

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

24 MAY 22 P4:25

SENATE

s. No. 2696



Introduced by SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO MATTHEW JAMES RAMOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Matthew James Ramos, a 23-year old, a Filipino-American wrestler, born in Naperville, Illinois. Matthew traces his Filipino roots from his father, Crisente Holanday Ramos. A resident of Barangay Poblacion Basista, Pangasinan, Matthew intends to become a naturalized Filipino citizen to be able to represent the Philippines in international competitions.

Most notable are his accomplishments which include, among others: (a) 2023 NCAA Runner-Up (125 lbs.); (b) Purdue's 60th All-American (2023, 2nd Place at 125); (c) Two-time NCAA qualifier (2022-133, 2023-125); (d) two-time Big Ten placewinner (7th –2022, 3rd – 2023); (e) 2022 U.S. Open Champion (57 kg); (f) 2022 NCAA Championship Round of 12 (133 lbs.); (g) two-time NWCA Scholar All-American; and (h) 2018 Cadet World Champion (51 kg). Matthew ranked No. 72 overall recruit in the nation in 2019 by FloWrestling, No. 55 overall in the Class of 2019 by InterMat, and No. 44 overall recruit in the country by The Open Mat.¹

Despite the challenges of balancing academics and trainings, Matthew managed to be awarded as one of Purdue College of Health and Human Sciences'

¹ https://purduesports.com/sports/wrestling/roster/matt-ramos/12553

2024 Outstanding Seniors.

Considering his qualifications, it is no question that Matthew's naturalization will not only bring honor to the country in the world of combat sports but will also inspire the Filipino youth in pursuing extracurricular activities to bring honor to the country without compromising their education. Both of which are vital components of nation-building as enshrined under the 1987 Constitution.

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

RONALD BATO" DELA ROSA

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

- SECTION 1. Matthew James Ramos is hereby granted Philippine Citizenship
- 2 with all the rights, privileges and prerogatives, as well as the duties and obligations
- 3 appurtenant thereto under the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of the
- 4 Philippines.
- 5 **SEC. 2.** Matthew James Ramos shall take the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic
- of the Philippines before an officer duly authorized to administer the same. The Oath
- 7 of Allegiance shall be registered with the Bureau of Immigration.
- 8 **SEC. 3.** Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of Immigration
- 9 shall issue a Certificate of Naturalization to Matthew James Ramos who shall
- 10 thereupon enter into full enjoyment of the Philippine citizenship.
- 11 **SEC. 4.** Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
- publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,