



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5854

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BY REPRESENTATIVES BICHARA, ANGARA, HERRERA-DY, ROMUALDO,  
SARMIENTO (M.), AUMENTADO, GULLAS, TEODORO, DAYANGHIRANG,  
ARNAIZ, BATOCABE, BELLO, CORTUNA, CRISOLOGO, ORTEGA (F.),  
PADILLA, YAP (A.) AND ZUBIRI, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1869

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AN ACT TO AMEND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 8239, otherwise known as  
2 the "Philippine Passport Act of 1996", is hereby amended to read as follows:

3                   "SEC. 1. *Short Title.* – This Act [will] SHALL be called

4                   [as] the '[Philippine Passport Act of 1996] REVISED  
5                   PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 2012'."

6           SEC. 2. Section 2 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as  
7 follows:

8                   "SEC. 2. *Statement of Policy.* – The people's  
9                   constitutional right to travel is inviolable. Accordingly, the  
10                  government has the duty to issue passports USING TAMPER  
11                  PROOF AND LATEST DATA MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY AS

1           **MUCH AS PRACTICABLE** or any travel document to any citizen of  
2 the Philippines or individual who complies with the requirement  
3 of this Act. The right to travel may be impaired only when  
4 national security, public safety, or public health requires. To  
5 enhance and protect the unimpaired exercise of this right, only  
6 minimum requirements for the application and issuance of  
7 passports and other travel documents shall be prescribed. Action  
8 on such application and the issuance shall be expedited.”

9           SEC. 3. Section 3, subsections (e), (f) and (g) of the same Act are  
10 hereby amended to read as follows:

11           “SEC. 3. *Definitions.* – As used in this Act:

12           “a) *Department* means the Department of Foreign Affairs;

13           “b) *Secretary* means the Secretary of Foreign Affairs;

14           “c) *Post* means a Philippine diplomatic and consular post  
15 such as an Embassy or Consulate;

16           “d) *Passport* means a document issued by the Philippine  
17 government to its citizens and requesting other governments to  
18 allow its citizens to pass safely and freely, and in case of need to  
19 give him/her all lawful aid and protection;

20           “e) *Travel Document* means a certification or identifying  
21 document containing the description and other personal  
22 circumstances of its bearer, issued for direct travel to and from  
23 the Philippines valid for short periods or a particular trip. It is  
24 issued only to persons whose claim to Philippine citizenship is  
25 doubtful or who fall under the category enumerated in [Section  
26 13] SECTION 14 of this Act;

1.           “(f) *Supporting Documents* mean [any] papers or  
2 documents which [is] ARE required to be submitted with the  
3 passport application supporting claims to Filipino citizenship to  
4 complete the application for a passport without which such  
5 application would be deemed incomplete or otherwise become  
6 subject to denial by the issuing authority;

7           “(g) *Ambassadors* mean those who have been appointed as  
8 chiefs of mission and have served as Ambassadors Extraordinary  
9 and Plenipotentiary.”

10           SEC. 4. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as  
11 follows:

12           “SEC. 4. *Authority to Issue, Deny*[, *Restrict*] *or Cancel.*

13           – Upon the application of any qualified Filipino citizen, the  
14 Secretary [of Foreign Affairs] or any [of his] authorized  
15 consular officer may issue passports in accordance with this Act.

16           “Philippine consular officers in a foreign country shall be  
17 authorized by the Secretary to issue, verify, [restrict,] cancel or  
18 [refuse] DENY ISSUANCE OF a passport in the area of jurisdiction  
19 of the Post in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

20           “*In the interest of national security, public safety [and] OR*  
21 *public health, the Secretary or any [of the] authorized consular*  
22 *officers may, after due hearing and in their proper discretion,*  
23 *[refuse to issue a passport, or restrict its use or withdraw] DENY*  
24 *ISSUANCE OF A PASSPORT, or cancel a passport: Provided,*  
25 *however, That such act shall not mean a loss OF or doubt on the*  
26 *person’s citizenship: Provided, further, That the issuance of a*

1 passport may not be denied if the safety and interest of the  
2 Filipino citizen is at stake: *Provided, finally*, That [refusal]  
3 DENIAL OF ISSUANCE or cancellation of a passport would not  
4 prevent the issuance of a Travel Document to allow for a safe  
5 return journey by a Filipino to the Philippines.”

6 SEC. 5. Section 5, subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h) and (i) of  
7 the same Act are hereby amended and new subsections to be designated as  
8 subsections (j), (k) and (l) are hereby added to read as follows:

9 “SEC. 5. *Requirements for the Issuance of Passport.* --

10 No passport shall be issued to an applicant unless the Secretary  
11 or [his] A duly authorized representative is satisfied that the  
12 applicant is a Filipino citizen who has complied with the  
13 following requirements:

14 “a) A duly accomplished application form and  
15 photographs of such number, size and style as may be prescribed  
16 by the Department;

17 “[b) The birth certificate duly issued or authenticated by the  
18 Office of the Civil Registrar General: *Provided, however*, That if  
19 the birth of the applicant has not been registered yet, or if his  
20 birth certificate is destroyed, damaged, or not available due to  
21 other causes, he shall apply for delayed registration of his birth  
22 with the Office of the Civil Registrar General which shall issue  
23 to said applicant a certification of pending application for  
24 delayed registration of birth attaching thereto a copy of an  
25 accomplished certificate of live birth. Such certification and the  
26 accomplished certificate of live birth shall be sufficient to

1 support an application for passport in addition to other papers  
2 which the Department may require from the applicant;]

3 "b) THE APPLICANT'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE IN  
4 SECURITY PAPER ISSUED BY THE NATIONAL STATISTICS  
5 OFFICE (NSO) OR CERTIFIED TRUE COPY (CTC) OF BIRTH  
6 CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRY OFFICE  
7 (LCRO) DULY AUTHENTICATED BY THE NSO: *PROVIDED,*  
8 THAT IF THE BIRTH OF THE APPLICANT HAS NOT BEEN  
9 REGISTERED YET, OR IF SUCH BIRTH CERTIFICATE IS  
10 DESTROYED, DAMAGED, OR NOT AVAILABLE DUE TO OTHER  
11 CAUSES, THE APPLICANT SHALL APPLY FOR DELAYED  
12 REGISTRATION OF BIRTH WITH THE LCRO WHERE THE  
13 APPLICANT WAS BORN. UPON COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
14 REQUIREMENTS FOR DELAYED REGISTRATION OF BIRTH, THE  
15 LCRO SHALL ISSUE TO SAID APPLICANT A CERTIFICATION OF  
16 PENDING APPLICATION FOR DELAYED REGISTRATION OF BIRTH  
17 ATTACHING THERETO A COPY OF AN ACCOMPLISHED  
18 CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF  
19 DELAYED REGISTRATION. SUCH CERTIFICATION AND THE  
20 ACCOMPLISHED CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH SHALL BE  
21 SUFFICIENT TO SUPPORT AN APPLICATION FOR PASSPORT IN  
22 ADDITION TO OTHER PAPERS WHICH THE DEPARTMENT MAY  
23 REQUIRE FROM THE APPLICANT SUCH AS CERTIFICATION OF  
24 NO PRIOR REGISTRATION OR CERTIFICATION OF PREVIOUS  
25 BIRTH REGISTRATION FROM THE NSO.

