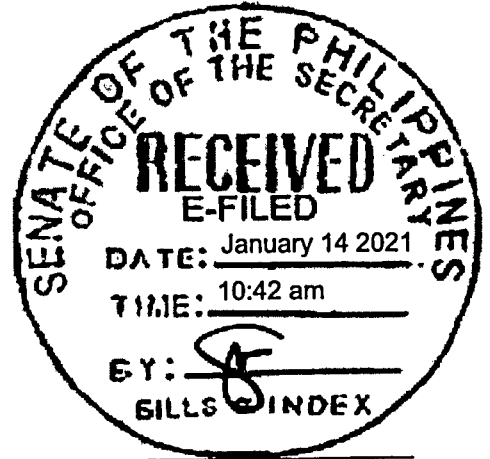


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE

S.B. No. 1984



INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

AN ACT
INCREASING THE NUMBER OF RAYS OF THE SUN ON THE PHILIPPINE FLAG,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XVI, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution provides, "The flag of the Philippines shall be red, white, and blue, with a sun and three stars, as consecrated and honored by the people and recognized by law."

Sewn by Doña Marcela Agoncillo, assisted by her daughter Lorenzana and by Delfina Herbosa Natividad, the flag was formally unfurled during the proclamation of Philippine Independence in Kawit, Cavite on June 12, 1898 by President Emilio Aguinaldo.

The design of the Philippine national flag is governed by Republic Act No. 8491. It is rectangular in shape that consists of a white equilateral triangle, a horizontal blue stripe and a horizontal red stripe. Three yellow stars frame the white triangle with an eight-rayed golden sun at the center. The eight (8) rays represent the 8 provinces that triggered the Philippine Revolution and which were put under martial law during the Spanish occupation. These provinces are Manila, Bulacan, Pampanga, Cavite, Batangas, Laguna, Tarlac, and Nueva Ecija.

A nation's flag should not only encapsulate a symbolism that survives the passage of time, but one which truly reflects the historical accounts and gives due recognition to those who went through heroic struggles over the course of national history.

Of struggles for independence and victory against colonizers, our history is replete with stories of our mostly-unrecognized Muslim heroes. Among the most bold Muslim warriors was

Lapu-Lapu who is known as the first native to have resisted against the Spanish colonization. There was also Sultan Kudarat who led countless raids and battles against the Spaniards.

Our Muslim heroes who equally struggled valiantly for our country's independence must be given due recognition alongside with those already recognized in the most heraldic article of national importance, in the Philippine flag. In lieu thereof, this bill seeks to add a ninth ray in the sun of the Philippine national flag, amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 8491, otherwise known as the Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines.

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

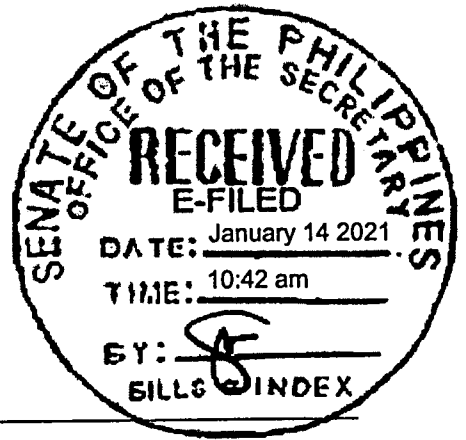
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emmanuel D. Pacquiao', written over a circular stamp or seal.

EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE

S.B. No. 1984



INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

AN ACT
INCREASING THE NUMBER OF RAYS OF THE SUN ON THE PHILIPPINE
FLAG, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE OF THE
PHILIPPINES

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

1 SECTION. 1. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2

3 "SECTION 4. The flag of the Philippines shall be blue, white and red with A[n] NINE
4 [eight]-rayed golden-yellow sun and three five-pointed stars, as consecrated and honored by
5 the people."

6

7 SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders and issuances, or portions
8 thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed,
9 amended, or modified accordingly.

10

11 SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
12 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

13

14

15 *Approved,*

16