

24 MAR 12 P 6:03

**SENATE**

**S.B. No. 2603**

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Introduced by Sen. Juan Miguel F. Zubiri**

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**AN ACT  
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO BEATRIZ BERTA ROXAS**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Beatriz Berta Olgado Roxas, giving her all the rights and privileges as well as the duties and obligations thereto under our Constitution and existing laws.

Beatriz Berta Olgado Roxas was born in Manila on July 4, 1953 as the second child of Don Eduardo Roxas Y Gargollo and Pilar Olgado. She is part of the eighth generation of the Roxas family that traces their roots from the patriot and industrialist Domingo Roxas and Pedro Pablo Roxas who had been instrumental in the successful revolution of 1898 that paved the way for the first republic in Asia – the Philippine Republic.

Growing up, Ms. Roxas spent the first thirteen years of her life in the Philippines, attending the prestigious Assumption College San Lorenzo in Makati. She has since travelled between the Philippines and Spain until 2010, when she finally decided to reside in Nasugbu, Batangas.

Over the years, her family had established businesses that employed thousands of Filipinos. Her grandfather Pedro Pablo Roxas was the founder and first General Manager of San Miguel Corporation (SMC), the country's largest conglomerate. The family of Ms. Roxas also owned and operated several sugar mills including Central Azucarrera Don Pedro in Nasugbu, Batangas that were instrumental in the economic growth of the town and province of Batangas. Furthermore, generations of the Roxas family played a vital role in the industrialization and economic development of the Philippines as a whole thru their various notable business ventures that had lasting impact.

Ms. Roxas has maintained a very good moral character as shown through her various personal philanthropic works beyond her stint as President and CEO of Roxas Foundation, Inc. – a foundation or non-profit organization that is the offshoot of the previously active Roxas-Gargollo Foundation. Currently, she has been personally helping hundreds of children in Nasugbu, Batangas through her charitable works, providing scholarship and academic support to students struggling to make ends meet.

Ms. Roxas is also the brains behind the weaving center that converts sugarcane waste products, i.e. sugarcane leaves, into a viable fabric. This project paved the way for increased employment opportunities and community development in Barangay Reparo, Nasugbu, Batangas. The products being harnessed by this project are world-class handicrafts that highlight Filipino craftsmanship and skills. This project was

recognized by USAID as a very significant initiative worthy of international recognition not only for sustainability but also for its dedication to preserve the environment.

Despite her desire to stay out of the limelight, her efforts to uplift the lives of many Filipinos have been noticed by several cause-oriented groups. Not only has she been recognized by the community as one of the important pillars in Batangas, but very recently she was one of the awardees of Asia's Pinnacle Award, which recognized her work to develop fabrics from waste materials drawn from sugarcane.

Ms. Roxas has spent many years of her life in the Philippines, dedicating her life's work to the upliftment of the lives of many of our countrymen. Born and raised in the Philippines, Ms. Roxas has the heart and soul of a true Filipina.

In view of the abovementioned points, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



**JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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**GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO BEATRIZ BERTA ROXAS**

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

1       **Section 1.** Ms. Beatriz Berta Roxas is hereby granted Philippine citizenship  
2 with all the rights, privileges and prerogatives, as well as the duties and obligations  
3 appurtenant thereto under the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of the  
4 Philippines.

5       **Sec. 2.** Upon taking her Oath of Allegiance before an officer duly authorized  
6 for this purpose, and the registration of the same with the Bureau of Immigration,  
7 Ms. Beatriz Berta Roxas shall enter upon the full enjoyment of her Philippine  
8 citizenship.

9       **Sec. 3.** Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of  
10 Immigration shall issue Ms. Beatriz Berta Roxas her Certificate of Naturalization.

11       **Sec. 4.** This Act shall take effect immediately upon publication in at least  
12 two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

**Approved,**