26 "c) In the absence of a birth certificate, a baptismal  
27 certificate for those who are members of a Christian religious  
28 organization, or similar or equivalent certificate issued by a

1 non-Christian religious group, attesting to the applicant's having  
2 been admitted to such religious group or sect at an early age and  
3 where it is indicated that the applicant is a Filipino citizen, which  
4 should be accompanied by a joint affidavit by two (2) persons  
5 who have personal knowledge of the applicant and of such age as  
6 to credibly state the applicant's date and place of birth,  
7 citizenship, and names of parents: *Provided, That Filipinos who*  
8 *do not [believe in any religion] BELONG TO ANY RELIGIOUS*  
9 *GROUP OR SECT* and whose parents for any reason failed to have  
10 the said applicant baptized shall be exempted from the baptismal  
11 certificate requirement: *Provided, further, That in lieu thereof,*  
12 *the applicant shall execute an affidavit to that effect duly*  
13 *corroborated by affidavit of at least two (2) persons of good*  
14 *reputation who personally know such fact;*

15 "d) In case of a woman who is married, separated,  
16 divorced or widowed or whose marriage has been annulled or  
17 declared by court as void, a copy of the certificate of marriage,  
18 court decree of separation, divorce or annulment or certificate of  
19 death of the deceased spouse duly issued and authenticated by  
20 the Office of the Civil Registrar General: *Provided, That in case*  
21 *of a divorce decree, annulment or declaration of marriage as*  
22 *void, the woman applicant may revert to the use of her maiden*  
23 *name: Provided, further, That such divorce is recognized under*  
24 *existing laws of the Philippines;]*

25 "D) IF THE APPLICANT IS EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OLD  
26 AND ABOVE, A VOTER'S REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE OR THE  
27 APPLICANT'S VOTER'S ID OR AFFIDAVIT DULY ISSUED OR

1 AUTHENTICATED BY THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS IN THE  
2 LOCALITY WHERE THE APPLICANT IS A REGISTERED VOTER;

3 “[e] In the case of naturalized citizens, a certified copy of  
4 the naturalization certificate; or a certified naturalization  
5 certificate of husband or parent duly issued and authenticated by  
6 the Office of the Civil Registrar General if citizenship is claimed  
7 through naturalization of spouse or parent;]

8 “E) A MARRIED WOMAN WHO OPTS TO ADOPT THE  
9 SURNAME OF HER HUSBAND MUST PRESENT A LOCAL CIVIL  
10 REGISTRY COPY OF HER MARRIAGE CONTRACT DULY  
11 AUTHENTICATED BY THE NSO: *PROVIDED*, THAT A MARRIED  
12 WOMAN WHO WAS WIDOWED OR DIVORCED IN ACCORDANCE  
13 WITH ARTICLE 26 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER (EO) No. 209, AS  
14 AMENDED BY EO No. 227, ‘THE FAMILY CODE OF THE  
15 PHILIPPINES OF 1988’ OR UNDER PRESIDENTIAL DECREE (PD)  
16 No. 1083, ‘THE CODE OF MUSLIM PERSONAL LAWS OF THE  
17 PHILIPPINES’, OR WHOSE MARRIAGE WAS ANNULLED OR  
18 DECLARED BY A COURT OF LAW AS VOID, AND WHO OPTS TO  
19 REVERT TO THE USE OF HER MAIDEN NAME MUST PRESENT  
20 THE DEATH CERTIFICATE OF HER SPOUSE ISSUED BY THE NSO  
21 OR CTC OF DEATH CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE LCRO, DULY  
22 AUTHENTICATED BY THE NSO OR CTC OF THE DIVORCE  
23 DECREE, COURT DECREE OF ANNULMENT OR DECLARATION OF  
24 NULLITY SHOWING DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE AS  
25 RECOGNIZED BY PHILIPPINE COURTS AND DULY REGISTERED  
26 AT THE NSO OR LCRO;

27 “[f] For an applicant who has not reached the age of  
28 majority, an affidavit of consent from a parent as indicated in the  
29 passport application if the minor is travelling with either parent;

1 and a clearance from the Department of Social Welfare and  
2 Development, if the minor is travelling with a legal guardian or a  
3 person other than a parent;]

4           **“F) IN THE CASE OF NATURALIZED CITIZENS, A COPY OF**  
5 **THE NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE, DULY REGISTERED BY**  
6 **THE LCRO AND AUTHENTICATED BY THE NSO: *PROVIDED,***  
7 **THAT IN THE CASE OF DERIVATIVE NATURALIZATION, THE**  
8 **APPLICANT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO PRESENT THE COPY OF**  
9 **THE NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE OF THE PARENT OR**  
10 **SPOUSE DULY ISSUED BY THE NSO OR CTC OF**  
11 **NATURALIZATION CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE LCRO DULY**  
12 **AUTHENTICATED BY THE NSO;**

13           **“[g) If the applicant is an adopted person, the duly**  
14 **certified copy of court order of adoption, together with the**  
15 **original and amended birth certificates duly issued and**  
16 **authenticated by the Office of the Civil Registrar General shall**  
17 **be presented: *Provided,* That in case the adopted person is an**  
18 **infant or a minor or the applicant is for adoption by foreign**  
19 **parents, an authority from the Department of Social Welfare and**  
20 **Development shall be required: *Provided, further,* That the**  
21 **adopting foreign parents shall also submit a certificate from their**  
22 **embassy or consulate that they are qualified to adopt such infant**  
23 **or minor child;]**

24           **“G) APPLICATIONS FILED BY MINOR PASSPORT**  
25 **APPLICANTS MAY BE PROCESSED ONLY UPON THE PERSONAL**  
26 **APPEARANCE OF EITHER PARENT: *PROVIDED,* THAT IF A**  
27 **PERSON OTHER THAN THE MINOR’S PARENTS FILES THE**  
28 **APPLICATION, A SPECIAL POWER OF ATTORNEY (SPA) DULY**



1 EXECUTED BY EITHER OR BOTH PARENTS MUST BE PRESENTED  
2 FOR THIS PURPOSE: *PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT IN THE*  
3 *CASE OF AN ABANDONED, NEGLECTED, DEPENDENT OR*  
4 *SURRENDERED CHILD, A CERTIFICATION DECLARING THE*  
5 *CHILD AS LEGALLY AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION BY THE*  
6 *DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT*  
7 *(DSWD) AND AFFIDAVIT OF CONSENT EXECUTED BY THE*  
8 *LEGAL GUARDIAN OR THE DSWD MUST BE PRESENTED;*

9 “[h] In case of discrepancy between the applicant’s name  
10 in the birth certificate and in any other private documents, the  
11 former shall prevail over the latter unless by operation of law or  
12 through court order, the applicant is permitted to use a name  
13 other than what is officially recorded in the Civil Register; and]

14 “(H) IF THE APPLICANT IS AN ADOPTEE OF ALIEN  
15 PARENTS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8043, OTHERWISE  
16 KNOWN AS THE ‘INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION ACT OF 1995’,  
17 THE FOLLOWING SHALL BE PRESENTED:

18 “1) CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF DECREE OF  
19 ABANDONMENT OF THE CHILD;

20 “2) DEED OF VOLUNTARY COMMITMENT (DVC)  
21 EXECUTED BY EITHER PARENT AFTER THE BIRTH OF THE  
22 CHILD; AND

23 “3) CTC OF CERTIFICATION DECLARING A CHILD  
24 LEGALLY AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION ISSUED BY THE DSWD  
25 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9523, ENTITLED: “AN ACT  
26 REQUIRING CERTIFICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL  
27 WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD) TO DECLARE A  
28 ‘CHILD LEGALLY AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION’ AS A

1       **PREREQUISITE FOR ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS, AMENDING FOR**  
2       **THIS PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT**  
3       **NO. 8552, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE DOMESTIC ADOPTION**  
4       **ACT OF 1998, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8043, OTHERWISE KNOWN**  
5       **AS THE INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION ACT OF 1995,**  
6       **PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 603, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE**  
7       **CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE CODE, AND FOR OTHER**  
8       **PURPOSES”:**

9               **“PROVIDED, THAT THE AUTHENTICATED BIRTH**  
10       **CERTIFICATE, PLACEMENT AUTHORITY AND FORMAL**  
11       **ENDORSEMENT OF THE CHILD TO THE INTER-COUNTRY**  
12       **ADOPTION BOARD (ICAB) BY THE DSWD MUST ALSO BE**  
13       **PRESENTED.**

14               **“IF THE APPLICANT IS A MINOR TO BE ADOPTED BY A**  
15       **NON-FILIPINO RELATIVE OR A RELATIVE MARRIED TO A**  
16       **NON-FILIPINO NATIONAL, THE APPLICANT SHALL PRESENT**  
17       **THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT**  
18       **NO. 8043:**

19               **“(1) DEED OF VOLUNTARY COMMITMENT EXECUTED**  
20       **BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

21               **“(I) BOTH THE BIOLOGICAL PARENTS OR THE LEGAL**  
22       **GUARDIANS FOR A LEGITIMATE CHILD;**

23               **“(II) BIOLOGICAL MOTHER OR LEGAL GUARDIAN FOR**  
24       **AN ILLEGITIMATE CHILD; OR**

25               **“(III) DEED OF INVOLUNTARY COMMITMENT BY THE**  
26       **DSWD FOR THE ABANDONED OR NEGLECTED CHILD;**

27               **“(2) DOCUMENTS ENDORSED BY THE DSWD FIELD**  
28       **OFFICER;**

1                   “(3) PLACEMENT AUTHORITY ISSUED BY THE ICAB;

2                   “(4) TRAVEL CLEARANCE ISSUED BY THE ICAB; AND

3                   “(5) CERTIFICATE OF ISSUANCE OF PASSPORT (CIP)  
4 ISSUED BY THE ICAB.

