry out this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*