

24 DEC -3 P3:17

SENATE

S.B. No. 2887

REC'D

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

**AN ACT
ENSURING GENDER-RESPONSIVENESS IN NATIONALITY LAWS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 473,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED NATURALIZATION LAW, AND
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9139, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE
NATURALIZATION LAW**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution enshrines the role of women in nation-building and the responsibility of the State to ensure the fundamental equality of women and men before the law (Article II, Section 14).

Republic Act No. 9710, otherwise known as the *Magna Carta of Women*, and the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (UN CEDAW), of which the Philippines is a State Party, underscores the equal rights of men and women to acquire, change, or retain their nationality (Section 19; Article 9, respectively). Further, both emphasize that neither marriage to an alien nor change of nationality by the husband during marriage shall automatically change the nationality of the wife, render her stateless, or force upon her the nationality of the husband (Section 19(g); Article 9).

Despite these frameworks, the Philippines has been identified as one of fifty (50) States that continue to have distinctions in terms of conferral and

acquisition/retainment of citizenship¹. These are embodied in the country's naturalization laws which are governed by Commonwealth Act No. 473, otherwise known as the *Revised Naturalization Law*, and Republic Act 9139 No. or the *Administrative Naturalization Law*.

Article 15 of the Revised Naturalization Law denies a married woman the right to choose her nationality following the naturalization of her husband. Furthermore, Section 12 of the Administrative Naturalization Law prevents married women that have been granted Philippine citizenship through naturalization, from conferring her nationality to her husband. Not only do these provisions violate the principles and commitments of the Philippines under international² and national laws, but it also inhibits inclusive sustainable development as citizenship serves as the gateway to access other rights and services³.

Hence, this bill seeks to (1) harmonize existing laws⁴, (2) amend the current Administrative and Judicial Naturalization Laws, especially, the automatic conferment of derivative naturalization in Section 15 of Commonwealth Act No. 473, and the differential effect of naturalization on non-national spouses as indicated in Sections 11, 12, and 13 of Republic Act No. 9139, and (3) ensure safeguards to prevent statelessness in line with the Concluding Observations on the 9th Periodic Report of the Philippines to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women⁵, General Recommendation No. 32 of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women⁶ and the recently ratified 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.

¹ Reference: <https://equalnationalityrights.org/the-issue/the-problem>

² The right to nationality is also enshrined in several international and regional human rights instruments. The list of which could be found in pages 26-28 of 2020 Guidelines on Statelessness on Loss and Deprivation of Nationality under Articles 5-9 of the 1961 Convention.

³ Reference: <https://equalnationalityrights.org/the-issue/the-problem>

⁴ Harmonization of naturalization laws with the Republic Act 9710 and the UN CEDAW would also contribute to the fulfillment of the recommendation of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination of Women in its Concluding Observations on the Combined 7th and 8th Reports of the Philippines.

⁵ Specifically, paragraphs 37 and 38 of the Concluding Observations on the 9th Periodic Report of the Philippines to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women.

⁶ Specifically, paragraph 63 (b, e, i) of the General Recommendation No. 32 of the Gender-related Dimensions of Refugee Status, Asylum, Nationality and Statelessness of Women.

This proposed measure is also in line with efforts to remove gender discrimination in nationality laws under Action Point 3 of the National Action Plan to End Statelessness by 2024. It contributes to the fulfillment of the Philippines' pledges to enhance its "policy, legal, and operational framework" during the 2011 Ministerial Inter-Governmental Event on Refugees and Stateless Persons⁷ 2019 and 2023 Global Refugee Forum and the 2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness⁸.