5                   “IF THE APPLICANT IS A MINOR TO BE ADOPTED BY A  
6 NONRELATIVE WHO IS NOT A FILIPINO CITIZEN, THE  
7 APPLICANT SHALL PRESENT THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS  
8 UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8043:

9                   “(1) DSWD CERTIFICATE DECLARING THE CHILD  
10 LEGALLY AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION;

11                   “(2) INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION CLEARANCE ISSUED  
12 BY THE DSWD;

13                   “(3) PLACEMENT AUTHORITY ISSUED BY THE ICAB;

14                   “(4) TRAVEL CLEARANCE ISSUED BY THE DSWD; AND

15                   “(5) CERTIFICATE OF ISSUANCE OF PASSPORT ISSUED  
16 BY THE ICAB.

17                   “(I) THE APPLICANT’S NAME IN THE BIRTH  
18 CERTIFICATE SHALL PREVAIL OVER THAT APPEARING IN ANY  
19 OTHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE DOCUMENT IN CASE OF  
20 DISCREPANCY, UNLESS BY OPERATION OF LAW OR THROUGH  
21 COURT ORDER, THE APPLICANT IS PERMITTED TO USE A NAME  
22 OTHER THAN WHAT IS OFFICIALLY RECORDED IN THE NSO OR  
23 THE LCRO;

24                   “[i]J) If the applicant is a government employee, the  
25 travel authority issued by the head of department, agency or  
26 office may be required only if said applicant is applying for an  
27 official passport[.];

1           “K) IN THE CASE OF THOSE WHO HAVE REACQUIRED  
2           THEIR PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP UNDER REPUBLIC ACT  
3           NO. 9225, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘CITIZENSHIP  
4           RETENTION AND RE-ACQUISITION ACT OF 2003’ AND OTHER  
5           EXISTING LAWS, THE APPLICANT SHALL PRESENT THE  
6           FOLLOWING:

7                   “1) ORIGINAL OR CERTIFIED TRUE COPY OF THE  
8                   PRESCRIBED OATH OF ALLEGIANCE;

9                   “2) IDENTIFICATION CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY  
10                  APPROPRIATE AGENCIES; AND

11                  “3) SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE NECESSARY  
12                  OR REQUIRED FOR THE ISSUANCE OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORT;

13           “L) MUSLIM FILIPINOS, TRAVELLING FOR THE  
14           PURPOSE OF HAJJ, WHO ARE UNABLE TO COMPLY WITH THE  
15           REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A REGULAR PASSPORT,  
16           MAY BE ISSUED A PASSPORT VALID FOR THREE (3) MONTHS  
17           AND FOR ONE (1) TRIP ONLY UPON COMPLIANCE WITH THE  
18           FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

19                   “1) ENDORSEMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF MUSLIM  
20                   AFFAIRS WHICH ISSUES A CERTIFICATE OF TRIBAL  
21                   AFFILIATION AND SIGNS A PERSONAL GUARANTEE FORM; AND

22                   “2) JOINT AFFIDAVIT OF TWO (2) DISINTERESTED  
23                   PERSONS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE BIRTH DETAILS OF  
24                   THE APPLICANTS.

25           “A HAJJ PASSPORT IS NONRENEWABLE AND MAY NOT  
26           BE USED AS A BASIS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A REGULAR  
27           PASSPORT.”

1           SEC. 6. Section 6 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:

3           “SEC. 6. *Application.* – [The application may be filed  
4 by:] A PERSON APPLYING FOR A PASSPORT, EITHER FOR THE  
5 FIRST TIME OR FOR THE RENEWAL OF A PREVIOUSLY ISSUED  
6 PASSPORT, MAY BE REQUIRED TO APPEAR IN PERSON FOR  
7 PHOTO AND DATA CAPTURING.

8           “[a] The applicant himself or herself; or

9           “b) The parent or legal guardian on behalf of an  
10 applicant who is below the age of majority.

11           “In case of first time applicants, the applicant must present  
12 himself/herself in person to prove that he or she is the same  
13 person and of the age claimed in the application form. In case of  
14 renewal the application may be filed by any licensed travel  
15 agency duly accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs:  
16 *Provided,* That the agent shall be responsible for the authenticity  
17 or *bona fide* of the supporting documents being presented to  
18 meet the requirements for the application of passports.]

19           “THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MAY ASSIST AN  
20 APPLICANT WHO IS A MINOR.

21           “AN APPLICANT WHO IS ILLITERATE, PHYSICALLY  
22 DISABLED OR A SENIOR CITIZEN MAY BE ASSISTED BY A  
23 RELATIVE WITHIN THE FOURTH CIVIL DEGREE BY AFFINITY OR  
24 CONSANGUINITY OR BY ANYONE BELONGING TO THE SAME  
25 HOUSEHOLD.

26           “THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE SPECIAL  
27 PROCEDURE TO FACILITATE THE PASSPORT APPLICATION OF  
28 ILLITERATE, PHYSICALLY DISABLED AND SENIOR CITIZENS.

1           “AN APPLICANT MAY ALSO BE ASSISTED BY ANY  
2 LICENSED TRAVEL OR RECRUITMENT AGENCY DULY  
3 ACCREDITED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

4           “IN THE CASE OF A PASSPORT APPLICATION FILED BY A  
5 RECRUITMENT OR TRAVEL AGENCY OR PASSPORT-RELATED  
6 SERVICE PROVIDER DULY ACCREDITED BY THE DEPARTMENT,  
7 THE AGENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AUTHENTICITY  
8 OF THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS SECURED AND PRESENTED  
9 BY THE AGENT TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE  
10 APPLICATION OF PASSPORTS.

11           “THE DEPARTMENT SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
12 REQUIRE ALTERNATIVE DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE SPECIFIED IN  
13 THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR)  
14 FORMULATED TO ENFORCE THIS LAW.”

15           SEC. 7. Section 7 of the same Act is hereby amended and new  
16 subsections designated as subsections (a) (10), (a) (11) and (a) (12) are hereby  
17 added to read as follows:

18           “SEC. 7. *Types of Passports.* – The Secretary or the  
19 authorized representative or consular officer may issue the  
20 following types of passports:

21           “a) Diplomatic passports [for] ARE ISSUED TO persons  
22 [imbued] with diplomatic status or WHO are on diplomatic  
23 mission such as:

24           “1) The President and former Presidents of the Republic  
25 of the Philippines;

26           “2) The Vice-President and former Vice-Presidents of  
27 the Republic of the Philippines;

28           “3) The Senate President [and], the Speaker of the  
29 \_\_\_\_\_ House of Representatives, AND FORMER SENATE PRESIDENTS

1 **AND SPEAKERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE**  
2 **CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES;**

3 "4) The Chief Justice, **ASSOCIATE JUSTICES** of the  
4 Supreme Court **AND THE PRESIDING JUSTICE OF THE COURT**  
5 **OF APPEALS;**

6 "5) The [Cabinet Secretaries] **SECRETARY**, [and the]  
7 Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries of the Department of  
8 Foreign Affairs;

9 "6) [Ambassadors, Foreign Service Officers of all ranks  
10 in the career diplomatic service; Attaches, and members of their  
11 families] **MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, THE SECRETARY OF THE**  
12 **SENATE AND THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE HOUSE OF**  
13 **REPRESENTATIVES;**

14 "7) [Members of the Congress when on official mission  
15 abroad or as delegates to international conferences] **THE**  
16 **SECRETARIES OF ALL THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE**  
17 **BRANCH;**

