

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



'18 AUG 29 P 4 :42

SENATE
S.B. NO. 1957

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR BURIAL WITH HONORS TO OVERSEAS FILIPINO
WORKERS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 3 AND 24 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FLAG AND
HERALDIC CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

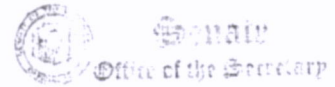
Section 2(c) of Republic Act No. 8042 or the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipino Act of 1995, as amended by Republic Act No. 10022 recognizes the significant contribution of Filipino migrant workers to the national economy through their foreign exchange remittances.

Overseas employment has been a constant means and variable to sustain economic growth and achieve national development for many years. Filipino migrant workers should be credited for keeping the economy afloat with their remittances. Given their immense contribution to the Philippine economy, Filipino migrant workers should be deemed as modern-day heroes of the Philippine economy who have rendered distinguished service to the nation.

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


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator

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

1 Section 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8491, as amended, otherwise
2 known as "*An Act Prescribing the Act of the National Flag, Anthem, Motto, Coat-*
3 *of-arms and other Heraldic Items and Devices of the Philippines*" is hereby
4 amended to read as follows:

5
6 "Section 3. Definition of Terms – Whenever used in this Act, the
7 term:

- 8 a) "Military" shall mean all branches of the Armed Forces of the
9 Philippines including the Philippine National Police, the
10 Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, and the Bureau of
11 Fire Protection;
- 12 b) "Festoon" shall mean to hang in a curved shape between
13 two points as a decoration;
- 14 c) "Flag" shall mean the Philippine National Flag, unless stated
15 otherwise;
- 16 d) "Fly" shall mean the part of the flag outside the hoist or
17 length;

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- e) "Symbol" shall mean any conventional sign which reveals man's achievement and heroism (for orders and decorations), identification, authority and a sign of dignity (for coat-of-arms, logo and insignia);
- f) "Half-Mast" shall mean lowering the flag to one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff;
- g) "Hoist" shall mean the part of the flag nearest the staff or the canvass to which the halyard is attached;
- h) "Inclement Weather" shall mean that a typhoon signal is raised in the locality;
- i) "National Anthem" shall mean the Philippine National Anthem;
- j) "Official Residences" shall mean Malacañang, and other government-owned structures where the President resides, and other structures occupied by the Philippine Consulate or Embassies abroad;
- k) "Places of Frivolity" shall mean places of hilarity marked by or providing boisterous merriment or recreation; and
- l) "Institute" shall mean the National Historical Institute-; AND
- m) "OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER' REFERS TO A PERSON WHO IS TO BE ENGAGED, IS ENGAGED OR HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN A REMUNERATED ACTIVITY IN A STATE OF WHICH HE OR SHE IS NOT A CITIZEN OR ON BOARD A VESSEL NAVIGATING THE FOREIGN SEAS OTHER THAN A GOVERNMENT SHIP USED FOR MILITARY OR NON-COMMERCIAL PURPOSES OR ON AN INSTALLATION LOCATED OFFSHORE OR ON THE HIGH SEASE; TO BE USED INTERCHANGEABLE WITH MIGRANT WORKER."

1 Sec. 2. Section 24 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

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4 "Section 24. The flag may be used to cover the caskets of honored
5 dead of the military, veterans of previous wars, national artists,
6 OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS, and of civilians who have rendered
7 distinguished service to the nation, as may be determined by the
8 local government unit concerned. In such cases, the flag shall be
9 placed such that the white triangle shall be at the head and the
10 blue portion shall cover the right side of the caskets. The flag shall
11 not be lowered to the grave or allowed to touch the ground, but
12 shall be folded solemnly and handed over to the heirs of the
13 deceased."

14
15 Sec. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders,
16 proclamations, rules and regulations and other issuance of parts thereof,
17 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
18 accordingly.

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20 Sec. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
21 after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general
22 circulation.

Approved,