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


RISA HONTIVEROS
Senator

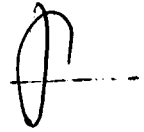
⁷ Information on the 2011 Ministerial Inter-Governmental Event on Refugees and Stateless Persons as well as the pledges manifested by the Philippines can be accessed through: <https://www.unhcr.org/4ff55a319.pdf>

⁸ Pledges manifested by the Philippines during the 2019 High-Level Segment on Statelessness can be accessed through: <https://www.unhcr.org/ibelong/results-of-the-high-level-segment-on-statelessness/>

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**ENSURING GENDER-RESPONSIVENESS IN NATIONALITY LAWS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 473,
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REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9139, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE
NATURALIZATION LAW**

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

1 SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Gender Equality and
2 Gender Responsive Amendments to Nationality Laws Act"

3 Sec. 2. Section 2 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read as
4 follows:

5 "Section 2. Qualifications. – Subject to Section 4 of this Act, any person
6 having the following qualifications may become a citizen of the
7 Philippines by naturalization:

8 First. [He] THEY must be not less than EIGHTEEN YEARS [twenty-one
9 years] of age on the day of the hearing of the petition;

10 Second. [He] THEY must have resided in the Philippines for a continuous
11 period of not less than ten years;

12 Third. [He] THEY must be of good moral character and believes in the
13 principles underlying the Philippine Constitution, and must have
14 conducted [himself] THEMSELVES in a proper and irreproachable
15 manner during the entire period of [his] THEIR residence in the

Philippines in [his] THEIR relation with the constituted government as well as with the community in which [he is] THEY ARE living.

Fourth. [He] THEY [must own real estate in the Philippines worth not less than five thousand pesos, Philippine currency, or must have some known lucrative trade, profession, or lawful occupation] MUST HAVE SOME KNOWN AND LAWFUL TRADE, BUSINESS, PROFESSION, OR LAWFUL OCCUPATION, FROM WHICH HE/SHE DERIVES SUFFICIENT INCOME TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES AND HIS/HER FAMILY;

Fifth. [He] THEY must be able to [speak and write] COMMUNICATE IN [English or Spanish] FILIPINO, ANY LOCAL LANGUAGE AND DIALECT OF THE PHILIPPINES, [and any one of the principal Philippine languages] OR IN THE CASE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, FILIPINO SIGN LANGUAGE; ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN TO ASSESS THE CONDITION AND ABILITY/IES OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT 11106, and

Sixth. [He] THEY must have enrolled [his] THEIR minor children of school age, in any of the public schools or private schools recognized by the PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT [Office of Private Education], where Philippine history, government and civics are taught or prescribed as part of the school curriculum, during the entire period of the residence in the Philippines required of [him] THEM prior to the hearing of [his] THEIR petition for naturalization as a Philippine citizen."

Section 3. Section 3 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 3. Special qualifications. The ten years of continuous residence required under the second condition of the last preceding section shall be [understood as] reduced to five years for any petitioner having any of the following qualifications:

[1. Having honorably held office under the Government of the Philippines or under that of any of the provinces, cities, municipalities, or political subdivisions thereof;]

1 [2] 1. [Having] [e]Established a new industry or introduced a useful
2 invention in the Philippines;

3 [3] 2. [Being] [m]Married to a Filipino CITIZEN [woman];

4 [4] 3. [Having been] [e]Engaged as a teacher in the Philippines in a
5 public or recognized private school not established for the exclusive
6 instruction of children of persons of a particular nationality or race, in
7 any of the branches of education or industry for a period of not less than
8 two years;

9 X X X

10 [5] 4. [Having been] [b]Born in the Philippines; OR

11 5. HAVING ENGAGED IN CONSISTENT CHARITABLE, SOCIO-CIVIC OR
12 PHILANTHROPIC WORK IN THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE ENTIRE
13 PERIOD OF RESIDENCE REQUIRED AND RECOGNIZED BY THE LOCAL
14 COMMUNITY BENEFITTED BY SUCH ACTIVITY.

15 Sec. 4. Paragraphs e, g, and h of Section 4 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is
16 hereby amended to read as follows:

17 "Section 4. Who are disqualified. - The following cannot be naturalized
18 as Philippine citizens:

19 X X X

20 e. Persons suffering from A mental [alienation or incurable contagious
21 diseases;] HEALTH CONDITION WITH ACTIVE SYMPTOMS RESULTING
22 IN TEMPORARY IMPAIRMENT AND DIMINISHED DECISION-MAKING
23 CAPACITY, OR DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF
24 INTERNATIONAL CONCERN AT THE TIME OF THE PETITION;

25 [g. Citizens or subjects of nations with whom [the United States and]
26 the Philippines IS [are] at war, during the period of such war;]

27 h. Citizens or subjects of a foreign country [other than the United States]
28 whose laws do not grant Filipinos the right to become naturalized citizens
29 or subjects thereof."

30 Sec. 5. Section 5 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read as
31 follows:

1 "Section 5. Declaration of intention. – One year prior to the filing of [his]
2 THEIR petition for admission to Philippine citizenship, the applicant for
3 [Philippine citizenship] shall file with the OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR
4 GENERAL [Bureau of Justice] a declaration under oath that it is bona
5 fide [his] THEIR intention to become a citizen of the Philippines. Such
6 declaration shall set forth THE name, age, occupation, personal
7 description, place of birth, last foreign residence and allegiance, the date
8 of arrival, the name of the vessel or aircraft, if any, in which [he] THEY
9 came to the Philippines, and the place of residence in the Philippines at
10 the time of making the declaration. No declaration shall be valid until
11 lawful entry for permanent residence has been established and a
12 certificate showing the date, place, and manner of [his] THEIR arrival
13 has been issued. The declarant must also state that [he has] THEY HAVE
14 enrolled [his] THEIR minor children, if any, in any of the public schools
15 or private schools recognized by the PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT [Office
16 of Private Education], where Philippine history, government, and civics
17 are taught or prescribed as part of the school curriculum, during the
18 entire period of [the] THEIR residence in the Philippines required of
19 [him] THEM prior to the hearing of [his] THEIR petition for naturalization
20 as A Philippine citizen. Each declarant must furnish two photographs of
21 [himself] THEMSELVES."

22 Sec. 6. Section 6 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read as
23 follows:

24 "Section 6. Persons exempt from requirement to make a declaration of
25 intention. –

26 x x x

27 To such requirements shall be added that which establishes that the
28 applicant has given primary and secondary education to all [his] THEIR
29 children in the public schools or in private schools recognized by the
30 PHILIPPINE Government and not limited to any race or nationality. The
31 same shall be understood applicable with respect to the [widow]
32 SPOUSE and minor children of an alien who has declared [his] THEIR

1 intention to become a citizen of the Philippines, and dies before [he is]
2 THEY ARE actually naturalized.”

3 Section 7. Section 7 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read
4 as follows:

5 “Section 7. Petition for citizenship. – Any person desiring to acquire
6 Philippine citizenship shall file with the competent court, a petition in
7 triplicate, accompanied by two photographs of the petitioner, setting
8 forth [his] THEIR name and surname; [his] THEIR present and former
9 places of residence; [his] THEIR occupation; the place and date of [his]
10 THEIR birth; whether single or married and the [father] PARENT of
11 children, the name, age, birthplace and residence of the [wife] SPOUSE
12 and of each of the children; the approximate date of [his] THEIR arrival
13 in the Philippines, the name of the port of debarkation, and, if [he] THEY
14 remember it, the name of the ship on which [he] THEY came; a
15 declaration that [he has] THEY HAVE the qualifications required by this
16 Act, specifying the same, and that [he is] THEY ARE not disqualified for
17 naturalization under the provisions of this Act; that [he has] THEY HAVE
18 complied with the requirements of S[s]ection F[f]ive of this Act; and that
19 [he] THEY will reside continuously in the Philippines from the date of the
20 filing of the petition up to the time of [his] THEIR admission to Philippine
21 citizenship. The petition must be signed by the applicant in [his] THEIR
22 own handwriting and be supported by the affidavit of at least two
23 credible persons, stating that they are citizens of the Philippines and
24 personally know the petitioner to be a resident of the Philippines for the
25 period of time required by this Act, and a person of good repute and
26 morally irreproachable, and that said petitioner has in their opinion all
27 the qualifications necessary to become a citizen of the Philippines and is
28 not in any way disqualified under the provisions of this Act. The petition
29 shall set forth the names and home addresses of such witnesses as the
30 petitioner may desire to introduce at the hearing of the case. The
31 certificate of arrival, and the declaration of intention must be made part
32 of the petition.”