18 "8) [The Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas  
19 and delegates to international or regional conferences when on  
20 official mission or accorded full powers by the President; and]  
21 **AMBASSADORS EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF**  
22 **THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES;**

23 "9) [Spouses and unmarried minor children of the  
24 abovementioned officials when accompanying or following to  
25 join them in an official mission abroad.] **CHIEFS OF MISSION,**  
26 **FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICERS OF ALL RANKS IN THE CAREER**

1           **DIPLOMATIC SERVICE, INCLUDING DESIGNATED ATTACHÈS**  
2           **FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND ATTACHED AGENCIES OF THE**  
3           **GOVERNMENT;**

4           **“10) THE GOVERNOR OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG**  
5           **PILIPINAS;**

6           **“11) OFFICIAL DELEGATES TO INTERNATIONAL OR**  
7           **REGIONAL CONFERENCES ACCORDED FULL POWERS BY THE**  
8           **PRESIDENT; AND**

9           **“12) SPOUSES AND UNMARRIED MINOR CHILDREN OF**  
10           **THE ABOVEMENTIONED OFFICIALS WHEN ACCOMPANYING OR**  
11           **FOLLOWING TO JOIN THEM IN AN OFFICIAL MISSION ABROAD.**

12           **“The President of the Philippines [and] OR the Secretary**  
13           **of the Department of Foreign Affairs may grant diplomatic**  
14           **passports to officials and persons other than those enumerated**  
15           **herein who are on official mission abroad AND ARE GRANTED**  
16           **FULL POWERS BY THE PRESIDENT.**

17           **“b) Official Passports [to be] ARE issued to all**  
18           **government officials and employees on official trip abroad but**  
19           **who are not on a diplomatic mission or [delegates to**  
20           **international or regional conferences or] have not been accorded**  
21           **diplomatic status such as:**

22           **“1. Undersecretaries, [and] Assistant Secretaries of the**  
23           **Cabinet other than the Department of Foreign Affairs, the**  
24           **Associate Justices OF THE COURT OF APPEALS and other**  
25           **members of the Judiciary, [members of the Congress] THE**  
26           **DEPUTY SECRETARIES OF THE SENATE AND DEPUTY**  
27           **SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE HOUSE OF**



1       **REPRESENTATIVES, and all other government officials and**  
2       **employees travelling on [official business and] official time;**

3               “2. Staff officers and employees of the Department [of  
4       Foreign Affairs] assigned to diplomatic and consular posts and  
5       officers and representatives of other government departments  
6       and agencies assigned abroad;

7               “3. Persons in the domestic service and household  
8       members of officials assigned to diplomatic or consular posts  
9       **NOT EXCEEDING TWO (2): PROVIDED, THAT AN INCREASE IN**  
10       **DOMESTIC SERVICE AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS OF SUCH**  
11       **OFFICIALS SHALL BE APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY; AND**

12              “4. Spouse[s] and [unmarried] minor children, [of the  
13       officials mentioned above when accompanying or following to  
14       join them.] **INCLUDING UNMARRIED CHILDREN WHO ARE OF**  
15       **AGE BUT DEPENDENT ON THE STAFF OFFICERS AND**  
16       **EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT ASSIGNED TO DIPLOMATIC**  
17       **OR CONSULAR POSTS AND OFFICES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF**  
18       **OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ASSIGNED ABROAD, WHEN**  
19       **ACCOMPANYING OR FOLLOWING TO JOIN THEM.**

20              “c) Regular Passports ARE issued to Filipino citizens who  
21       are not eligible or entitled to diplomatic or official passports,  
22       including government officials or employees going abroad for  
23       pleasure or other personal reasons. Government officials and  
24       employees and members of their families may, during their  
25       incumbency in office, hold two passports simultaneously: (1) a  
26       regular passport for private travel; (2) a diplomatic or official  
27       passport when travelling abroad on diplomatic or official  
28       business. The [wife] **SPOUSE** and ~~minor children~~ of persons

1 entitled to a diplomatic or official passports shall be issued  
 2 regular passports, if they are not accompanying or following to  
 3 join them.”

4 SEC. 8. Section 8 of the same Act is hereby amended with subsection  
 5 (a) (4) renumbered as (a) (7); subsections (a) (4), (a) (5), (a) (6), (b) (4) and (b)  
 6 (5) hereby added; and subsection (c) is hereby deleted to read as follows:

7 “SEC. 8. *Grounds for Denial[,] OF ISSUANCE OF*  
 8 *PASSPORT OR Cancellation [or Restrictions] OF PASSPORT. –*

9 The application for passport may be denied[,] OR A DULY  
 10 ISSUED PASSPORT MAY BE cancelled [or restricted] only on the  
 11 following grounds:

12 “a) Denial of ISSUANCE OF Passport – THE ISSUANCE OF  
 13 A PASSPORT MAY BE DENIED ONLY ON THE FOLLOWING  
 14 GROUNDS:

15 “1. [On orders of the court, after due notice and hearing,  
 16 to hold the departure of an applicant because of a pending  
 17 criminal case] VIOLATION BY THE APPLICANT OF ANY OF THE  
 18 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT;

19 “2. [When so requested by the natural or legal guardian,  
 20 if the applicant is a minor] ON ORDERS OF THE COURT, AFTER  
 21 DUE NOTICE AND HEARING, TO WITHHOLD THE PROCESSING  
 22 OF A PASSPORT;

23 “3. [When the applicant has been found to have violated  
 24 any of the provisions of this Act] WHEN THE APPLICANT IS A  
 25 FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE: PROVIDED, THAT THE APPLICANT  
 26 BECOMES ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A NEW PASSPORT AFTER  
 27 SUBMITTING TO THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURT;

1           **"4. WHEN THE APPLICANT HAS BEEN CONVICTED BY**  
2           **FINAL JUDGMENT OF A CRIMINAL OFFENSE: *PROVIDED*, THAT**  
3           **THE APPLICANT BECOMES ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A NEW**  
4           **PASSPORT AFTER THE SERVICE OF SENTENCE OR THE GRANT**  
5           **OF PROBATION, CONDITIONAL OR ABSOLUTE PARDON, OR**  
6           **AMNESTY;**

7           **"5. WHEN SO REQUESTED BY THE PARENT EXERCISING**  
8           **PARENTAL AUTHORITY OR LEGAL GUARDIAN, IF THE**  
9           **APPLICANT IS A MINOR: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER*, THAT A COURT**  
10           **ORDER SHALL BE REQUIRED WHEN BOTH PARENTS EXERCISE**  
11           **PARENTAL AUTHORITY BUT ONE DOES NOT AGREE TO THE**  
12           **ISSUANCE OF A PASSPORT TO THE MINOR;**

13           **"6. UPON LAWFUL ORDER OF THE SECRETARY WHEN**  
14           **DEEMED NECESSARY IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL**  
15           **SECURITY, PUBLIC SAFETY OR PUBLIC HEALTH; AND**

16           **"[4] 7. Such other disqualifications under existing laws.**

17           **"b) Cancellation OF PASSPORT – PASSPORTS MAY BE**  
18           **CANCELLED ONLY ON THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS:**

19           **"1. When the holder is a fugitive from justice[;]:**  
20           ***PROVIDED*, THAT THE APPLICANT BECOMES ELIGIBLE TO**  
21           **APPLY FOR A NEW PASSPORT AFTER SUBMITTING TO THE**  
22           **JURISDICTION OF THE COURT;**

23           **"2. When the holder has been convicted BY A FINAL**  
24           **JUDGMENT of a criminal offense: *Provided*, That the [passport**  
25           **may be restored after service of sentence; or] HOLDER BECOMES**  
26           **ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A NEW PASSPORT AFTER THE SERVICE**  
27           **OF SENTENCE OR THE GRANT OF PROBATION, CONDITIONAL**  
28           **OR ABSOLUTE PARDON OR AMNESTY;**

1           “3. [When a passport was acquired fraudulently or  
2 tampered with.] UPON FINDING BY THE SECRETARY OR THE  
3 *AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR CONSULAR OFFICER THAT*  
4 *A PASSPORT HAD BEEN ACQUIRED UNDER ANY OF THE*  
5 *FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:*

6           “(I) FICTITIOUS NAME, FALSE NAME, ALIAS OR  
7 NICKNAME WAS USED IN VIOLATION OF EXISTING LAWS AND  
8 EXECUTIVE ORDERS;

9           “(II) FALSE OR INACCURATE INFORMATION ABOUT  
10 PERSONAL DETAILS WAS PROVIDED IN THE APPLICATION;

11           “(III) FAKE DOCUMENTS WERE SUBMITTED TO  
12 SUPPORT THE APPLICATION;

13           “4. UPON FINDING BY THE SECRETARY OR THE  
14 AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR CONSULAR OFFICER THAT  
15 A PASSPORT HAD BEEN TAMPERED SUBSEQUENT TO ITS  
16 RELEASE OR ISSUANCE; OR

17           “5. UPON ORDER OF THE SECRETARY WHEN DEEMED  
18 NECESSARY IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL SECURITY, PUBLIC  
19 SAFETY OR PUBLIC HEALTH.

20           “ALL PASSPORTS ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
21 NOT CONTAIN ANY MARKING, ANNOTATION OR STAMP  
22 PERTAINING TO TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS. LIMITATION OF  
23 TRAVEL SHALL BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH TRAVEL  
24 ADVISORIES OR ANY OTHER MEANS WHICH DOES NOT  
25 NECESSITATE MARKING OR STAMPING OF PASSPORTS.

26           “[c] Restricted

27           “1. When the country of destination is in a state of  
28 political instability which could pose a danger to the Filipino  
29 traveler;

1           “2. When diplomatic ties have been fractured or severed  
2 with the Philippines;

3           “3. When the country of destination is subject to travel  
4 restriction by government policy, enforcement of action by the  
5 United Nations or in a state of war.]”

6 SEC. 9. A new Section 9 is hereby added to read as follows:

7           “SEC. 9. *SPECIAL BOARD OF INQUIRY (SBI)*. – THE  
8 DEPARTMENT *MOTU PROPRIO* OR UPON RECEIPT OF ANY  
9 VERIFIED COMPLAINT THAT SHALL NECESSITATE  
10 CANCELLATION OF PASSPORT SHALL SUMMON THE PASSPORT  
11 HOLDER WHO SHALL BE GIVEN FIVE (5) WORKING DAYS UPON  
12 RECEIPT OF THE COMPLAINT TO REPLY AND SUBMIT SUCH  
13 PROOF TO CONTRAVENE THE COMPLAINT.

14           “A SPECIAL BOARD OF INQUIRY (SBI) UNDER THE  
15 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY IS HEREBY CREATED TO HANDLE  
16 AND ADJUDICATE THE COMPLAINTS FOR CANCELLATION OF  
17 PASSPORT. THE SBI SHALL BE COMPOSED OF MEMBERS FROM  
18 THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY, THE OFFICE OF LEGAL  
19 AFFAIRS, THE OFFICE OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS AND FROM  
20 SUCH OTHER OFFICES WHICH THE SECRETARY MAY DEEM  
21 NECESSARY: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE SBI SHALL NOT EXCEED  
22 SEVEN (7) MEMBERS.

23           “THE SBI SHALL OBSERVE SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS IN  
24 ADJUDICATING THE COMPLAINT: *PROVIDED*, THAT SUCH  
25 SUMMARY PROCEEDINGS RESOLVE THE COMPLAINT IN NOT  
26 MORE THAN THIRTY (30) WORKING DAYS UPON SUBMISSION OF  
27 THE PASSPORT HOLDER’S REPLY TO SUCH COMPLAINT.

1           “AN APPLICANT WHOSE PASSPORT HAS BEEN  
2           CANCELLED UPON THE DECISION OF THE SBI MAY FILE FOR  
3           ITS REISSUANCE UPON CLEARANCE BY THE SBL.”

4           SEC. 10. Section 9 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
5           amended to read as follows:

6           “SEC. [9.] 10. *Appeal.* – Any person who [feels] WAS  
7           aggrieved as a result of the application of this Act or of the  
8           implementing rules and regulations (IRR) issued by the  
9           Secretary shall have the right to appeal to the Secretary [of  
10          Foreign Affairs from] whose decision [judicial review] may be  
11          [had to] REVIEWED BY the Court[s in due course].”

12          SEC. 11. Section 10 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
13          amended to read as follows:

14          “SEC. [10.] 11. *Validity.* – Regular passports issued  
15          under this Act shall be valid for a period of five (5) OR TEN (10)  
16          years[.]. [*Provided, however,* That the issuing authority may  
17          limit the period of validity to less than five (5) years; whenever  
18          in the national economic interest or political stability of the  
19          country such restriction is necessary: *Provided, finally,* That a  
20          new passport may be issued to replace one which validity has  
21          expired, the old passport being returned to the holder after  
22          cancellation.]

23          “THE PASSPORT APPLICANT SHALL HAVE THE OPTION  
24          TO APPLY FOR A FIVE (5)-YEAR OR A TEN (10)-YEAR PASSPORT;  
25          PROVIDED, THAT MINOR APPLICANTS SHALL BE ISSUED  
26          PASSPORTS VALID ONLY FOR FIVE (5) YEARS: PROVIDED,  
27          FURTHER, THAT THE SECRETARY OR THE DULY AUTHORIZED

1 REPRESENTATIVE OR CONSULAR OFFICER SHALL HAVE THE  
2 AUTHORITY TO EXTEND THE VALIDITY OF A PHILIPPINE  
3 PASSPORT IF DEEMED NECESSARY FOR HUMANITARIAN  
4 REASONS OR IN THE INTEREST OF NATIONAL SECURITY,  
5 PUBLIC SAFETY OR PUBLIC HEALTH. THE EXTENSION PERIOD  
6 OF THE PASSPORT SHALL NOT EXCEED TWO (2) YEARS AND  
7 MAY BE AVAILED OF ONLY ONCE.”

8 SEC. 12. Section 11 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 “SEC. [11.] 12. *Ownership of Passports.* – A Philippine  
11 passport remains at all times the property of the Government, the  
12 holder being a mere possessor thereof as long as it is valid and  
13 the same may not be surrendered to any person or entity other  
14 than the government or its representative: *Provided*, That [a]  
15 THE PASSPORT OF ANY Filipino citizen may BE voluntarily  
16 surrendered [his/her passport to a Philippine Service] TO ANY  
17 Post for storage and safekeeping for which a proper receipt shall  
18 be issued for PRESENTATION [use] when reclaiming the passport  
19 at a later date.”

20 SEC. 13. Section 12 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
21 amended to read as follows:

22 “SEC. [12.] 13. *Names and Titles.* – The passport shall  
23 contain the full name of the applicant, but shall not include [his]  
24 ANY title, [or titles or] profession or job description. If an  
25 applicant’s name is changed by order of the court, a certified  
26 copy of the court order or decree shall be submitted together  
27 with the birth certificate or old passport on application.”

1           SEC. 14. Section 13 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           “SEC. [13.] 14. *Travel Documents.* – A travel  
4 document, in lieu of a passport, may be issued to:

5           “a) A Filipino citizen returning to the Philippines [who  
6 for one reason or another has lost his/her] **OR ON EMERGENCY**  
7 **TRAVEL TO ANOTHER DESTINATION, WHOSE** passport WAS  
8 **LOST** or **WHO** cannot be issued a regular passport;

9           “b) A Filipino citizen being sent back to the Philippines;

10          “c) An alien spouse of a Filipino and [their] **THE**  
11 *dependents who have not yet been naturalized as [a] Filipinos*  
12 [and] who are travelling to the Philippines or [is a] permanent  
13 residents of the Philippines;

14          “d) Aliens permanently residing in the Philippines who  
15 are not able to obtain foreign passports and other travel  
16 documents;

17          “e) A stateless person who is likewise a permanent  
18 resident, or a refugee granted such status or asylum in the  
19 Philippines.”

20           SEC. 15. Section 14 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
21 amended to read as follows:

22           “SEC. [14.] 15. *Amendments.* – A passport may be  
23 amended at the request of the holder for any [lawful] **OF THE**  
24 **FOLLOWING** purposes[,]; [but such amendment should be  
25 approved by the Secretary or his duly authorized diplomatic or  
26 consular officers.]



1           “[Diplomatic and official passports shall be submitted for  
2 revalidation before each departure of the holder.]

