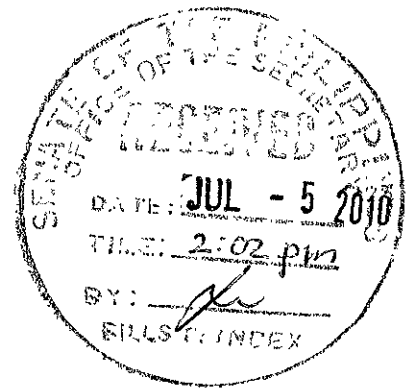


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

S.No. 137

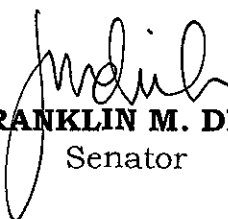
Introduced by Senator FRANKLIN M. DRILON

Pursuant to Section 1[2], Article IV of the Constitution which mandates that “(t)hose whose fathers or mothers are citizens of the Philippines” are among those embraced by the State as its citizens, it should be the the policy of the State to recognize that Philippine citizenship acquired by parentage or by the principle of *jus sanguinis* is constitutionally guaranteed and protected, such that its natural-born citizens may not be automatically deprived of Philippine citizenship *ipso jure* absent any corresponding free, willful and voluntary act on their part to expressly and formally renounce their citizenship before proper Philippine authorities.

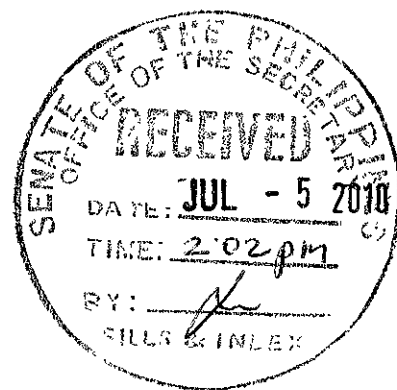
Thus, in 2003, Republic Act No. 9225, otherwise known as the “*Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of 2003*,” was signed into law. As of 30 June 2010, the Bureau of Immigration and the various Philippine consulates have processed, approved and issued certificates of Philippine citizenship under R.A. No. 9225 to some 95,000 natural-born Filipinos.

While R.A. No. 9225 has been enthusiastically welcomed by our countrymen who have become naturalized citizens of foreign countries, the documentary and bureaucratic requirements being imposed under the law’s Implementing Rules and Regulations have discouraged a great number of them from availing of the benefits of the law.

This bill, therefore, seeks to simplify the manner by which Philippine citizenship is retained or reacquired.


FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Senator

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

§ No. 137

Introduced by Senator FRANKLIN M. DRILON

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9225, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "CITIZENSHIP RETENTION AND RE-
ACQUISITION ACT OF 2003"

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9225 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is hereby declared the policy of the State that all **NATURAL-BORN** Philippine citizens who become citizens of another country shall be deemed not to have lost their Philippine citizenship under the conditions of this Act."

SECTION 2. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9225 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. *Retention AND REACQUISITION of Philippine Citizenship.* — Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, natural-born citizens of the Philippines who have lost their Philippine citizenship by reason of their naturalization as citizens of a foreign country are hereby deemed to have re-acquired Philippine citizenship, [upon taking the following oath of allegiance to the Republic:

"I _____, solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines and obey the laws and legal orders promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Philippines, and I hereby declare that I recognize and accept the supreme authority of the Philippines and will maintain true faith and allegiance thereto; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily without mental reservation or purpose of evasion."]

UNLESS THEY RENOUNCE UNDER OATH PHILIPPINE
CITIZENSHIP BEFORE A PHILIPPINE CONSULAR

OFFICIAL ABROAD : OR ANY PUBLIC OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER AN OATH: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT A RENUNCIATION WHICH WAS MERELY A PART OF, OR IN CONNECTION WITH, THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE REQUIRED BY A FOREIGN COUNTRY FOR PURPOSES OF NATURALIZATION WILL NOT BE A BAR TO REACQUISITION OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP UNDER THIS ACT.

Natural-born citizens of the Philippines who, after the effectivity of this Act, become citizens of a foreign country shall retain their Philippine citizenship, [upon taking the aforesaid oath] **UNLESS THEY RENOUNCE PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP IN THE MANNER PROVIDED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH.**

SECTION 3. A new section after Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9225 is hereby added to read as follows:

SEC. 4. IRREVOCABILITY OF RENUNCIATION. - A RENUNCIATION OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE IRREVOCABLE, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ITS REACQUISITION UNDER THE LAWS GOVERNING JUDICIAL NATURALIZATION OF ALIENS. A RENUNCIATION MADE BY PARENTS SHALL NOT HAVE THE EFFECT OF DIVESTING THEIR MINOR CHILDREN OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP.

SECTION 4. Section 4 and the subsequent sections of Republic Act No. 9225 are hereby renumbered accordingly.

SECTION 5. The Title of Republic Act No. 9225 is hereby amended to read as follows:

AN ACT [MAKING THE] PROVIDING FOR THE RETENTION AND REACQUISITION OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP [OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENS WHO ACQUIRE FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP PERMANENT], AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 63, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* - If any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, other sections or provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and effective.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,