1 X X X

2 Section 8. Section 9 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read
3 as follows:

4 "Section 9. Notification and appearance. — Immediately upon the filing
5 of a petition, it shall be the duty of the clerk of the court to publish the
6 same at petitioner's expense, once a week for three consecutive weeks,
7 in the Official Gazette, and in one of the newspapers of general
8 circulation in the province where the petitioner resides[.]. [and to] THE
9 CLERK OF COURT SHALL ALSO have copies of said petition and a general
10 notice of the hearing posted in a public and conspicuous place in [his]
11 THEIR office or in the building where said office is located, setting forth
12 in such notice the name, birthplace and residence of the petitioner, the
13 date and place of [his] THEIR arrival in the Philippines, the names of the
14 witnesses whom the petitioner proposes to introduce in support of [his]
15 THEIR petition, and the date of the hearing of the petition, which hearing
16 shall not be held within ninety days from the date of the last publication
17 of the notice. The clerk shall, as soon as possible, forward copies of the
18 petition, the sentence, the naturalization certificate, and other pertinent
19 data to the Department of the Interior AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, the
20 [Bureau] DEPARTMENT of Justice, the provincial inspector of the
21 [Philippine Constabulary] PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE of the
22 province, and the justice of the peace of the municipality OR CITY
23 wherein the petitioner resides.

24 X X X

25 Sec. 9. Section 10 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read
26 as follows:

27 "Section 10. Hearing of the petition. —No petition shall be heard within
28 the thirty days preceding any election. The hearing shall be public, and
29 the Solicitor-General, either himself or through his delegate or the
30 provincial fiscal concerned, shall appear on behalf of the
31 [Commonwealth] REPUBLIC of the Philippines at all the proceedings and
32 at the hearing. If, after the hearing, the court believes, in view of the

1 evidence taken, that the petitioner has all the qualifications required by,
2 and none of the disqualifications specified in this Act and has complied
3 with all requisites herein established, it shall GRANT THE PETITION AND
4 order the ISSUANCE AND REGISTRATION OF THE NATURALIZATION
5 CERTIFICATE IN THE PROPER CIVIL REGISTRY. [proper naturalization
6 certificate to be issued and the registration of the said naturalization
7 certificate in the proper civil registry as required in section ten of Act
8 Numbered Three thousand seven hundred and fifty-three.]”

9 Sec. 10. Section 12 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read
10 as follows:

11 “Section 12. Issuance of the Certificate of Naturalization.—x x x The file
12 number of the petition, the number of the naturalization certificate, the
13 signature of the person naturalized affixed in the presence of the clerk
14 of the court, the personal circumstances of the person naturalized, the
15 dates on which [his] THEIR declaration of intention and petition were
16 filed, the date of the decision granting the petition, and the name of the
17 judge who rendered the decision. A photograph of the petitioner with
18 the dry seal affixed thereto of the court which granted the petition, must
19 be affixed thereto of the court which granted the petition, must be
20 affixed to the certificate.