3           “(A) AMENDMENTS OF A WOMAN’S NAME DUE TO  
4 MARRIAGE;

5           “(B) AMENDMENT OF A WOMAN’S NAME DUE TO DEATH  
6 OF SPOUSE, ANNULMENT OF MARRIAGE, ISSUANCE OF A  
7 DIVORCE DECREE UNDER PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1083,  
8 GRANT OF DIVORCE DECREE OR DECLARATION OF NULLITY  
9 SHOWING DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE GRANTED BY A FOREIGN  
10 COURT AND RECOGNIZED BY PHILIPPINE COURTS CONSISTENT  
11 WITH ARTICLE 26 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, AS  
12 AMENDED; OR

13           “(C) AMENDMENTS BY ORDER OF A COURT PURSUANT TO  
14 REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9048, ENTITLED: ‘AN ACT AUTHORIZING  
15 THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OR THE CONSUL  
16 GENERAL TO CORRECT A CLERICAL OR TYPOGRAPHICAL  
17 ERROR IN AN ENTRY AND/OR CHANGE OF FIRST NAME OR  
18 NICKNAME IN THE CIVIL REGISTER WITHOUT NEED OF A  
19 JUDICIAL ORDER, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLES  
20 376 AND 412 OF THE CIVIL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES’.”

21           SEC. 16. Section 15 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
22 amended to read as follows:

23           “SEC. [15.] 16. *Loss or Destruction.* – The loss or  
24 destruction of a passport should be immediately reported to the  
25 Department or the Post. The holder of such passport shall  
26 submit to the Department or Post an affidavit stating in detail the  
27 circumstances of such loss or destruction. The holder of such a  
28 passport, who is in the Philippines, should also furnish the

1 National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and the Bureau of  
2 Immigration (BI) copies of the affidavit. For those who are  
3 abroad, copies of the affidavit will be forwarded by the Post to  
4 the Department's Office of Consular [Services] AFFAIRS, and in  
5 coordination with the Office of Legal [and Intelligence Services]  
6 AFFAIRS, shall transmit a copy of the affidavit to the [National  
7 Bureau of Investigation] NBI and [Bureau of Immigration] BI.  
8 The transmittal of the affidavit shall be accompanied by a request  
9 for the confiscation of the said passport if found, and to  
10 investigate or detain, if necessary, the person attempting to use or  
11 has used the passport. All Posts will be informed of the lost  
12 passport, including pertinent information on the passport and the  
13 circumstances of loss.

14 "No new passport shall be issued until satisfactory proof  
15 is shown that the passport was actually lost and after the lapse of  
16 fifteen (15) days following the date of submission of the affidavit  
17 of loss as herein required: *Provided, however,* That in the case  
18 of a passport reported lost by a Filipino travelling abroad, the  
19 Consulate may waive the fifteen [(15) days] (15)-DAY  
20 requirement if the loss has been proven to the Consular Official's  
21 satisfaction: *Provided, further,* That in case the Filipino who  
22 reported a loss of passport is returning to the Philippines, the  
23 holder may be issued a Travel Document[: *Provided, finally,*  
24 That in the event the lost passport is found, it should be  
25 destroyed if a replacement has been issued, or mailed to the  
26 holder who was issued a Travel Document].

1. "In all cases, **AT THE DISCRETION OF** the head of Office  
2 of Consular [Services] **AFFAIRS** or the head of the Consular  
3 Section of an Embassy or the Consul General of a consulate,  
4 [may, upon his discretion, waive] the fifteen (15)-day waiting  
5 period[.] **MAY BE WAIVED."**

6 SEC. 17. Section 16 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "SEC. [16.] 17. *Fees.* – Reasonable fees shall be  
9 collected for the processing, issuance, [extension,] **OR**  
10 **amendment OF AN EXISTING PASSPORT** or replacement of a lost  
11 passport and the issuance of a Travel Document as may be  
12 determined by the Department[:]. [*Provided, however,* That any  
13 fee shall not be increased more than once every three (3) years.]

14 "THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PRESCRIBE THE NECESSARY  
15 **FEEES FOR PASSPORTS WITH FIVE (5)-YEAR AND TEN (10)-YEAR**  
16 **VALIDITIES."**

17 SEC. 18. Section 17 of the same Act is hereby renumbered and  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 "SEC. [17.] 18. *Passport Revolving Fund.* – The  
20 Department may charge a service fee of not more than Two  
21 hundred fifty pesos (P250) for such service rendered to  
22 applicants relating to the processing and issuance of passports  
23 requiring special consideration, waiver or issuance beyond  
24 regular office hours. The service fees received by the  
25 Department under this section shall constitute a revolving fund to  
26 be called the 'Passport Revolving Fund' which may be utilized  
27 by the Department for the improvement of its passporting and

1 consular services and other Department services except travel  
2 and transportation allowances and expenses.

3 “The setting up, use and disbursement of funds shall be  
4 subject to review, accounting and auditing rules and regulations  
5 of the Commission on Audit and will be subject to an annual  
6 review by Congress[.]. [but] **FURTHER**, the Secretary [will]  
7 **SHALL** submit a report on the disbursement of the fund every six  
8 (6) months to both the Senate **COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN**  
9 **RELATIONS** and the House Committee[s] on Foreign [Relations]  
10 **AFFAIRS.**”

11 **SEC. 19.** Section 18 of this Act is hereby renumbered and amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 “**SEC. [18.] 19.** *Waiver.* – The Secretary of Foreign  
14 Affairs is solely authorized to waive any requirement[s] set forth  
15 in Section 5 of this Act.”

16 **SEC. 20.** Section 19 of this Act is hereby renumbered and amended  
17 with new subsections (a) (4) and (f) hereby added to read as follows:

18 “**SEC. [19.] 20.** *Offenses and Penalties.* – A passport  
19 being a proclamation of the citizenship of a Filipino, is [a  
20 document that is] superior to all other official documents[.] **AND**  
21 **[As] AS** such, [it] should be accorded the highest respect by its  
22 holder. [that to do damage to its integrity and validity is a  
23 serious crime that should be penalized accordingly] **ANY ACT**  
24 **PREJUDICIAL TO ITS INTEGRITY IS A GRAVE CRIME AGAINST**  
25 **THE SECURITY OF THE STATE AND SHOULD BE PENALIZED**  
26 **ACCORDINGLY:**

1                    “a) *Offenses Relating to Issuances: Penalties* – Any  
2 person who:

3                    “1. Acting or claiming to act in any capacity or office  
4 under the Republic of the Philippines, without lawful authority,  
5 **ACCEPTS PASSPORT APPLICATIONS**, grants, issues or verifies  
6 any passport or travel document to any or for any person  
7 whomsoever, **OR IS CAUGHT SELLING IN WHATEVER CAPACITY**  
8 **PASSPORT APPLICATION FORMS, OR LOST OR STOLEN**  
9 **PASSPORTS AND TRAVEL DOCUMENTS** shall be punished by a  
10 fine of not less than Fifteen thousand pesos (P15,000) [nor] **BUT**  
11 **NOT** more than Sixty thousand pesos (P60,000) and  
12 imprisonment of not less than [eighteen (18) months nor more  
13 than] six (6) years **AND ONE (1) DAY NOR MORE THAN TWELVE**  
14 **(12) YEARS**; or

15                    “2. Being a diplomatic or consular official authorized to  
16 grant, issue, amend or verify passports, knowingly and  
17 [willfully] **WILFULLY** grants, issues, amends or verifies any such  
18 passport to any or for any person not owing allegiance to the  
19 Republic of the Philippines, whether citizen or not, shall be  
20 punished by a fine of not less than Fifteen thousand pesos  
21 (P15,000) [nor] **BUT NOT** more than Sixty thousand pesos  
22 (P60,000) and imprisonment of not less than [eighteen (18)  
23 months but not more than] six (6) years **AND ONE (1) DAY BUT**  
24 **NOT MORE THAN TWELVE (12) YEARS**, and upon conviction, be  
25 **PERPETUALLY** disqualified from holding [appointive] public  
26 office; **OR**

