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S. B. No. 2205

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Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

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AN ACT  
GRANTING LEGAL RESIDENCE STATUS TO CERTAIN ALIENS THROUGH A  
SOCIAL INTEGRATION PROGRAM IN THE PHILIPPINES UNDER CERTAIN  
CONDITIONS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine state, by virtue of its sovereignty, is imbued with the right to allow or deny foreigners from entering its territory, and hence, implement policies that control and regulate the entry and exit of foreigners. Immigration laws are in place outlining the framework for such policies.

Some contend however that these laws, such as Commonwealth Act No. 613 or the "Philippine Immigration Act of 1940," are antiquated and are incongruent with the demands of today's globalized world, where mobility is much freer and geographic borders more porous.

News reports reveal that some foreigners in the country have perpetrated such criminal activities as illegal recruitment, prostitution, drug trafficking, terrorism, and human trafficking. But the entry of foreigners / aliens also redounds to many economic, cultural and even scientific benefits to the country, which include higher tourism arrivals and increased foreign direct investments.

The country should then promulgate and implement an immigration policy that is firm without being unnecessarily restrictive, whose aim is to protect Filipino citizens and fulfill the national interest.

The bill aims to lay out such an immigration policy, where foreigners can be granted legal residence status upon certain conditions which promote the domestic and international interests of the Philippines.

Similar to the bill jointly filed by Representatives Rufus B. Rodriguez and Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr., the foregoing measure also firms up the country's ability to deal with foreigners / aliens engaged in criminal activities.

Its swift passage is earnestly sought.

  
SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "**Alien Social Integration**  
2 **Act of 2014**".  
3

4 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** - The State shall control and regulate the  
5 admission and integration of aliens into its territory and body politic. Towards this end,  
6 aliens with unlawful residence status shall be integrated into the mainstream of  
7 Philippine society subject to national security and interest, and in deference to  
8 internationally recognized human rights.  
9

10 **SECTION 3. Coverage.** - Upon effectivity of this Act, all aliens whose stay in the  
11 Philippines is otherwise illegal under existing laws, and who have entered the country  
12 prior to June 30, 2013, excluding those who have availed in good faith of the benefits of  
13 Executive Order No. 324 and Republic Act No. 7919, whose application has been duly  
14 approved, are hereby granted legal residence status upon compliance with the  
15 provisions of this Act, and shall not be prosecuted for crimes defined under  
16 Commonwealth Act. No. 613, otherwise known as the Immigration Act of 1940, which  
17 are inherent to illegal residence such as the absence of valid refugees in the Philippines  
18 be qualified to apply under this Act.  
19

20 The bar to prosecution shall apply only to such crimes or felonies committed due to acts  
21 necessary or essential to maintain a false or fraudulent or illegal residence, such as  
22 falsification of marriage, birth or baptismal certificates or travel documents such as visas  
23 or alien certificates of registration.  
24

25 **SECTION 4. Integration Requirements and Fees.** -The social integration of aliens  
26 established under Section 3 shall be effective and its benefits enjoyed by illegal  
27 residents upon completion of all the following acts:  
28

29 4.1 Filing of registration forms with the following agencies:  
30

31 (1) the civil register of his place of residence;  
32

33 (2) the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR);  
34

1 (3) the Bureau of Immigration;

2  
3 (4) the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI); and,

4  
5 (5) the commercial or universal bank to which the alien pays the  
6 integration fee as hereafter provided.

7  
8 In lieu thereof, the filing of registration forms may be done in five (5) sets with a  
9 commercial or universal bank certified by the BIR as authorized collectors for income  
10 tax.

11  
12 4.2. The registration forms shall contain:

13  
14 (1) the applicant's full name and one alias by which he may be known;

15 (2) proof of his identity, good moral character and financial capacity  
16 through affidavits from two (2) Filipino citizens of good reputation in his/her place of  
17 residence;

18 (3) history of stay in the Philippines;

19 (4) residential address for the immediate past five (5) years;

20 (5) four (4) passport size pictures; and,

21 (6) a complete fingerprint card for each of the agencies mentioned in 4.1,  
22 including his/her most recent dental records which shall be submitted to the NBI.

23  
24 4.3 Payment of the integration fee to any duly licensed commercial or universal  
25 bank accredited by the BIR as authorized to receive income tax payments in the  
26 following amounts:

27  
28 4.3.1 A one-time payment of Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP  
29 300,000.00) for the principal applicant upon filing of the registration forms  
30 with the bank; Provided, that the BIR may promulgate rules and  
31 regulations for other modes of payment through installment scheme;

32  
33 4.3.2. A single payment of Twenty Five Thousand Pesos (PhP 25,000.00)  
34 for the spouse and Twenty Five Thousand Pesos (PhP 25,000.00) for each  
35 legitimate child below eighteen (18) years of age.

36  
37 4.3.3. Children born after June 30, 2000 of parents who received the  
38 benefits of this Act shall, upon proper registration with the Bureau of  
39 Immigration, become legal residents.

40  
41 4.3.4. The integration fees paid by an alien shall be in lieu of all  
42 immigration fees and fines said alien may have incurred during  
43 his unlawful residence in the country.

