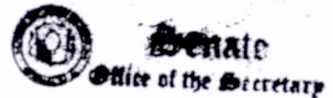


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session



20 JAN 21 A8:51

SENATE

S. B. NO. 1281

RECEIVED BY

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Introduced by **SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE LIFETIME VALIDITY OF BIRTH  
CERTIFICATES ISSUED BY THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS  
AUTHORITY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

A birth certificate is a vital record that establishes the birth of a child. It is an official form that gives details on the time and place of a person's birth, and his or her name, sex and parent's name. It is also used to authenticate one's identity and nationality, and assist in obtaining government-issued identity documents such as passport or driver's license. It fills in one of the basic requirements for school enrollment, contracting of marriage, social security coverage, and eligibility for government assistance or claims for financial benefits, among others.

Being permanent records of identity, a birth certificate issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) has no expiration period. However, they are printed in a security paper in order to keep the integrity of the document. This created an impression that birth certificates issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority expires after six (6) months from issuance, and thus, every time a person is required to submit a birth certificate, he/she must secure a new copy from the PSA using the latter's updated security paper. In the end, this results in inconvenience and unnecessary expenses for ordinary Filipinos who are required to submit a birth certificate.


This is especially burdensome on the part of first time jobseekers who are required to submit a copy of their birth certificate in the course of their job applications. Thus, this bill prohibits government agencies from requiring the submission of a PSA-certified birth certificate within the past six months.

The immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

**SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

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*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 “Lifetime Validity of Birth  
2 Certificate Act”.

3  
4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to establish an effective  
5 system that will improve the efficiency of delivery of government frontline services,  
6 especially civil registry documents. As such, the State shall enforce a lifetime validity  
7 on birth records certified by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).  
8

9 **SEC. 3. Scope and Coverage.** – This Act shall apply to all national government  
10 agencies that require the submission of a birth record certified by the Philippine  
11 Statistics Authority for the delivery of government services and issuance of  
12 documents.  
13

14 **SEC. 4. Prohibition on the Requirement of Submitting a Birth Certificate**  
15 **Certified by the Philippine Statistics Authority within the Past Six (6) Months.** –  
16 Government agencies shall be prohibited from requiring applicants to government  
17 services to submit birth records printed on the most recent version of the security  
18 paper used by PSA, or those certified by the PSA within the past six (6) months. For  
19 this purpose, the birth certificate issued or certified by PSA shall not expire and shall  
20 be considered valid at any time; *Provided*, That the birth records do not require  
21 administrative corrections as provided under Republic Act Nos. 9048 and 10172.  
22

23 **SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days from the  
24 effectivity of this Act, PSA, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall

1 promulgate the implementing rules and regulations to effectively carry out the  
2 provisions of this Act.  
3

4 **SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** – All acts, laws, decrees, executive orders, letters of  
5 instructions and regulations or any part thereof which are inconsistent with any  
6 provision of this Act are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.  
7

8 **SEC. 7. Separability Clause.** – If for any reason, any section or provision of this Act  
9 is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions of this  
10 Act which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.  
11

12 **SEC. 8. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
13 in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.  
14

15 **Approved,**