



Senate
Office of the Secretary

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
First Regular Session }

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

Senate Bill No. 1365

(in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 109, 324, 795, and 1179,
taking into consideration S. B. Nos. 397 and 943, P.S.R. No. 142, and H. No. 4767)

Prepared and submitted by the Committee on Foreign Relations
with Senators Gordon, Villar, Recto, Ejercito, Legarda, Angara,
Villanueva, Poe and Cayetano as authors thereof

AN ACT

**EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8239, otherwise known as the
2 "Philippine Passport Act of 1996", is hereby amended to read, as follows:

3 **"SEC. 10. Validity.** – Regular passports issued under this Act shall be
4 valid for a period of TEN (10) [five (5)] years: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT*
5 *FOR INDIVIDUALS UNDER EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE, ONLY A*
6 *PASSPORT WITH FIVE-YEAR VALIDITY SHALL BE ISSUED: Provided,*
7 *[however] FURTHER,* That the issuing authority may limit the period of
8 validity to less than TEN (10) [five (5)] years; whenever in the national
9 economic interest or political stability of the country such restriction is
10 necessary: *Provided finally,* That a new passport may be issued to replace
11 one which validity has expired, the old passport being returned to the holder
12 after cancellation."

13 **SEC. 2. Implementing Authority.** The Department of Foreign Affairs shall issue
14 the necessary implementing rules and regulations and adopt best practices to ensure
15 that the provisions of this Act are implemented in convergence with necessary reforms
16 to make the passport processing system seamless, convenient and pro-people, and the
17 production and security of passports at par with technological advances and world
18 standards.

19 **SEC. 3. Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is declared
20 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions or parts not affected shall remain in full
21 force and effect.

1 **SEC. 4. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, other
2 issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or
3 modified accordingly.

4 **SEC. 5. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
5 in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,