

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. 3075



Introduced by **Hon. ROSANNA "RIA" V. VERGARA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Mr. Joseph Sigelman, an American citizen, who is currently the Chief Executive Officer of Atlantic, Gulf & Pacific Company of Manila (AG&P).

Born on the 6th of February 1971 in New York, USA, Mr. Sigelman first came to the Philippines in 2004 and established a home in Manila. Struck by the immense talent in this country and by the possibilities of developing an important company that would play a leadership role on the world stage, Mr. Sigelman and a group of other shareholders led the acquisition of AG&P in 2010. While AG&P had a long, glorious heritage in the Philippines, it became commercially slow in recent years. Thus, under Mr. Sigelman's leadership, AG&P then developed into a global powerhouse not only in construction and infrastructure modularization, but also in LNG supply chain design, development and gas marketing. Through his tenure, AG&P has executed over \$1 billion worth of new contracts, much of it related to LNG. Growing at a fast rate, AG&P is also pursuing projects to build or expand domestic petrochemical facilities, power plants and refineries. AG&P has over \$200 million worth of physical assets in the Philippines; it has made significant investments in developing and modernizing its facilities, which covers 150 hectares in Batangas. Under Mr. Sigelman's stewardship, AG&P has become a respected company not only in the Philippines, but a Philippine company respected across the world.

It is equally worthy to note that AG&P also invests heavily in developing its Filipino workforce through training and education. With Mr. Sigelman's guidance, AG&P has developed a significant in-house training institution in partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, with an annual training capacity of 1,500 personnel. AG&P has upskilled the local workforce to global-leading safety and quality standards across disciplines such as welding, piping, structural fitting, scaffolding, insulation,

electrical and instrumentation. Indeed, such efforts have directly transformed the lives and prospects of our Filipino workers.

Moreover, as of July 2019, AG&P has completed 57 million safe man-hours, which is a global benchmark reflecting AG&P's strong processes and cultures. Having accomplished this, AG&P is thus able to work with many of the world's top engineering, construction and LNG companies and this consequently contribute to the expansion of business and employment in the Philippines.

At the same time, AG&P has also selected a local community under its 'Adopt-A-Community Series' program with the endorsement from the Department of Social Welfare and Development in Bauan, Batangas. AG&P is initiating the process of providing an avenue for social improvement and development not only through the construction of a reading room facility in San Teodoro Elementary School but also through its assistance and sponsorships for students' school supplies. AG&P also supports the sharing of subject matter expertise to households and community members with respect to various matters such as fire and household safety, livelihood training and workshops for women, school leadership for elementary students and career workshops for high-school students. Furthermore, AG&P will lead the construction of community facilities such as a youth basketball court. Finally, AG&P continues to educate stakeholders about basic healthcare and provides free and supplemental medical and dental services, including consultations and free medicines.

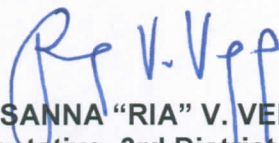
Prior to all these noteworthy endeavors with AG&P, Mr. Sigelman received his bachelor's degree from the Woodrow Wilson School in Princeton University in 1993 and his Master of Business Administration degree from Harvard Business School in 1997. He began his career as an investment banker in New York with Lazard Frères, before joining Goldman Sachs in London. His first company, OfficeTiger, a start-up that focused on the provision of accounting, legal, pre-media and other judgment-driven services, was sold for \$250 million to RR Donnelley. For his achievements early on, the World Economic Forum 2008 named Mr. Sigelman a Young Global Leader. He also became a Life Member of the Council on Foreign Relations and was named by Business Week Magazine as Annual Star of Asia 2006.

As seen from the foregoing, Mr. Sigelman has indisputably shown not only his noteworthy skills and hard work, but more importantly his deep love for the Philippines and its people. He wishes to continue to invest significantly both in AG&P and in other domestic ventures to drive Filipino exports and do his part for the economy. Indeed, such sincere

commitment to the country anchors his wish to become a citizen and to make his life here together with his wife, Ayesha, and his children, Maya Jessica and Daniel Cyrus, who were both born in the Philippines.

Truly, Mr. Sigelman has embraced Filipino culture, tradition and ideals and would cherish his citizenship in the Philippines dearly. To grant Joseph Sigelman the privilege of becoming a Filipino citizen would be a testament to the country's appreciation and recognition of his valuable contributions to the Philippines' growth and development. More so, this privilege will allow him to truly call the Philippines a home for himself and his family.

In view of this, immediate approval of this bill is humbly and earnestly sought.


ROSANNA "RIA" V. VERGARA
Representative, 3rd District of Nueva Ecija

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3075

Introduced by Rep. Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara

AN ACT
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO JOSEPH SIGELMAN

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Mr. Joseph Sigelman is hereby granted Philippine citizenship with all
2 the rights, privileges and prerogatives, as well as the duties and obligations appurtenant
3 thereto under the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of the Philippines.
4

5 **SEC. 2.** Mr. Joseph Sigelman shall take the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of the
6 Philippines before an officer duly authorized to administer the same. The Oath of Allegiance
7 shall be registered with the Bureau of Immigration.
8

9 **SEC. 3.** Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of Immigration shall
10 issue a Certificate of Naturalization to Mr. Joseph Sigelman who shall thereupon enter into
11 the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship.
12

13 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
14 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
15

16 Approved,
17