1           “3. Being a diplomatic or consular officer, knowingly and  
2           [willfully] WILFULLY grants and issues to, amends or certifies to  
3           the authenticity of any passport or travel document for any  
4           person not entitled thereto, or knowingly and [willfully]  
5           WILFULLY issues more than one passport to any person except as  
6           provided for in this Act, shall be punished by a fine of not less  
7           than Fifteen thousand pesos (P15,000) [nor] BUT NOT more than  
8           Sixty thousand pesos (P60,000) and imprisonment of not less  
9           than [eighteen (18) months nor more than] six (6) years and ONE  
10          (1) DAY BUT NOT MORE THAN TWELVE (12) YEARS AND upon  
11          conviction, be disqualified PERPETUALLY from holding  
12          [appointive] public office[.]; OR

13           “4. ACTING OR CLAIMING TO ACT IN ANY CAPACITY,  
14          WITH THE INTENTION TO PROFIT THEREBY, INTERCEPTS A  
15          PERSON PROCEEDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OR ANY OF ITS  
16          REGIONAL CONSULAR OFFICES TO APPLY FOR A PASSPORT,  
17          AND PERSUADES, ENTICES, ENCOURAGES OR MISLEADS SUCH  
18          APPLICANT TO COURSE THE APPLICATION THROUGH ANOTHER  
19          PERSON OR AGENCY OTHER THAN THE DEPARTMENT OR ITS  
20          PERSONNEL ON THE PRETEXT OF FACILITATING ITS APPROVAL  
21          OR ISSUANCE BY THE DEPARTMENT SHALL BE PUNISHED BY  
22          IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN EIGHTEEN (18) MONTHS  
23          NOR MORE THAN SIX (6) YEARS.

24           “b) *Offenses Relating to False Statements: Penalties* –  
25          Any person who [willfully] WILFULLY and knowingly:

26           “1. Makes any false statement in any application for  
27          passport with the intent to induce or secure the issuance of a

1 passport under the authority of the Philippine Government,  
2 **[either for his own use or the use of another] FOR ANY PURPOSE,**  
3 contrary to this Act or rules and regulations prescribed pursuant  
4 hereto shall be punished by a fine of not less than Fifteen  
5 thousand pesos (P15,000) nor more than Sixty thousand pesos  
6 (P60,000) and imprisonment of not less than **[three (3) years nor**  
7 **more than ten (10) years] SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY BUT**  
8 **NOT MORE THAN TWELVE (12) YEARS;** or

9 "2. Uses or attempts to use any passport which was  
10 secured in any way by reason of any false statement[s], shall be  
11 punished by a fine of not less than Fifteen thousand pesos  
12 (P15,000) **[nor] BUT NOT** more than Sixty thousand pesos  
13 (P60,000) and imprisonment of not less than **[three (3) years, but**  
14 **not more than ten (10) years] SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY**  
15 **BUT NOT MORE THAN TWELVE (12) YEARS;** or

16 "3. Travel and recruitment agencies **[whose] AND**  
17 **PASSPORT-RELATED SERVICE PROVIDERS,** agents, liaison  
18 officers or representatives are convicted of offenses relating to  
19 false statements shall, in addition to the fines and penalties  
20 abovementioned, have their license revoked with all deposits,  
21 escrow accounts or guarantee funds deposited or made as a  
22 requirement of their business forfeited in favor of the  
23 government **[without prejudice to the officials of the branch**  
24 **office or of the agency being charged as accessories to the**  
25 **offense and upon conviction barred from engaging in the travel**  
26 **or recruitment agency business]. AN OFFICER OF THE TRAVEL**

1 OR RECRUITMENT AGENCY CONVICTED FOR FALSE  
2 STATEMENTS SHALL BE BARRED FROM ENGAGING IN THE  
3 TRAVEL OR RECRUITMENT AGENCY BUSINESS.

4 "c) *Offenses Relating to Forgery: Penalties* – Any person  
5 who:

6 "1. Falsely makes, forges, counterfeits, mutilates or alters  
7 any passport or travel document OR DEPARTMENT STAMPS, or  
8 any supporting document for a passport application, with the  
9 intent of using the same shall be punished by a fine of not less  
10 than [Sixty thousand pesos (P60,000)] SEVENTY-FIVE  
11 THOUSAND PESOS (P75,000) [nor] BUT NOT more than One  
12 hundred fifty thousand pesos (P150,000) and imprisonment of  
13 not less than six (6) years [nor] BUT NOT more than fifteen (15)  
14 years[; or]. THE POSSESSION OF THE DOCUMENTS HEREIN  
15 MENTIONED SHALL BE *PRIMA FACIE* EVIDENCE OF  
16 COMMISSION OF THE ACTS ENUMERATED HEREIN AND THE  
17 INTENT TO USE THE SAME; OR

18 "2. [Willfully] WILFULLY or knowingly uses or attempts  
19 to use, or furnishes to another for use any such false, forged,  
20 counterfeited, mutilated or altered passport or travel document or  
21 any passport validly issued which has become void by the  
22 occurrence of any condition [t]herein prescribed shall be  
23 punished by a fine of not less than Sixty thousand pesos  
24 (P60,000) [nor] BUT NOT more than One hundred fifty thousand  
25 pesos (P150,000) and imprisonment of not less than six (6) years  
26 [nor] BUT NOT more than fifteen (15) years[:]. [*Provided,*  
27 *however, That*] THE officers of corporations, agencies or entities



1 licensed in the travel and recruitment industry would be held  
2 similarly liable as their agents, liaison officers or  
3 representatives[:]. [*Provided, finally, That f*]Forgeries of five or  
4 more passports or travel documents[, would] **SHALL** be  
5 considered as massive forgery tantamount to national sabotage  
6 and [shall be] punished by a fine of not less than Two hundred  
7 fifty thousand pesos (P250,000) [nor] **BUT NOT** more than One  
8 million pesos (P1,000,000) and imprisonment of not less than  
9 seven (7) years [nor] **BUT NOT** more than seventeen (17) years.

10 “(d) *Offenses Relating to Improper Use. Penalties – A*  
11 **FINE OF NOT LESS THAN SIXTY THOUSAND PESOS (P60,000)**  
12 **BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS**  
13 **(P150,000) AND IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6)**  
14 **YEARS BUT NOT MORE THAN FIFTEEN (15) YEARS SHALL BE**  
15 **IMPOSED UPON [A]any person who [willfully] WILFULLY and**  
16 **knowingly:**

17 “1. Uses or attempts to use[, ] any passport issued or  
18 designed for the use of another or any supporting document[s]  
19 for a passport application which belongs to another; or

20 “2. Uses or attempts to use any passport or supporting  
21 document in violation of the conditions or restrictions therein  
22 contained, or of the rules prescribed pursuant thereto; or

23 “3. Furnishes, disposes or delivers a passport to any  
24 person, [for use by another or other than the person for whose  
25 use it was originally issued or designed] **OTHER THAN TO THAT**  
26 **IN WHOSE NAME AND FOR WHOSE USE IT WAS ISSUED, EXCEPT**

1           WHEN THE APPLICANT IS A MINOR, A SENIOR CITIZEN OR  
2           PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY INCAPACITATED AND THE  
3           PASSPORT IS RELEASED TO THE PARENT, GUARDIAN OR  
4           IMMEDIATE RELATIVE: *PROVIDED*, THAT IN CASE OF AN  
5           EMERGENCY AND FOR HUMANITARIAN REASONS, AT THE  
6           DISCRETION OF THE HEAD OF THE OFFICE OF CONSULAR  
7           AFFAIRS OR THE HEAD OF THE CONSULAR SECTION OF ANY  
8           EMBASSY OR THE CONSUL GENERAL OF A CONSULATE, THE  
9           PASSPORT MAY BE RELEASED TO A THIRD PARTY UPON THE  
10          SUBMISSION OF A WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION FROM THE  
11          APPLICANT; or

12                 “4. Defaces or destroys a Philippine passport[.]. [shall be  
13                 punished by a fine of not less than Sixty thousand pesos  
14                 (P60,000) nor more than One hundred fifty thousand pesos  
15                 (P150,000) and imprisonment of not less than six (6) years nor  
16                 more than fifteen (15) years.]

