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SENATE
S.B. No. 1511

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 5, PARAGRAPH 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9225,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "*CITIZENSHIP RETENTION AND RE-
ACQUISITION ACT OF 2003*"

Explanatory Note

Republic Act No. 9925, otherwise known as the "*Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of 2003*", declares that Philippine citizens of other countries shall be deemed not to have lost their Philippine citizenship, subject to some conditions under the said Act.


Generally, natural-born Filipinos of foreign citizenship merely need to take an oath of allegiance to the Philippines. However, R.A. No. 9225 sets additional conditions for (a) those intending to exercise their right to suffrage; (b) those seeking elective office; (c) those appointed to public office; and (d) those intending to practice their profession in the Philippines.

R.A. No. 9225 also requires dual citizens who are appointed to public office to renounce their oath of allegiance to the foreign country where they took that oath. Although the intent of this provision may be laudable, it is problematic for employees of the University of the Philippines (UP) system and other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs).

Some professors of UP and other SUCs have studied and even taught in other countries. In some cases, these professors may have had to take up dual citizenship to do so. However, when they return to the Philippines, they are required to renounce their oath of allegiance to the other country as a condition for reappointment.

This bill thus seeks to amend the relevant provision of R.A. No. 9225 to exempt employees of UP and other SUCs from the requirement to renounce their oath of allegiance to another country as a condition for their appointment. The proposed amendment will enable Filipino professors and experts of foreign citizenship to return to our country and impart their hard-earned wisdom.

Speedy approval of this measure is eagerly sought.


GRACE POE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Amendatory Provision.* Section 5, Paragraph 3 of Republic Act No.
2 9225, otherwise known as the "*Citizenship and Re-acquisition Act of 2003*" is hereby
3 amended as follows:

4 "**SECTION 5. *Civil and Political Rights and Liabilities.***- Those who
5 retain or re-acquire Philippine citizenship under this Act shall enjoy full
6 civil and political rights and be subject to all attendant liabilities and
7 responsibilities under existing laws of the Philippines and the following
8 conditions:

9 (1) x x x

10 (2) x x x

11 (3) Those appointed to any public office shall subscribe and swear
12 to an oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines and
13 its duly constituted authorities prior to their assumption of
14 office: *Provided*, That they renounce their oath of allegiance to
15 the country where they took that oath; **PROVIDED**
16 **FURTHER, THAT APPOINTEES TO THE UNIVERSITY**
17 **OF THE PHILIPPINES AND OTHER STATE**
18 **UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES SHALL NOT BE**
19 **REQUIRED TO MAKE SUCH RENUNCIATION AS A**
20 **CONDITION FOR THEIR APPOINTMENT;**

1 (4) x x x
2 (5) x x x"

3 **SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.***- All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations
4 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

5 **SEC. 3. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
6 following its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,