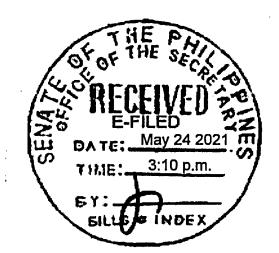
### EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session



#### SENATE

S. No. 2221

Introduced by SENATOR FRANLINK M. DRILON

# AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO ELIZABETH EDER ZOBEL DE AYALA

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Elizabeth Eder Zobel De Ayala and giving her all the rights and privileges as well as the duties and obligations appurtenant thereto under our Constitution and existing laws.

Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala (Lizzie) married Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala in June of 1987 in her hometown of Cali, Colombia. Since August 1987, she has made the Philippines her home. Her four children: Mariana, Jaime Alfonso, Eugenia, and Mercedes and her two grandchildren, Vidal Augusto Zobel de Ayala Aboitiz and Luisa Aboitiz Zobel de Ayala, are all Filipino citizens.

In 1994, she joined the Founding Board of Museo Pambata on which she served until 2001. In 1999, Lizzie co-founded the *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Foundation whose principal objective was to develop literacy programs that addressed the declining functional literacy rates in public school students in the Philippines. In partnership with the Department of Education, *Sa Aklat Sisikat* trained public school teachers and designed in-class strategies to create reading ready communities in public schools throughout the country until 2011.

Lizzie served on the board of the National Museum of the Philippines from the time of her appointment by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in 2001 to 2010. As an advocate for access to responsible family planning in the Philippines, she was a founding Board Member of the Friendly Care Foundation and the Forum for Family Planning and Development. Since 1998, Lizzie worked in support of the Reproductive Health Bill in the Philippines which was enacted into law in December of 2012. She is also a Member of the Philippine Center for Population and Development.

As a result of her work in the Philippines, Lizzie was named to the board of the Population Council, based in New York City, which delivers evidence-based solutions to overcome obstacles to health and development, with offices in over 50 countries. She served on the Board of the Population Council from 2012-2018 and today continues to participate in its efforts as a Member of its Development and Engagement Committee.

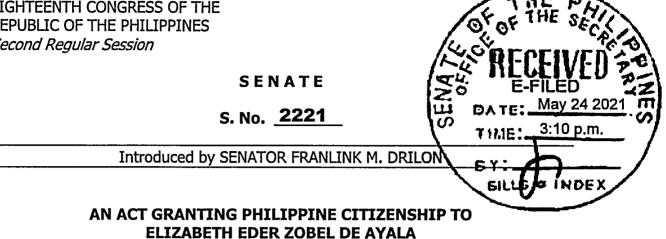
More recently, Lizzie co-founded and is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Teach for the Philippines, a country partner of Teach for All. In partnership with the Department of Education, Teach for the Philippines is a nationwide non-profit organization that works to ensure that all Filipino children have equal access to quality education. Founded in 2012, Teach for the Philippines focuses its efforts on improving teacher quality and addressing system-wide challenges, informed by an exchange of experiences with our 14 regional partners such Teach for China, Teach for Japan, Teach for India, Teach for Malaysia and others.

Lizzie is also a founding member of the Board of Trustees of the Center for Asian Philanthropy and Society in Hong Kong dedicated to expanding the quality and quantity of philanthropy and social delivery organizations throughout Asia.

In 2019, Lizzie was named to the Board of Trustees of Boston College, from which she graduated in 1987, with a B.A. Degree in Philosophy and Economics.

For these reasons, the passage of this proposed measure is earnestly sought.

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

SECTION 1. Mrs. Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala is hereby granted Philippine 1 2 citizenship with all the rights, privileges, and prerogatives, as well as the duties and obligations appurtenant thereto under the Constitution and the laws of the Republic 3 of the Philippines. 4

SEC. 2. Mrs. Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala shall take the Oath of Allegiance to 5 the Republic of the Philippines before an officer duly authorized to administer the 6 7 same. The Oath of Allegiance shall be registered with the Bureau of Immigration.

SEC. 3. Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of Immigration 8 shall issue a Certificate of Naturalization to Mrs. Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala who 9 shall thereupon enter into the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship. 10

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication 11 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation. 12

Approved,