21 x x x

22 Sec. 11. Paragraph 1 of Section 15 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby
23 amended to read as follows:

24 “Section 15. Effect of the naturalization on THE ALIEN SPOUSE [wife and
25 children.]—Any [woman] PERSON who is now or may hereafter be
26 married to a citizen of the Philippines, [and who might herself be lawfully
27 naturalized] may be deemed a citizen of the Philippines PROVIDED THAT
28 [he] THEY CONSENT TO THE EFFECT OF A DERIVATIVE CITIZENSHIP;
29 and possesses the qualifications and none of the disqualifications set
30 forth by law. PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT IF THE SPOUSE IS
31 STATELESS, CONFERRAL OF DERIVATIVE CITIZENSHIP BY THE OTHER
32 SPOUSE THROUGH NATURALIZATION SHALL BE DEEMED AUTOMATIC.

1 PROVIDED FURTHERMORE, THAT IN CASE OF TERMINATION OF SUCH
2 MARRIAGE BASED ON ANY GROUND, THE DERIVED CITIZENSHIP
3 SHALL BE RETAINED BY THE OTHER SPOUSE IF IT WILL OTHERWISE
4 RESULT TO STATELESSNESS.

5 Section 12. Paragraphs 2 to 4 of Section 15 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is
6 hereby amended to read as follows:

7 "SECTION 15. EFFECT OF NATURALIZATION ON CHILDREN. - Minor
8 children of persons naturalized under this law who have been born in
9 the Philippines shall be considered citizens thereof.

10 A foreign-born minor child, if dwelling in the Philippines at the time of
11 the naturalization of the parent, shall automatically become a Philippine
12 citizen, and a foreign-born minor child, who is not in the Philippines at
13 the time the parent is naturalized, shall be deemed a Philippine citizen
14 only during [his] THEIR minority, unless [he] THEY begin[s] to reside
15 permanently in the Philippines when still a minor, in which case, [he]
16 THEY will continue to be a Philippine citizen even after becoming of age.
17 PROVIDED THAT IF A FOREIGN-BORN CHILD FAILS TO PERMANENTLY
18 RESIDE IN THE PHILIPPINES AT THE TIME [his] THEIR PARENT IS
19 NATURALIZED, [his] THEIR DERIVED PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP SHALL
20 BE DEEMED RETAINED WHILE THE CHILD IS A MINOR IF REVOCATION
21 OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP WILL RESULT TO STATELESSNESS.

22 A child born outside of the Philippines after the naturalization of [his]
23 THEIR parent, shall be considered a Philippine citizen, unless within
24 [one] SEVEN (7) yearS after reaching the age of majority, he fails to
25 register himself as a Philippine citizen at the Philippine Embassy of the
26 country where he resides, and to take the necessary oath of allegiance.
27 PROVIDED, THAT FAILURE TO REGISTER WILL NOT OPERATE TO
28 ALLOW LOSS OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP IF IT WILL OTHERWISE
29 RENDER THE INDIVIDUAL STATELESS.

30 Sec. 13. Section 16 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read
31 as follows:

1 "Section 16. Right of [widow] SURVIVING SPOUSE and children of
2 petitioner[s] who [have] HAS died. – In case a petitioner should die
3 before the final decision has been rendered, [his] THEIR [widow]
4 SURVIVING SPOUSE and children may continue the proceedings. The
5 decision rendered in the case shall, so far as the [widow] SURVIVING
6 SPOUSE and minor children are concerned, produce the same legal
7 effect as if it had been rendered during the life of the petitioner."

8 Sec. 14. Section 17 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read
9 as follows:

10 "Section 17. Renunciation of Title or Orders of Nobility. - In case the
11 alien applying to be admitted to citizenship has borne any hereditary
12 title, or has been of any of the orders of nobility in the Kingdom or state
13 from which [he] THEY came, [he] THEY shall, in addition to the above
14 requisites, make an express renunciation of [his] THEIR title or order of
15 nobility in the court to which [his] THEIR application is made, and [his]
16 THEIR renunciation shall be recorded in the court, unless with the
17 express consent of the PHILIPPINE CONGRESS [National Assembly]."

