

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5735



Introduced by Honorable **EDUARDO R. GULLAS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to confer the privilege of Filipino citizenship Fr. Theodore Podson, an American National, through a special act of Congress.

Naturalization by direct legislative action is a discretion of the legislature and this is usually granted as a privilege, not a right, to aliens who have made outstanding contributions to the country.

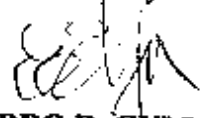
Fr. Podson, presently serving as a Catholic Chaplain in the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center at Cebu City, has developed deep appreciation of and love for the people he serves, especially poor patients and students, and for the country as a whole.

Fr. Podson's love for the country and the Filipino people compelled him to dedicate these five years of his life as well, as spiritual advisor of marriage encounter couples and as advocate for national health groups on drug and alcohol dependency.

Fr. Podson has manifested his desire to live in the Philippines, to be fully integrated into the home and hearts of every Filipino, "for the rest of his life," and "to be a Filipino in activity with all the responsibilities and pride as a Pinoy."

By virtue of his invaluable contributions to the moral, spiritual and social growth of the Philippines, Fr. Podson has proven his worth to be granted all the rights, privileges and prerogatives of a citizen of the Philippines.

In the light of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


EDUARDO R. GULLAS

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AN ACT
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO REV. FR. THEODORE PODSON

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

SECTION 1. Rev. Fr. Theodore Podson is hereby granted Philippine citizenship with all the rights, privileges and prerogatives appurtenant thereto.

SEC. 2. Upon the taking and registration of the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines before the Bureau of Immigration and the issuance to him of the Certificate of Naturalization, Rev. Fr. Theodore Podson shall enter upon the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,