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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'22 AUG -1 P 1:43

SENATE
S. No. 971

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 5, PARAGRAPH 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9225,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CITIZENSHIP RETENTION AND RE-
ACQUISITION ACT OF 2003"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 9925, otherwise known as the "Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of 2003", declares that Philippine citizens of other countries shall be deemed not to have lost their Philippine citizenship, subject to some conditions under the said Act.

Generally, natural-born Filipinos of foreign citizenship merely need to take an oath of allegiance to the Philippines. However, R.A No. 9225 sets additional conditions for (a) those intending to exercise their right to suffrage; (b) those seeking elective office, (c) those appointed to public office, and (d) those intending to practice their profession in the Philippines.

Particularly for those who are to be appointed to public office, R.A No. 9225 requires dual citizens to renounce their oath of allegiance to the foreign country where they took that oath. Although the intent of this provision may be laudable, it is problematic for employees of the University of the Philippines (UP) system and other State Universities and Colleges (SUCs).

Some professors of UP and other SUC's have studied and even taught in other countries. In some cases, these professors may have had taken up dual citizenship to do so. However, when they return to the Philippines, they are required to renounce their oath of allegiance to the other country as a condition for reappointment. This may pose as a hindrance to our *kababayans* who would have wanted to share their expertise and knowledge to Filipino students.

This bill thus seeks to amend the relevant provision of R.A No. 9225 to exempt employees of UP and other SUC'S from the requirement to renounce their oath of allegiance to another country as a condition for their appointment. The proposed amendment will enable Filipino professors and experts of foreign citizenship to return to our country and impart their hard-earned wisdom.

In light of the foregoing, urgent approval of this measure is eagerly sought.



GRACE POE



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

1 Section 1. *Amendatory Provision.* Section 5, Paragraph 3 of Republic Act No.
2 9225, otherwise known as the "Citizenship and Re-acquisition Act of 2003" is hereby
3 amended as follows;

4 **"SECTION 5. *Civil and Political Rights and Liabilities.*** – Those
5 who retain or re-acquire Philippine citizenship under this Act shall enjoy
6 full civil and political rights and be subject to all attendant liabilities and
7 responsibilities under existing laws of the Philippines and the following
8 conditions;

9 (1) xxx

10 (2) xxx

11 (3) Those appointed to any public office shall subscribe and
12 swear to an oath of allegiance to the Republic of the
13 Philippines and as duly constituted authorities prior to their
14 assumption of office. *Provided,* That they renounce their
15 oath of allegiance to the country where they took that oath.

16 ***PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT APPOINTEES TO THE***
17 ***UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AND OTHER***
18 ***STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES SHALL NOT BE***

1 **REQUIRED TO MAKE SUCH RENUNCIATION AS A**
2 **CONDITION FOR THEIR APPOINTMENT;**

3 (4)xxx

4 (5)xxx"

5 Sec. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations
6 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
7 accordingly.

8 Sec. 3. *Effectively Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
9 following its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspaper of general
10 circulation.

 Approved,