

13TH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'04 JUL -6 P12:00

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. BILL NO. 1395

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Filipino veterans of World War II were given the opportunity to acquire American citizenship under the US Immigration Act of 1990.

Under Republic Act No. 7837, veterans may be granted permanent resident status even after they have acquired American citizenship. Furthermore, the law grants other privileges, such as multiple-entry visa and reentry permit. However, these privileges are valid only for two years.

This bill seeks to extend the period of validity of the privileges for multiple visa and reentry permit of these veterans and their immediate family until their application for permanent resident status in the Philippines has been approved. This would enable these veterans and their families to enjoy their stay in their own country free from worries of their multiple-entry visa or reentry permit possibly expiring and from the burden of renewing the same.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent approval of this bill is earnestly urged.


RALPH G. RECTO

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AN ACT

EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF THE PRIVILEGES FOR MULTIPLE ENTRY VISA AND REENTRY PERMIT OF FILIPINO VETERANS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 8, PARAGRAPHS (B) AND (C) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7837

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

1 SECTION 1. Paragraphs (b) and (c), Section 8 of Republic Act No.
2 7837 are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 8. *Other Privileges Granted to Filipino Veterans and Their*
4 *Immediate Family Members.* –

5 a) x x x

6 b) *Multiple entry visa* – Filipino veterans, their spouses and their
7 legitimate, natural, recognized illegitimate, and unmarried children, shall
8 be entitled to multiple entry visa which shall be valid [for a period of two
9 (2) years] **UNTIL THEIR APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS IN**
10 **THE PHILIPPINES SHALL HAVE BEEN APPROVED.**

11 c) *Reentry permit* – Filipino veterans, their spouses and their
12 legitimate, natural, recognized illegitimate, and unmarried children, as
13 qualified in Section 3 of this Act, may avail from the Bureau of Immigration
14 [and Deportation] of reentry permits shall be valid [for two (2) years] **UNTIL**

15 **THEIR APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT RESIDENT STATUS IN THE PHILIPPINES**
16 **SHALL HAVE BEEN APPROVED."**

17 SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

18 Approved,