17                 “e) *Offenses Relating to Multiple Possession: Penalties –*  
18                 No person or individual may hold more than one valid passport,  
19                 except as provided for in Section 7 hereof, and any individual  
20                 who possesses more than one unexpired passport shall, for every  
21                 unexpired passport found in his possession, be punished by a fine  
22                 of not less than Fifteen thousand pesos (P15,000) [nor] BUT NOT  
23                 more than Sixty thousand pesos (P60,000) and imprisonment of  
24                 not less than [eighteen (18) months but not more than six (6)  
25                 years] SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY BUT NOT MORE THAN  
26                 TWELVE (12) YEARS: *Provided*, That the maximum fine and  
27                 imprisonment shall be imposed by the court [if he] FOR ANY

1 attempt[s] to use or THE actual[ly] use[s] OF an unexpired  
2 passport which is not in [his] THE name OF THE USER.

3 "In case any of the offenses prohibited in this Act  
4 constitutes a violation of the Revised Penal Code and the penalty  
5 imposed in said Code is heavier than that provided in this Act,  
6 the latter penalty shall be imposed.

7 "F) *OFFENSES RELATING TO FORGERY OF VISAS AND*  
8 *ENTRY DOCUMENTS: PENALTIES* – A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN  
9 FIFTEEN THOUSAND PESOS (P15,000) BUT NOT MORE THAN  
10 SIXTY THOUSAND PESOS (P60,000) AND IMPRISONMENT OF  
11 NOT LESS THAN THREE (3) YEARS BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN  
12 (10) YEARS SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON ANY PERSON WHO:

13 "1. KNOWINGLY FORGES, COUNTERFEITS, ALTERS OR  
14 FALSELY MAKES ANY IMMIGRANT OR NONIMMIGRANT VISA,  
15 PERMIT, BORDER CROSSING CARD, ALIEN REGISTRATION CARD  
16 OR OTHER DOCUMENT PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE OR  
17 REGULATION FOR ENTRY INTO OR AS EVIDENCE OF  
18 AUTHORIZED STAY OR EMPLOYMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES OR  
19 ELSEWHERE WITH THE INTENT OF USING THE SAME; OR

20 "2. KNOWINGLY USES, ATTEMPTS TO USE, POSSESSES,  
21 OBTAINS, ACCEPTS OR RECEIVES ANY SUCH VISA, PERMIT,  
22 BORDER CROSSING CARD, ALIEN REGISTRATION RECEIPT CARD  
23 OR OTHER DOCUMENT PRESCRIBED BY STATUTE OR  
24 REGULATION FOR ENTRY INTO OR AS EVIDENCE OF  
25 AUTHORIZED STAY OR EMPLOYMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES OR  
26 ELSEWHERE, KNOWING IT TO BE FORGED, COUNTERFEITED,  
27 ALTERED OR FALSELY MADE, OR TO HAVE BEEN PROCURED BY  
28 MEANS OF ANY FALSE CLAIM OR STATEMENT, OR TO HAVE  
29 BEEN OTHERWISE PROCURED BY FRAUD OR UNLAWFULLY

1 OBTAINED: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE USE OF FORGED,  
2 COUNTERFEITED, ALTERED OR FALSELY MADE VISA, PERMIT,  
3 BORDER CROSSING CARD, ALIEN REGISTRATION CARD OR  
4 OTHER ENTRY DOCUMENT SHALL BE *PRIMA FACIE* EVIDENCE  
5 OF KNOWLEDGE; OR

6 "3. KNOWINGLY POSSESSES ANY BLANK PERMIT, OR  
7 ENGRAVES, SELLS, BRINGS INTO THE PHILIPPINES, OR HAS THE  
8 CONTROL OR POSSESSION IN ANY PLATE IN THE LIKENESS OF A  
9 PLATE DESIGNED FOR THE PRINTING OF PERMITS, OR MAKES  
10 ANY PRINT, PHOTOGRAPH OR IMPRESSION IN THE LIKENESS OF  
11 ANY IMMIGRANT OR NONIMMIGRANT VISA, PERMIT OR OTHER  
12 DOCUMENT REQUIRED FOR ENTRY INTO THE PHILIPPINES OR  
13 ELSEWHERE, OR HAS THE POSSESSION OF A DISTINCTIVE  
14 PAPER WHICH HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR  
15 THE PRINTING OF SUCH VISAS, PERMITS OR DOCUMENTS:  
16 *PROVIDED*, THAT THE PERSON WHO FORGES, COUNTERFEITS,  
17 ALTERS OR FALSELY MAKES ANY IMMIGRANT OR  
18 NONIMMIGRANT VISA, PERMIT, BORDER CROSSING CARD,  
19 ALIEN REGISTRATION CARD OR OTHER ENTRY DOCUMENT  
20 SHALL BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN SIXTY  
21 THOUSAND PESOS (P60,000) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE  
22 HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P150,000) AND  
23 IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) YEARS BUT NOT  
24 MORE THAN FIFTEEN (15) YEARS FOR EACH VISA OR ENTRY  
25 DOCUMENT.

26 "FINES AND PENALTIES PROVIDED FOR UNDER THIS  
27 SECTION SHALL BE IMPOSED IN THEIR MAXIMUM WHEN SAID  
28 ACTS ARE COMMITTED BY A SYNDICATE OR IN LARGE SCALE.  
29 ANY UNLAWFUL ACT UNDER THIS SECTION IS COMMITTED BY

1 A SYNDICATE IF CARRIED OUT BY A GROUP OF THREE (3) OR  
2 MORE PERSONS CONSPIRING AND CONFEDERATING WITH ONE  
3 ANOTHER. SUCH ACTS ARE COMMITTED IN LARGE SCALE IF  
4 COMMITTED AGAINST THREE (3) OR MORE PERSONS  
5 INDIVIDUALLY OR AS A GROUP.”

6 SEC. 21. Section 20 of the same Act if hereby renumbered and  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 “SEC. [20.] 21. *Suspension OR REVOCATION of*  
9 *Accreditation.* – TRAVEL OR RECRUITMENT AGENCIES AND  
10 OTHER PASSPORT-RELATED SERVICE PROVIDERS ARE  
11 ALLOWED THE PRIVILEGE TO TRANSACT BUSINESS WITH THE  
12 DEPARTMENT ON THE BASIS OF TRUST AND CONFIDENCE. FOR  
13 THE EXERCISE OF THIS PRIVILEGE, THESE PASSPORT SERVICE  
14 PROVIDERS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SECURE ACCREDITATION  
15 FROM THE DEPARTMENT.

16 “Any [duly accredited] travel or recruitment [agent or]  
17 agency AND OTHER PASSPORT SERVICE PROVIDERS [which]  
18 THAT violate[s the prescription on application for passport under  
19 Section 6 hereof] ANY PROVISION OF THIS ACT shall have  
20 [such] ITS accreditation suspended [without prejudice to civil,  
21 criminal or administrative sanctions including revocation of its  
22 license to operate] OR REVOKED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
23 SCHEDULE OF ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES TO BE  
24 FORMULATED BY THE DEPARTMENT. ANY SUCH SUSPENSION  
25 OR REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION SHALL BE WITHOUT  
26 PREJUDICE TO CIVIL SERVICE OR CRIMINAL SANCTIONS  
27 AGAINST THE AGENCY, ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS AND  
28 EMPLOYEES.

1           “The [mere] submission of spurious, forged or falsified  
2 documents supporting a passport application by any duly  
3 accredited travel or recruitment [agent or] agency **OR OTHER**  
4 **PASSPORT SERVICE PROVIDERS** shall be *prima facie* evidence  
5 that the said travel or recruitment [agent or] agency is the author  
6 of such forgery or falsification[.]: **PROVIDED, THAT THE**  
7 **SPURIOUS, FORGED OR FALSIFIED DOCUMENT SUBMITTED WAS**  
8 **SECURED BY THE TRAVEL OR RECRUITMENT AGENCY OR**  
9 **OTHER RELEVANT PASSPORT SERVICE PROVIDERS ON BEHALF**  
10 **OF ITS CLIENT.”**

11           **SEC. 22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary shall  
12 issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations to implement the  
13 provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from the date of its effectivity  
14 without extension or delays.

15           **SEC. 23. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is  
16 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby  
17 shall remain in full force and effect.

18           **SEC. 24. *Repealing Clause.*** – Republic Act No. 8239 and all other  
19 laws or parts thereof, decrees, orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with  
20 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified  
21 accordingly.

22           **SEC. 25. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
23 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2)  
24 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,