

20 JAN 28 A9:51

**SENATE**

S. No. 1299

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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

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**AN ACT**  
**EXEMPTING QUALIFIED OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWS) FROM**  
**THE COVERAGE OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS**  
**THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016**  
**AMENDING**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 10912, otherwise known as the Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016, was passed to institute measure that will continuously improve the competence of Filipino professionals and to make them attuned to the development and advancements in their chosen field.

However, the implementation of the said law faced criticisms and challenges from a number of professionals, especially from Overseas Filipino Workers, whose situations would make it impossible for them to comply with the requirements of the said law.

In a resolution issued by the Professional Regulations Commission, PRC Resolution No. 2019-114, it states, among others, that OFWs shall be exempted from the requirements of this law.

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

  
**MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID**  
Senator



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**THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016**

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10912 is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 "Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – The following terms shall be defined  
4 under this Act:

5  
6 "xxx.  
7

8 **(X) QUALIFIED OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWS) REFERS**  
9 **TO FILIPINO PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN THE**  
10 **PRACTICE OF THEIR PROFESSION OUTSIDE THE PHILIPPINES**  
11 **WITH A SERVICE CONTRACT OF AT LEAST THREE (3) YEARS OR**  
12 **HAS BEEN PRACTICING THEIR PROFESSION OUTSIDE OF THE**  
13 **PHILIPPINES FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) CONSECUTIVE**  
14 **YEARS."**

15  
16 SEC. 2. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10912 is hereby amended to read as  
17 follows:

18  
19 *Sec. 10. CPD as Mandatory Requirement in the Renewal of Professional*  
20 *License and Accreditation System for the Practice of Professions.* – The  
21 CPD is hereby made as a mandatory requirement in the renewal of the  
22 PICs of all registered and licensed professionals under the regulation of  
23 the PRC, **EXCEPT WITH REGARDS TO QUALIFIED OVERSEAS**

**FILIPINO WORKERS AS DEFINED IN SECTION 2, PARAGRAPH (X)  
OF THIS ACT.**

**A PROFESSIONAL WHO IS PRACTICING OR WHO INTENDS TO PRACTICE HIS/HER PROFESSION IN COUNTRIES COVERED BY BILATERAL, REGIONAL OR INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS IN WHICH CPD IS A RECOGNITION AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT, SUCH AS THE ASEAN MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENTS (MRAs), SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ACT.**

*Sec. 3. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

*Sec. 15. Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

*Approved,*