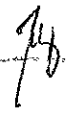


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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 1879

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**INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act 8042, otherwise known as the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995 was enacted to protect and promote the welfare of migrant workers, their families and overseas Filipinos in distress.

Over a decade after its enactment, RA 8042 has not entirely lived up to its intended purpose. Filipinos abroad continue to suffer under abusive employers, inhuman working conditions and various human rights violations. Every time a Filipino encounters problems he/she seeks assistance from various posts abroad but some concerned officials fail to extend assistance. Unfortunately, the law does not chastise or penalize any government official in the consular, labor and welfare services who fails or refuses to give assistance to Filipino migrant workers.

This bill seeks to impose penalties on Philippine consular officials and other government personnel for failure to act on complaints of, or to give assistance or render service to migrant workers, their families and overseas Filipinos in distress, amending for the purpose the "Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995."


It is hoped that instituting penalties for errant government officials posted abroad shall ensure their adherence to their duties and responsibilities. This bill also aims to give our compatriots some assurance that their fundamental rights and freedoms shall not at anytime be compromised or violated.

Approval of this measure is earnestly requested.

  
**MANNY VILLAR**

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session

7 NOV 15 2015

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1879

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

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**AN ACT IMPOSING PENALTIES ON PHILIPPINE CONSULAR OFFICIALS AND  
OTHER GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO OVERSEAS POSTS FOR  
FAILURE TO ACT ON COMPLAINTS OF, GIVE ASSISTANCE TO OR RENDER  
SERVICES TO MIGRANT WORKERS, THEIR FAMILIES AND OVERSEAS  
FILIPINOS IN DISTRESS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE "MIGRANT  
WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995"**

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

SECTION 1. Republic Act No. 8042 entitled the "Migrant Workers and Overseas  
Filipinos Act of 1995" is hereby amended by adding a new section after Section 24 to be  
stated as Section 24-A to read as follows:

"SECTION. 24-A. PENALTIES.- WITHOUT PREDUDICE TO THE FILING OF  
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT/S, PHILIPPINE CONSULAR OFFICIALS AND OTHER  
GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL WHO FAIL OR REFUSE TO RENDER THE SERVICE/S  
AND/OR ASSISTANCE PROVIDED IN TITLES III, IV AND V OF THIS ACT SHALL,  
AFTER DUE NOTICE AND HEARING, AND IF FOUND GUILTY, BE PUNISHED WITH  
SUSPENSION FROM OFFICE OF NOT LESS THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS TO  
DISMISSAL FROM THE SERVICE WITH FORFEITURE OF RETIREMENT AND  
OTHER BENEFITS DEPENDING ON THE GRAVITY OF THEIR OFFENSES, AND  
SHALL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM HOLDING ANY OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICE IN  
THE FUTURE.

FOR THIS PURPOSE, CONGRESS, IN COORDINATION WITH THE  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND  
EMPLOYMENT, SHALL FORMULATE THE NECESSARY RULES AND  
PROCEDURES FOR THE CONDUCT OF SUCH HEARING/S AND IMPOSITION OF  
APPROPRIATE PENALTIES."

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved,