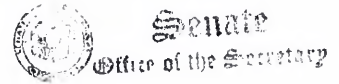


**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
*First Regular Session*

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'22 JUL 14 P 6 :26

**SENATE**  
S. No. 657

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Introduced by Senator Raffy T. Tulfo**

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**AN ACT GRANTING LIFETIME VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS  
ISSUED TO SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE  
SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
"PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996", AS AMENDED**

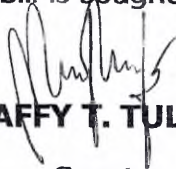
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In the myriad of values that the Filipino possesses, perhaps one of the most admirable is the respect he gives to his elders. In fact, the practice that caring for the elderly is a responsibility of their children is deeply rooted as firmly in the Filipino society as it is elsewhere in Southeast Asia. Such thriving tradition of respect is clearly mirrored in the number of laws that we have passed over the years, including but not limited to retirement benefits, pensions, free and discounted medical goods and services, easier access to basic goods, transportation, accommodations, and activities of leisure.

To continue the tradition of making the lives of the elderly more comfortable, this bill seeks to grant senior citizens a lifetime validity for Philippine passports issued or renewed in their favor from the age of sixty years (60) and above.

Through this simple amendment to the Philippine Passport Act of 1996, the process of renewing their passport would be made easier and more convenient to senior citizens, and this will save them from the rigors of travelling to the passport renewal center or having to stand or wait unnecessarily for hours, thereby risking their health.

In view of thereof, the immediate passage of this bill is sought.



**RAFFY T. TULFO**  
Senator



**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )**  
First Regular Session )

'22 JUL 14 P 6 :26

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

**SENATE**

S. No. 657

**Introduced by Senator Raffy T. Tulfo**

**AN ACT**

**GRANTING LIFETIME VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS ISSUED TO SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996", AS AMENDED**

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

1           SECTION 1. Short Title.- This Act shall be known as the "Lifetime Passports for the  
2 Senior Citizens Act".

3           Sec. 2. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8239, otherwise known as the "Philippine  
4 Passports Act of 1996", as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

5  
6           "SEC. 10. Validity- Regular passports issued under this Act shall be valid for a  
7 period of ten (10) years: Provided, however, That act for individuals under eighteen (18)  
8 years of age, only a passport with five (5) – years validity shall be issued: Provided,  
9 further, That the issuing authority may limit the period of validity to less than (10) years,  
10 whenever in the national economic interest or political stability of the country such

1 restriction is necessary; Provided, finally, That a new passport may be issued to replace  
2 one which validity has expired, the old passport being returned to the holder after  
3 cancellation.

4

5 **"PASSPORTS OF SENIOR CITIZENS ISSUED OR RENEWED AT THE**  
6 **AGE OF SIXTTY (60) YEARS AND ABOVE SHALL HAVE LIFETIME**  
7 **VALIDITY."**

8

9 Sec. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – To carry out the provisions of this  
10 Act, the Department of Foreign Affairs in coordination with the National Commission on  
11 Senior Citizens shall, within sixty (60) days for the effectivity of this Act, issue the  
12 implementing rules and regulations for this Act.

13 Sec. 4.- Separability Clause.- Should any provision of this Act or the application  
14 thereof to any person or circumstance be held invalid, the other provisions or sections of  
15 this Act shall not be affected thereby.

16 Sec. 5. – Repealing Clause.- All laws, decrees executive orders, rules and  
17 regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,  
18 amended or modified accordingly.

19 Sec. 6. Effectivity Clause.- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its  
20 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,