

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO.

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Submitted by the Committee on Foreign Relations onMA	R	0	7	2017	
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Re: Senate Bill No. 1365

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 109, 324, 795, and 1179, taking into consideration S. Nos. 397 and 943, P.S.R. No. 142, and H. No. 4767.

Sponsor: Senator Alan Peter S. Cayetano

### MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to which were referred the following Senate Bills:

S. No. 109, introduced by Sen. Richard "Dick" J. Gordon, entitled:

### "AN ACT

AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

S. No. 324, introduced by Sen. Cynthia A. Villar, entitled:

### "AN ACT

EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF THE REGULAR PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ISSUED TO ADULT APPLICANTS TO TEN (10) YEARS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239 OR THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

S. No. 795, introduced by Sen. Ralph G. Recto, entitled:

### "AN ACT

EXTENDING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

and S. No. 1179, introduced by Sen. Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, entitled:

### "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"

and taking into consideration S. No. 397, introduced by Sen. Loren Legarda, entitled:

### "AN ACT

### TO AMEND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

S. No. 943, introduced by Sens. Sonny Angara and Joel Villanueva, entitled:

### "AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR A NEW PASSPORT LAW, REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHT THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE (R.A. NO. 8239), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

P.S. Res. No. 142, introduced by Sen. Grace Poe, entitled:

### "RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED DELAY OF PASSPORT PROCESSING RESULTING IN MISSED OPPORTUNITIES FOR FILIPINOS WHO NEED TO TRAVEL OVERSEAS IMMEDIATELY"

and **H. No. 4767**, introduced by Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Montoro, Salimbangon, Santos-Recto, Suansing (E.), Suansing (H.), Tan (A.), Villar, Pineda, Romero, Aragones, Acop, Bertiz, Salceda, Oaminal, Dalipe, Abu, Ferriol-Pascual, Andaya, Ermita-Buhain, Aglipay-Villar, Primicias-Agabas, Tambunting, Castelo, Romualdez, Gonzales (A.P.), Garcia (G.), Pimentel, Cueva, Rodriguez (M.), Sy-Alvarado, Sambar, Bolilia, Savellano, Antonio, Del Mar, Nieto, Violago, Nograles (J.), Cosalan, Cerafica, Mariño, Dy, Lee, Belaro, Palma, Barbers, Panganiban, Mending, Belmonte (R.), Paduano, Fortuno, Ortega (V.), Del Rosario, Marcos, Velasco-Catera, Ty, Go (M.), Salo, Roa-Puno, Tupas, Roman, Pancho, Mangaoang, Go (A.C.), Daza, Albano, Herrera-Dy, Canama, Sarmiento (E.), Salon, Fariñas, Gomez, Kho, Bataoil, Siao, Revilla, Villarica, Abellanosa, Bagatsing, Vargas-Alfonso, Deloso-Montalla, Ceriles, Lacson, Silverio, Tinio, Arenas, Eriguel, Romualdo, Turabin-Hataman, Lazatin, Yap (V.), Villarin, Villafuerte, Lobregat, Uy (R.), Eusebio, Chavez, Flores, Cortuna, Hofer, Loyola, Madrona, Dalog, Batocabe, Bravo (A.), and Alvarez (P.) Per Committee Report No. 48, entitled:

"AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT.

## AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHT THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE (R.A. NO. 8239), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

has considered the same and has the honor to report these bills and resolution back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No.  $\underline{1365}$ , prepared by the Committee, entitled:

### "AN ACT

EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 109, 324, 795, and 1179, taking into consideration S.B. Nos. 397 and 943, PSR No. 142, and H. No. 4767, with Senators Gordon, Villar, Recto, Ejercito, Legarda, Angara, Villanueva, Poe, and Cayetano as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

Chair, Committee on Foreign Relations

Vice-Chairs:

CYNTHIA A VILLAR

JOEL VHALANUEVA

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Members:

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SENATE

Senate Bill No.

(in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 109, 324, 795, and 1179, taking into consideration S. B. Nos. 397 and 943, P.S.R. No. 142, and H. No. 4767)

Prepared and submitted by the Committee on Foreign Relations with Senators Gordon, Villar, Recto, Ejercito, Legarda, Angara, Villanueva, Poe and Cayetano as authors thereof

#### AN ACT

EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

- SECTION 1. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8239, otherwise known as the "Philippine Passport Act of 1996", is hereby amended to read, as follows:
  - "SEC. 10. Validity. Regular passports issued under this Act shall be valid for a period of TEN (10) [five (5)] years: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE, ONLY A PASSPORT WITH FIVE-YEAR VALIDITY SHALL BE ISSUED: Provided, [however] FURTHER, That the issuing authority may limit the period of validity to less than TEN (10) [five (5)] years; whenever in the national economic interest or political stability of the country such restriction is necessary: Provided finally, That a new passport may be issued to replace one which validity has expired, the old passport being returned to the holder after cancellation."
  - SEC. 2. Implementing Authority. The Department of Foreign Affairs shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations and adopt best practices to ensure that the provisions of this Act are implemented in convergence with necessary reforms to make the passport processing system seamless, convenient and pro-people, and the production and security of passports at par with technological advances and world standards.
  - SEC. 3. Separability Clause. If any part or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions or parts not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

- SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,