

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HB No. 385

Introduced by Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga

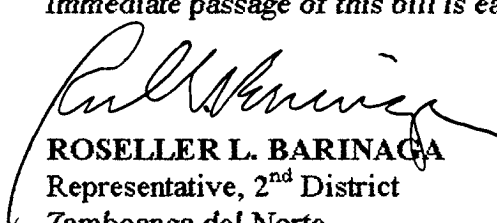
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill requires the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency (POEA) to include in its program for overseas employment the mandatory teaching of basic self-defense techniques for women applicants. The teaching of such shall be free of charge.

For the past decades now, there had been alarming upsurge of violence especially against women, our overseas women employees abroad included. Because of their apparent vulnerable conditions in the workplace, they have often become prone to assault, harassment, rape, and other forms of violence.

These alleged forms of violence against our women overseas employees can be averted by a program that will require our women overseas employees to face not only the psychological and emotional challenges confronting them while productively employed abroad apart from their respective families. By mandating them to take lessons on basic self-defense techniques, they will not only be physically prepared, they will at the same time develop that martial arts discipline which will hopefully help them achieve their respective visions in life while productively employed abroad.

Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



ROSELLER L. BARINAGA
Representative, 2nd District
Zamboanga del Norte

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB No. 385

Introduced by Rep. Roseller L. Barinaga

AN ACT

**MANDATING THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT AGENCY (POEA) TO
INCLUDE IN ITS PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT THE MANDATORY
TEACHING OF BASIC SELF-DEFENSE TECHNIQUES FOR WOMEN APPLICANTS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. The Philippine Overseas Employment Agency (POEA) is hereby mandated to include in its program for overseas employment the mandatory teaching of basic self-defense techniques for women applicants.

SEC. 2. Pursuant to Section 1 hereof, the POEA shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provision of this Act. The POEA may collaborate with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and other local martial arts organizations for the furtherance of this Act.

SEC. 3. All laws, presidential decrees, or issuance, executive orders, letters of instruction, rules or regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.