

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3506

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RECEIVED

06 SEP 2016

DATE:

TIME:

BY:

REGISTRATION UNIT

BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239 OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The right to travel is enshrined in the 1987 Philippine Constitution. As such, Filipinos, not otherwise prohibited or restrained by law, may travel and move freely to visit and work in other countries.

However, under Republic Act No. 8239 otherwise known as the "Philippine Passport Act of 1996", the validity of the Philippine passport is only five (5) years. This period seems to be too short for the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), travelers and tourists alike, that they are required to renew their passport before the expiration of the period of validity of their respective passports, making this requirement costly and cumbersome for the Filipinos.

This bill proposes to make the Philippine passport valid for ten (10) years. It is aimed to better serve the Filipinos by streamlining the process and making the passport validity longer, thereby allowing more time for Filipinos to enjoy the unimpaired right to travel.

In view of the foregoing, the prompt and timely passage of the proposal is earnestly requested.



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3506

Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

1 **AN ACT**
2 **AMENDING SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239 OTHERWISE KNOWN**
3 **AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"**
4

5
6 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the*
7 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*
8

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8239 otherwise known as the
10 "Philippine Passport Act of 1996" is hereby amended to read as follows:
11

12
13 SEC. 10. *Validity.* – Regular passports issued under this Act shall be
14 valid for a period of [five (5)] **TEN (10)** years: *Provided, however,* That
15 the issuing authority may limit the period of validity to less than [five
16 (5)] **TEN (10)** years; whenever in the national economic interest or
17 political stability of the country such restriction is necessary: *Provided,*
18 *finally,* That a new passport may be issued to replace one which
19 validity has expired, the old passport being returned to the holder after
20 cancellation.
21

22 **SEC. 2.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances letters or instructions,
23 rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed
24 or modified accordingly.
25

26 **SEC. 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
27 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

28 *Approved,*