SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE S. No. <u>1809</u>

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article II, Section 5 provides:

The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.

Millions of Filipinos live and work overseas while continuing to vote and pay taxes in the Philippines. They help in the economy and serve as economic, political and cultural "ambassadors" of the country.

Hence, the National Statistics Office should undertake a census of all Filipinos residing abroad in a special census and eventually in regular censuses as they, albeit living abroad, deserve to receive the same benefits and privileges local residents get.

This bill seeks to provide for an interim census of Filipinos residing abroad for the purpose of eventually including them in regular censuses.*

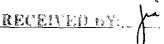
MIRIAM DEFINSOR SANTIAGO

^{*} This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

	Senute Other of the Secretary
	Office of the Secretary

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session)

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			SENATE S. No 1809				
	Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago						
1 2 3	AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR AN INTERIM CENSUS OF FILIPINOS RESIDING ABROAD AND TO REQUIRE THAT SUCH INDIVIDUALS BE INCLUDED IN REGULAR CENSUSES						
	Be it enacte Congress assembled		he Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in				
4	SECTION 1	. Short	Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Census of Filipinos Abroad				
5	Act."						
6	SECTION 2	Consu	es of Filipinos Residing Abroad -				
7	SECTION 2. Census of Filipinos Residing Abroad. — (A) In General. – The National Statistics Office shall— '						
	` ,						
8	(1)		a special census of all Filipinos residing abroad on March within				
9		three	hundred and sixty (360) days after the passage of this Act.				
10	(2)	Subn	nit the final tabulations under the special census to the President and				
11		Cong	gress within nine (9) months after the date specified in paragraph (1),				
12		brok	en down into all appropriate categories, including –				
13		(a)	Filipinos residing abroad affiliated with the Government, and their				
14			dependents; and				
15		(b)	Filipinos residing abroad not affiliated with the Government, and				
16			their dependents.				
17	(3)	The	office, for purposes of facilitating the census scheme, shall:				
18		(a)	Develop counting methodologies;				
19		(b)	Define the purposes for which any information could or should be				
20			use; and				

1		(c)	Whether Filipinos residing abroad can be included in the regular	
2			census for purposes of the appointment of Representatives in	
3			Congress and, if so how that should be done.	
4	(4)	Take	appropriate measures—	
5		(a)	To provide for the inclusion of Filipinos residing abroad in the	
6			next regular census and censuses thereafter; and	
7		(b)	To make use of the information obtained from such censuses for	
8			such purposes as, and to maximum extent that, the office considers	
9			feasible and appropriate.	
10	(B) Interi	m Repo	ort on Special Census Not later than ninety (90) days after the	
11	enactment of this A	ct, the 1	National Statistics Office shall submit to the committees of Congress	
12	having legislative jurisdiction over the census a report which shall include—			
13	(1)	A sur	mmary of how the plans and preparations for carrying out the special	
14		censu	as are proceeding;	
15	(2)	A bri	ef description or outline of how the tabulations in the special census	
16		are to	be carried out; and	
17	(3)	Infor	mation identifying any experts, consultants, interest groups, or other	
18		perso	ns outside the office who were consulted in connection with the	
19		specia	al census.	
20	(C) Autho	rizatio	n of Appropriations There are authorized to be appropriated such	
21	sums as may be nece	essary to	carry out this Act.	
22	SECTION 3.	Separ	rability Clause If any provisions or part hereof is held invalid or	
23	unconstitutional, the	remair	nder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain	
24	valid and subsisting.			
25	SECTION 4.	Reped	aling Clause Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive	
26	order, letter of instr	uction,	administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent	
27	with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.			

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- SECTION 5. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
- 2 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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