

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

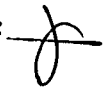


Senate
Office of the Secretary

'16 OCT -3 P3:39

SENATE

S.B. No. 1179

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT
EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF R.A. NO.
8239 ALSO KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under Article III, Section 6 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution "*The liberty of abode and of changing the same within the limits prescribed by law shall not be impaired except upon lawful order of the court. Neither shall the right to travel be impaired except in the interest of national security, public safety, or public health, as may be provided by law.*"

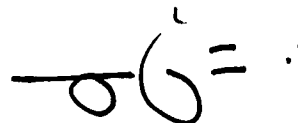
In 1996, the Congress of the Republic of the Philippines enacted Republic Act No. 8239 or the Philippine Passport Act of 1996. The said law is a riposte on the government's duty to afford its citizens their right to travel as enunciated in the country's fundamental law. It provides the establishment of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the authority to issue passports or any travel document to any citizen or individual who complies with the requirements required therein.

However, the said law, specifically Section 10 thereof, provides that validity of passport shall only be for five (5) years upon its issuance. As the current administration's policy towards premium public service, with the concurrence of the author, it is considered that the applicability of extending the validity of Philippine passport is one of the major approaches to lessen contacts from government thereby reducing waste to government's resources and the citizens as well.

This bill seeks to amend certain provisions of Republic Act No. 8239 or the Philippine Passport Act of 1996 in order to extend the validity of the

Philippine Passport, thereby reducing interaction of Filipino people with government agencies as the primary policy of the current administration.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'E' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.


JOSEPH VICTOR EJERCITO



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SENATE

S.B. No. 1179

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT
EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORT, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF R.A. NO. 8239 ALSO KNOWN AS
"THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 10 of Republic Act Eight thousand Two hundred Thirty
2 Nine, as amended is hereby amended to read as follows:

3
4 Sec. 10. Validity. — Regular passports issued under this Act
5 shall be valid for a period of TEN (10) [five (5)] years: Provided,
6 however, That the issuing authority may limit the period of
7 validity to less than TEN (10) [five (5)] years; whenever in the
8 national economic interest or political stability of the country
9 such restriction is necessary: Provided, finally, That a new
10 passport may be issued to replace one which validity has
11 expired, the old passport being returned to the holder after
12 cancellation.

13
14
15 SEC 2. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees,
16 presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent
17 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

18
19 SEC 3. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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22
23
24 Approved,