



SENATE

S. No. 1819

---

PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEES ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT  
AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT; FOREIGN  
RELATIONS; AND FINANCE WITH SENATORS VILLANUEVA,  
LEGARDA, ANGARA AND GATCHALIAN AS AUTHORS

---

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE FOR SOCIAL  
WELFARE ATTACHÉ, AMENDING FOR THE  
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS THE "MIGRANT WORKERS AND  
OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995", AS  
AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 2, paragraph (b) of Republic Act  
2   No. 8042, as amended, is hereby amended to read as  
3   follows:

4                   “(b) The State shall afford full protection  
5           to labor, local and overseas, organized and  
6           unorganized, and promote full employment and  
7           equality of employment opportunities for all.

1 Towards this end, the State shall provide  
2 adequate and timely social, economic and legal  
3 services to Filipino migrant workers[.],  
4 ESPECIALLY SINCE THESE WORKERS  
5 ARE VULNERABLE TO EXTREME  
6 PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL AND  
7 PSYCHOLOGICAL STRESS.”

8 SEC. 2. A new paragraph (e) is hereby inserted in  
9 Section 23 of Republic Act No. 8042, as amended, to read  
10 as follows:

11 “(E) DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL  
12 WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT – THE  
13 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND  
14 DEVELOPMENT SHALL DEPLOY SOCIAL  
15 WELFARE ATTACHÉS TO MANAGE CASES  
16 OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS  
17 NEEDING PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES AND  
18 OVERSEAS FILIPINOS IN DISTRESS, SUCH  
19 AS VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING, ILLEGAL  
20 RECRUITMENT, SEXUALLY-ABUSED,

1 MALTREATED/MISTREATED OVERSEAS  
2 FILIPINOS, ABANDONED/NEGLECTED  
3 CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE SECTORS  
4 IN COORDINATION WITH THE MEMBERS  
5 OF THE COUNTRY TEAM AND PREPARE  
6 SOCIAL WELFARE SITUATIONER OF  
7 OVERSEAS FILIPINOS IN THE POST.”

8 SEC. 3. *Funding.* – The amount necessary to carry out  
9 the provisions of this Act shall be provided for in the  
10 General Appropriations Act of the year following its  
11 enactment into law and thereafter.

12 SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The  
13 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD),  
14 in consultation with the Department of Foreign Affairs,  
15 Department of Labor and Employment, Department of  
16 Health, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration,  
17 Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, Commission on  
18 Filipino Overseas and other relevant stakeholders, shall  
19 formulate and issue the implementing rules and  
20 regulations for this Act within sixty (60) days after the

1 effectivity of this Act. The DSWD shall also provide the  
2 criteria for determining the selection of Diplomatic Posts to  
3 which Social Welfare Attachés will be deployed and the  
4 minimum qualifications and attributes of the Social  
5 Welfare Attachés.

6        *SEC. 5. Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any  
7 section or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional  
8 or invalid, other sections or provisions hereof shall remain  
9 in force.

10        *SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive  
11 orders, rules, regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the  
12 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
13 accordingly.

14        *SEC. 7. Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen  
15 (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general  
16 circulation.

Approved,