18 Sec. 15. Section 18 of Commonwealth Act No. 473 is hereby amended to read
19 as follows:

20 "Section 18. Cancellation of Naturalization Certificate Issued. - Upon
21 motion made in the proper proceedings by the Solicitor-General or [his]
22 THEIR representative, or by the proper provincial fiscal, the competent
23 judge may cancel the naturalization certificate issued and its registration
24 in the Civil Register:

25 (a) If it is shown that said naturalization certificate was obtained
26 fraudulently or illegally;

27 (b) If the [person] naturalized PERSON OR [his] THEIR SPOUSE OR
28 ANY OF [his] THEIR MINOR CHILDREN WHO ACQUIRE FILIPINO
29 CITIZENSHIP BY VIRTUE OF [his] THEIR NATURALIZATION shall, within
30 [the five years] SEVEN (7) CONSECUTIVE YEARS following the [issuance
31 of said naturalization certificate] GRANT OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP,
32 [return to his native country or to some foreign country] and establish

1 [his] permanent residence IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY [there]: Provided,
2 THAT THE LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP FOR THE NATURALIZED PERSON
3 SHALL BE CONDITIONAL UPON THE POSSESSION OR ACQUISITION OF
4 ANOTHER CITIZENSHIP. PROVIDED FURTHER T[T]hat the fact of the
5 person naturalized remaining for more than one (1) year in [his] THEIR
6 native country or the country of [his] THEIR former nationality, or two
7 (2) years in any other foreign country, shall be considered as prima facie
8 evidence of [his] THEIR intention of taking up [his] THEIR permanent
9 residence in the same;

10 x x x

11 (d) If it is shown that the minor children of the person naturalized
12 failed to graduate from a public or private high schools recognized by
13 the PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT [Office of Private Education of the
14 Philippines], where Philippine history, government and civics are taught
15 as part of the school curriculum, through the fault of their parents either
16 by neglecting to support them or by transferring them to another school
17 or schools. A certified copy of the decree cancelling the naturalization
18 certificate shall be forwarded by the clerk of the Court to the Department
19 of the Interior AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT and the [Bureau]
20 DEPARTMENT of Justice; and

21 (e) If it is shown that the naturalized citizen has allowed [himself]
22 THEMSELVES to be used as a dummy requiring Philippine citizenship as
23 a requisite for the exercise, use or enjoyment of a right, franchise or
24 privilege.

25 Section 16. Paragraphs d, e, and f of Section 3 of Republic 9139 is hereby
26 amended to read as follows:

27 "Section 3. Qualifications. - Subject to the provisions of the succeeding
28 section, any person desiring to avail of the benefits of this Act must meet
29 the following qualifications:

30 x x x

31 d. The applicant must have received [his/her] THEIR primary and
32 secondary education in any public school or private educational

1 institution duly recognized by the [Department of Education, Culture and
2 Sports,] PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT where Philippine history,
3 government and civics are taught and prescribed as part of the school
4 curriculum and where enrollment is not limited to any race or nationality:
5 Provided, That should [he/she] THEIR have minor children of school age,
6 [he/she] THEY must have enrolled them in similar schools;

7 e. The applicant must have a known trade, business, profession, or
8 lawful occupation, from which [he/she] THEY derive income sufficient
9 [for his/her] TO support [and if he/she is married and/or has
10 dependents, also that of] THEMSELVES AND [his/her] THEIR family:
11 Provided, however, That this shall not apply to applicants who are
12 college degree holders but are unable to practice their profession
13 because they are disqualified to do so by reason of their citizenship;

14 f. The applicant must be able to [read, write and speak] COMMUNICATE
15 IN Filipino or any of the dialects of the Philippines; OR IN THE CASE OF
16 PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, FILIPINO SIGN LANGUAGE;
17 ALTERNATIVE PROCEDURES SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN TO ASSESS THE
18 CONDITION AND ABILITY/IES OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
19 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT 11106, and

20 X X X

21 Sec. 17. Paragraph e of Section 4 of Republic 9139 is hereby amended to read
22 as follows:

23 "Section 4. Who are disqualified. - The following cannot be naturalized
24 as Philippine citizens:

