

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3669**



Introduced by **HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The extension of the validity of Philippine passports is one of the items underscored by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in his inaugural State of the Nation Address last July. He stated the hardship that a Filipino has to go through to get a passport nowadays – that is getting an appointment, falling in line – sometimes even going to the extent of sleeping at the DFA office the night before just to ensure that they will get served on that particular day, and waiting for more than two (2) weeks just to get the passport.

Our people, especially those in the provinces transacting in DFA satellite offices, endure all of these just to get their hands on these valuable passports which will open up the world to them. They will be able to work in other countries and help their families improve their quality of life and for others, travel to other countries for leisure purposes.

It is the intention of this bill to amend the existing validity of our Philippine passports issued to adults from five (5) years to ten (10) years. Children or minors will still have to abide by the 5-year rule since their facial features change and needs to be updated, unlike those of an adult. Not only will it be cost effective to increase the validity, but rather it will also be work effective and less time consuming for all the people concerned.

It is for this reason that the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


GUS S. TAMBUNTING

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **3669**

Introduced by **HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING**

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 10 OF 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 the Congress assembled:

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

"Sec. 10. *Validity.* – Regular passports issued under this Act shall be valid for a period of five (5) years for minors, ages zero to seventeen (0-17) years old and ten (10) years for adults eighteen (18) years old and above: *Provided, however,* That the issuing authority may limit the period of validity to less than five (5) years; whenever in the national economic interest or political stability of the country such restriction is necessary: *Provided, finally,* That a new passport may be issued to replace one which validity has expired, the old passport being returned to the holder after cancellation."

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, regulations or parts or provisions of this Act, which are inconsistent herewith are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modified.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette and one (1) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,