

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



**Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 2102

Introduced by Honorable Antonio V. Cuenco

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to allow late registrants to register their birth in the Office of the Local Civil Registrar either of the place of their residence or of the place of their birth.

Government surveys reveal that every year, twenty-five percent (25%) to forty percent (40%) of all births occurring in the country are not registered in the Office of the Local Civil Registrar as required by law. A significant number of these Filipinos that include minors have migrated to other parts of the country, especially in urban and metropolitan centers like Manila, Cebu, and Davao, mainly for employment and economic opportunities. They left their place of birth without having themselves or their children registered before the Local Civil Registrar. Consequently, they encountered problems like enrolling their children in school, applying for a job, applying before SSS, GSIS, Pag-Ibig, of Philhealth as a member or their children as beneficiaries, applying for passport and foreign visa, marriage application because of the birth certificate requirement in their transactions.

Economic and financial constraints make it difficult for them to return to their place of birth to have their births registered in the Office of the Local Civil Registrar of the city or municipality as required by law. One way to help them is to allow them to register their births in the Office of the Civil Registrar of their present place of residence but subject to certain conditions such as that registrants shall submit a declaration by a person who can attest to the true date, place, and other pertinent circumstances of their births. Such declaration will serve as deterrence for making false statement in the birth registration form.

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The proposed measure will also encourage people whose births have not yet been registered to register their birth in the Local Civil Registrar which in turn, would provide a primary source of vital statistics for use in various population studies in order to formulate more effective health and social plans for the country. This legislation will serve another landmark in the continuing efforts of the government to improve the social condition of the people with the aid of accurate vital statistics.

In view of the foregoing consideration, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.



ANTONIO V. CUENCO

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**AN ACT
ALLOWING LATE REGISTRANTS TO REGISTER THEIR BIRTH IN THE OFFICE
OF THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF EITHER THE PLACE OF THEIR
RESIDENCE OR THE PLACE OF THEIR BIRTH.**

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

SECTION 1. All late registrants are allowed to register their birth in the office of the Local Civil Registrar of either the place of their residence or the place of their birth.

The late registrants shall submit to the Office of the Local Civil Registrar a declaration by either parent or a responsible member of the family or a relative, or any person who has knowledge of the birth of the late registrant.

The declaration referred to above shall be accompanied by an affidavit describing the circumstances surrounding the delayed registration.

SECTION. 2. No fees of any kind shall be imposed for the late registration of births, neither shall documentary stamp tax be imposed on the declaration to be submitted by the late registrants.

SECTION 3. The Civil Registrar-General shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. Any person required under this Act to make a declaration for registration, any fact concerning the birth of the registrant and who fails to do so, or



deliberately makes false statements in the birth form and presents the same for registration, or who violates any rules or regulation which may be issued pursuant to this Act, shall, upon conviction, be punished a fine of not less than Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00), or imprisonment of not less than three (3) months nor more than six (6) months, or both, in the discretion of the Court.

SECTION 5. All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules and regulations, executive or administrative orders, and other presidential issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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