25 X X X

26 e. Persons suffering from mental [alienation or incurable contagious
27 diseases;] ILLNESS WITH ACTIVE SYMPTOMS RESULTING IN
28 TEMPORARY IMPAIRMENT AND DIMINISHED DECISION-MAKING
29 CAPACITY, OR DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF
30 INTERNATIONAL CONCERN AT THE TIME OF THE PETITION;

31 Section 18. Section 11 of Republic Act 9139 is hereby amended to read
32 as follows:

1 Section 11. Status of [Alien Wife] SPOUSE and Minor Children. - After
2 the approval of the petition for administrative naturalization in
3 cancellation of applicant's [a]Alien [c]Certificate of [r]Registration,
4 applicant's alien [lawful wife] SPOUSE and minor children may file a
5 petition for cancellation of their [a]Alien [c]Certificates of [r]Registration
6 with the Committee subject to the payment of the filing fee of Twenty
7 thousand pesos (P20,000.00) and naturalization fee of Forty thousand
8 pesos (P40,000.00) payable as follows: [T]twenty thousand pesos
9 (P20,000.00) upon the approval of the petition and [T]twenty thousand
10 pesos (P20,000.00) upon the taking of the oath of allegiance to the
11 Republic of the Philippines.

12 Sec. 19. Section 12 of Republic Act 9139 is hereby deleted.

13 [Section 12. Status of Alien Husband and Minor Children. - If the
14 applicant is a married woman, the approval of her petition for
15 administrative naturalization will not benefit her alien husband but her
16 minor children may file a petition for cancellation of their alien
17 certificates of registration with the BI subject to the requirements of
18 existing laws.]

19 Sec. 20. Section 13 of Republic Act 9139 is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 "Section 12. Cancellation of the Certificate of Naturalization. - The
21 Special Committee may cancel certificates of naturalization issued under
22 this Act in the following cases:

23 (a) x x x

24 (b) If the naturalized person or [his] THEIR SPOUSE [wife], or any of
25 [his] THEIR minor children who acquire Filipino citizenship by virtue of
26 [his] THEIR naturalization shall, within SEVEN (7) CONSECUTIVE YEARS
27 [five (5) years next] following the grant of Philippine citizenship,
28 establish permanent residence in a foreign country, that individual's
29 certificate of naturalization or acquired citizenship shall be cancelled or
30 revoked: Provided, THAT THE LOSS OF CITIZENSHIP FOR THE
31 NATURALIZED PERSON OR [his] THEIR SPOUSE OR ANY OF [HIS]
32 THEIR MINOR CHILDREN SHALL BE CONDITIONAL UPON THE

1 POSSESSION OR ACQUISITION OF ANOTHER CITIZENSHIP. PROVIDED
2 FURTHER That the fact of such person's remaining for more than one
3 (1) year in [his] THEIR country of origin, or two (2) years in any foreign
4 country, shall be considered prima facie evidence of intent to
5 permanently reside therein;

6 (c) If the naturalized person OR [his] THEIR SPOUSE [wife, or child]
7 with acquired citizenship allow[s] [himself or herself] THEMSELVES to
8 be used as a dummy in violation of any constitutional or legal provision
9 requiring Philippine citizenship as a condition for the exercise, use or
10 enjoyment of a right, franchise or privilege, the certificate of
11 naturalization or acquired citizenship shall be cancelled or revoked; and

12 (d) If the naturalized person OR [his] THEIR SPOUSE [wife], [or child]
13 with acquired citizenship commits any act inimical to national security,
14 the certificate of naturalization or acquired citizenship shall be cancelled
15 or revoked.

16 x x x

17 Sec. 21. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is found
18 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall
19 remain in full force and effect.

20 Sec. 22. Repealing Clause – All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential
21 issuances, and other administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof which are
22 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

23 Sec. 23. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,