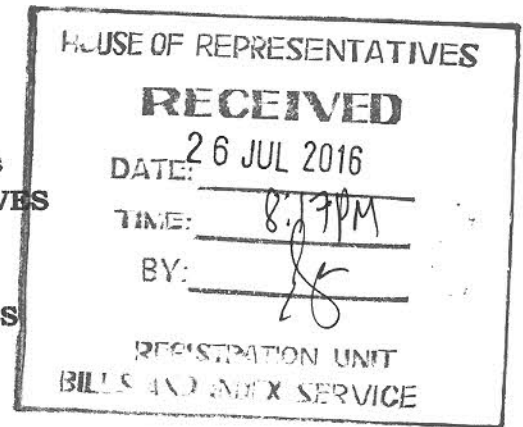


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1967



**Introduced by Honorable Estrellita B. Suansing and
Honorable Horacio P. Suansing, Jr.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to extend the validity of the Philippine passport being issued by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) from five (5) years to ten (10) years amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 8239, otherwise known as the Philippine Passport Act of 1996.

The proposed measure is intended to ease the burden of Filipino Overseas Workers (OFW) from having to renew their passports to travel and work abroad every five (5) years. Most OFWs have very little time and use their vacation to renew their passports. However, taking into account the other necessary permits that OFWs need to secure for employment overseas, the long duration of securing a passport appointment from DFA and processing time of passport applications, passports are not usually released in time for the travel abroad. Moreover, the extension of passport validity will lessen the number of applicants for passport renewal which congest offices of DFA.

In line with the pronouncement of His Excellency President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in his State of the Nation Address to extend the validity of passport from five (5) years to ten (10) years, the approval of this bill is strongly recommended.


ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING


HORACIO P. SUANSING, JR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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House Bill No. **1967**

**Introduced by Honorable Estrellita B. Suansing and
Honorable Horacio P. Suansing, Jr.**

AN ACT

**EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF THE PHILIPPINES PASSPORT, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in
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)] **TEN (10)** years: *Provided, however,* That
the issuing authority may limit the period of validity to less than [five (5)]
TEN (10) 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.”

SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or
inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended
accordingly.

SEC. 3. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,