44  
45 4.4. Submission of a medical certificate stating that the applicant is not a user of  
46 prohibited drugs or otherwise a drug addict and that he is not afflicted with Acquired  
47 Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

48  
49 4.5 Submission of a medical certificate stating that the applicant is mentally and  
50 psychologically healthy.

51  
52 **SECTION 5. Official Receipt.** - The commercial or universal bank shall issue an official  
53 receipt acknowledging receipt of the integration fee, upon payment by the applicant of a  
54 processing fee of One Thousand Pesos (PhP 1,000.00). In the event registration was

1 effected under paragraph 2 of subsection 4.1, the bank shall furnish copies of the  
2 registration documents to the following agencies:

- 3
- 4 (1) the civil register of the applicant's place of residence;
- 5 (2) the BIR; and,
- 6 (3) the NBI.
- 7

8 Thereafter, the bank shall issue a certification to this effect in favor of the  
9 applicant.

10

11 **SECTION 6. *Duties of the Bureau of Immigration.*** - Upon presentation by the  
12 applicant of the official receipt from the bank, together with a certification from the bank  
13 or the agency concerned, as the case may be that the civil registrar, BIR and NBI  
14 received copies of the registration forms, and the submission to the Bureau of  
15 Immigration shall immediately issue an alien certificate of registration (ACR) to the  
16 applicant. The legal residence granted under this Act shall commence from the date the  
17 Bureau of Immigration issues the ACR.

18

19 The Bureau of Immigration shall publish, at the applicant's cost, the names, ages,  
20 addresses, and a photograph of each of the applicants in a national newspaper of  
21 general circulation at the end of each calendar month during the effectivity of the  
22 application period, as hereinafter provided in Section 8. The banks authorized under this  
23 Act to collect the fees herein required shall collect a publication fee of Five Thousand  
24 Pesos (PhP 5,000.00) from the applicant.

25

26 **SECTION 7. *Ministerial Duty of the Civil Registrar, the BIR and the NBI.*** - The Civil  
27 Registrar, the BIR and the NBI shall have the ministerial duty to accept the registration  
28 forms required under Section 4. Each of these agencies may charge no more than One  
29 hundred pesos (PhP 100.00) for the filing of the registration forms. Upon payment of the  
30 filing fee, the agency concerned shall issue a certification that the alien has filed with the  
31 said office by himself/herself or through the bank, all the forms required under Section  
32 4.

33

34 **SECTION 8. *Application Period.*** - The benefits extended by Section 3 can be availed  
35 of within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act.

36

37 **SECTION 9. *Administrative Confirmation.*** - The procedure herein provided may be  
38 availed by any alien who may want a confirmation of his stay in the Philippines.

39

40 **SECTION 10. *Eligibility for Citizenship.*** - Aliens granted legal residence under this Act  
41 shall be eligible to apply for naturalization after five (5) years from the approval of  
42 his/her application.

43

44 **SECTION 11. *Compliance Report and Oversight Functions.*** - The Bureau of  
45 Immigration shall submit to the chair of the Committees on Justice of each chamber of  
46 Congress, copy furnished the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of  
47 Representatives, a written report on the developments in the implementation of this Act  
48 every six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act for purposes of oversight functions.

49

50 **SECTION 12. *Revocation of Resident Status.*** Deceit or misrepresentation on the part  
51 of any applicant to enable them to obtain legal status under this Act shall be a ground  
52 for cancellation or revocation of their resident status. The Bureau of Immigration shall  
53 promulgate rules and regulations to determine the authenticity of the documents  
54 submitted by the applicants. The Bureau of Immigration may revoke applicants or  
55 legalized aliens on the basis of substantial evidence.

1  
2 **SECTION 13. Perjury.** - All applications shall be under oath or affirmation, which oath  
3 or affirmation shall be required for their registration. Applicants who violate their oath or  
4 affirmation by knowingly making untruthful statements on any material matter in their  
5 application shall be liable for perjury under the Revised Penal Code.  
6

7 In addition to the penalty imposed on perjury, the subsequent convictions of the  
8 applicant shall revoke the legal residence granted him/her and shall subject the  
9 applicant to deportation proceedings.  
10

11 **SECTION 14. Appropriations.** - There is hereby appropriated, out of the payments  
12 received under Section 4 hereof, an amount of Five Million Pesos (PhP 5,000,000.00) to  
13 cover administrative and other expenses to be incurred in the implementation of this  
14 Act.  
15

16 **SECTION 15. Privacy Clause.** - Information submitted by an alien applicant pursuant to  
17 this Act, shall be used only for the purpose of determining the veracity of the factual  
18 statements by the applicant or for enforcing the penalties prescribed by this Act.  
19

20 **SECTION 16. Rule-making Powers.** - The provisions of this Act are self-executory and  
21 shall not be dependent on the issuance of any rules or regulations. The Secretary of  
22 Justice is hereby authorized, however, to promulgate only such rules and regulations as  
23 may be needed to efficiently and administratively implement the provisions of this Act.  
24

25 **SECTION 17. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared  
26 unconstitutional or invalid, such sections or parts not affected thereby shall continue to  
27 be in full force and effect.  
28

29 **SECTION 18. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and  
30 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
31 repealed or modified accordingly.  
32

33 **SECTION 19. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
34 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general  
35 circulation, whichever comes earlier.  
36

37  
38 Approved.