

23 FEB 21 P3:00

SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 496

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
REPUBLIC ACT 10928, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ADAPTING THE
PHYSICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT IN LINE
WITH THE TEN (10) YEAR VALIDITY AND THE PRESENT NEEDS OF
OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWs)

1 **WHEREAS**, under Republic Act No. 8239 or The Philippine Passport Act of
2 1996, a Philippine passport is a document issued by the Philippine Government to its
3 citizens, requesting other governments to allow its citizens to pass freely, and in
4 case of need, to give them lawful aid and protection¹;

5
6 **WHEREAS**, in 2017, former President of the Republic of the Philippines,
7 Rodrigo R. Duterte signed into law Republic Act 10928, a law extending the validity
8 of Philippine passports to ten (10) years²;

9
10 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) in a press release
11 stated that passport booklets with ten (10) year and five (5) year validity will not
12 have a change in design, security features, and the number of pages³;

13
14 **WHEREAS**, the manner of work of some Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs)
15 requires them to travel and use their passports on a regular basis. Due to this, the
16 number of pages in the current passport are not enough, and as result they need to
17 re-apply for a new passport every time;

18
19 **WHEREAS**, according to the DFA, the Philippine passport has a standard
20 booklet containing forty-four (44) pages⁴;

¹ Section 3 (d), Republic Act No. 8239, <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/1996/11/22/republic-act-no-8.239/>

² Republic Act 10928, <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2017/08aug/20170802-RA-10928-RRD.pdf>

³ Philippine News Agency Website, DFA starts issuing passports with 10-year validity, <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1020348>

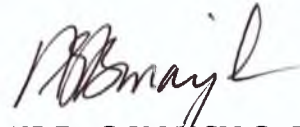
⁴ Philippine Consulate General, New York, USA Website, http://newyorkpcg.org/pcgny/helpie_faq/can-additional-pages-be-inserted-in-the-passport-if-it-has-ran-out-of-pages/#:~:text=The%20Philippine%20passport%20has%20a,need%20to%20renew%20your%20passport.

1
2 **WHEREAS**, should the passport run out of pages, the holder needs to renew
3 his/her passport⁵;

4
5 **WHEREAS**, it is imperative that all concerned agencies look into the matter
6 and explore the possibility of adapting the physical specifications of the Philippine
7 passport in line with the ten (10) year validity extension to ease the additional
8 burden to our OFWs;

9
10 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**,
11 that the Senate of the Philippines directs the proper Senate Committees to conduct
12 an inquiry in aid of legislation on the implementation of Republic Act 10928, with the
13 end in view of adapting the physical specifications of the Philippine passport, in line
14 with the ten (10) year validity and the present needs of Overseas Filipino Workers
15 (OFWs).
16

Adopted,



MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

⁵ Ibid