

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1922**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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**Introduced by BENHUR L. SALIMBANGON**

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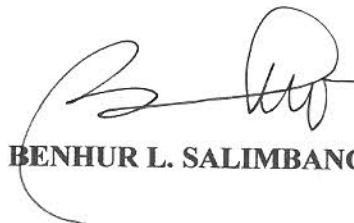
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to amend Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8239, otherwise known as the "Philippine Passport Act of 1996".

In other countries such as the United States of America, Canada and China to name a few, the validity of the passport given to their citizens is ten (10) years. Under Philippine law, the validity of regular passports given to its citizens is only five (5) years.

In order to give the Filipino citizens at par privilege enjoyed by other citizens of their respective countries and in support of the new administration's proposed policy, there is a need to amend Republic Act No. 8239 by increasing the validity of regular passports issued from five (5) years to ten (10) years for those aged twelve (12) years and above while those aged twelve (12) years below shall remain at five (5) years considering the change of appearance of children as they grow older.

In view of the foregoing premises, approval of this bill is highly recommended.

  
**BENHUR L. SALIMBANGON**

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**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**Section 1.** Section 10 of 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 **ten years (10) for citizens aged twelve years and above and five (5) years for citizens aged twelve years below**; *Provided, however,* That the issuing authority may limit the period of validity to less than **ten years and five (5) years, accordingly**; 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 expired, the old passport being returned to the holder after cancellation.

**Section 2.** All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**Section 3.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

**Approved,**