

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1286

Introduced by **Rep. Pablo P. Garcia**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has become public knowledge that some of the foreigners coming to the Philippines in order to marry Filipino women are vagabonds or social and moral derelicts in their own country and whose real motive for marriage is only to take advantage and exploit our women by making our women work for them and worse, by sending them to prostitution and other degrading and dehumanizing occupations.

The exploitation of our Filipino women, thru the so-called mail-order or pen-pal marriages, has not only caused untold miseries and suffering to our Filipino women but it has also brought dishonor and disgrace to the Filipino womanhood.

The attached bill is intended to protect our Filipino women from these undesirable foreigners by requiring the prospective husband to provide himself with a certificate of good moral character and a certificate that he has a gainful trade, business or employment, to be issued by his country's diplomatic or consular official, in addition to the usual certificate of legal capacity.

In view of the foregoing, approval hereof is earnestly sought.



PABLO P. GARCIA

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AN ACT
AMENDING ARTICLE 66 OF THE CIVIL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES IN ORDER
TO PRESCRIBE ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR MALE CITIZENS OR
SUBJECTS OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY DESIRING TO MARRY A FILIPINO
WOMAN

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

SECTION 1. Article 217 of the Civil Code is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Art. 66. When either or both of the contracting parties are citizens or subjects of a foreign country, it shall be necessary, before a marriage license can be obtained, to provide themselves with a certificate of legal capacity to contract marriage, to be issued by their respective diplomatic or consular officials. PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT WHEN ONE OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES IS A MALE CITIZEN OR SUBJECT OF A FOREIGN COUNTRY DESIRING TO MARRY A FEMALE CITIZEN OF THE PHILIPPINES, IN ADDITION TO THE CERTIFICATE OF LEGAL CAPACITY, THE FOREIGN SUBJECT OR CITIZEN SHALL PROVIDE HIMSELF WITH A CERTIFICATE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER AND A CERTIFICATE THAT HE HAS A GAINFUL TRADE, BUSINESS OR EMPLOYMENT, TO BE ISSUED BY HIS DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR OFFICIAL, BEFORE A MARRIAGE LICENSE CAN BE OBTAINED."

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,