

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

1445

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by Honorable **CARMELO F. LAZATIN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

More popularly known for his boxing stint as a referee representing the Philippines, the Auckland, New Zealand-born Bruce Donald Mc Tavish first arrived in the Philippines on February 12, 1967. He is best recognized for his exemplary contributions in the City of Angeles as manifested in various projects that no other foreigner or natural born citizen Filipino in the City has accomplished as a sportsman, entrepreneur, civic leader, devout Catholic and a philanthropist.

Being a popular sportsman, Mc Tavish popularized international darts in the Philippines and has championed five international tournaments that were held in Pampanga and Manila. As boxing referee for over 35 years, he has been recognized by the Games and Amusements Board and had spearheaded seminars for ring officials around the country sponsored by the board and the World Boxing Council (WBC).

While as an entrepreneur, he was included among the pioneer investors at the then Clark Special Economic Zone, now Clark Freeport Zone. His exemplary business skills and leadership seated him as the President of the Hotel and Restaurant Association of Pampanga (HARP) and the only non-Filipino to become a director of the Metro Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

As a civic leader, he became the president of the Rotary Club of Mabalacat in 1983 and who instigated the first anti-polio program of the international club worldwide. In 1999, he also became the president of the Rotary Club of Clark Centennial and together with some notable members, the Rotary Club of Clark Centennial Street Children Foundation, Inc. was formed.

Being a devout Catholic, he had actively participated in different religious organizations such

as the Knights of Columbus in 1969 as a Grand Knight and in 1971 as the first non-Filipino appointed District Deputy; and St. James Cursillo as president in 1972 and a lector the following years.

Above all these exemplary rosters of achievements, Mc Tavish is best admired for his philanthropic works advancing the plight of street children. In fact, he consistently raised funds to support the education and subsistence of 71 school children and provided lodging to 35 of them. As a former international rugby player, he was also successful in motivating the street children to engage in sports by introducing rugby-football in 2005. In fact, out of the nine tournaments held, seven were championed by the said children. Further, he hosted the first Pony League Baseball Tournament elimination Series at the "Angeles Bahay Bata Center," which was participated by teams from Japan, Hong Kong, Taiwan and two other Filipino Teams.

With these exemplary achievements, he was bestowed the privilege as an Honorary Citizen of Angeles City by the City Council. Indeed, in his forty year-stay in Angeles City, Mc Tavish had embraced Philippine customs, traditions and ideals. Hence, he decided to become a citizen of the Republic of the Philippines and make the Philippines as his permanent home, which he shall forever pledge and hold loyalty, obedience and allegiance.

Section 1 (4), Article IV of the 1987 Constitution provides that those who are naturalized in accordance with law are considered citizens of the Philippines. By granting citizenship to Bruce Donald Mc Tavish, the undersigned hereby bestow upon him all the rights and corresponding obligations appurtenant thereto as a natural born Filipino citizen.

In view of the foregoing issues, the approval of this bill is ardently sought.


CARMELO F. LAZATIN
First District, Pampanga

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Quezon City, Metro Manila

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AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO BRUCE DONALD MC TAVISH

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

SECTION 1. Bruce Donald Mc Tavish is hereby granted Philippine citizenship with all the rights, privilege and prerogatives appurtenant thereto.

Upon taking and registration of the oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines, Bruce Donald Mc Tavish shall enter the full enjoyment of the Philippine citizenship.

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule of regulation contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,