

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HB No. 5419



Introduced by **Honorable Antonio F. Lagdameo, Jr.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

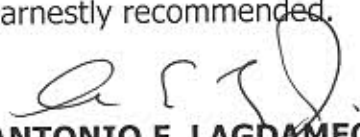
This bill seeks to mandate the use of middle name in all documents or transactions where the name of the person is required.

Articles 364 to 380, Title XIII (Use of Surnames) of the Civil Code of the Philippines, as amended by the Family Code, specifically provides for the use of surnames by, among others, legitimate and legitimated children and married women. Ordinarily, the full name of a person consists of a given name, a middle name which is the last name of the mother and the surname, last name or family name. In all cases, however, a person is not required to include a middle name in the full name of a person. Middle names are usually expressed only in initials.

This bill aims to make use of the middle name in identifying a person. The middle name immediately establishes the parentage or lineage of a person. Requiring the use of the middle name in all official transactions and documents lessens the opportunity to hide a person's true identity.

Our name symbolizes our honor and integrity. Once our name is destroyed or tarnished it may be equivalent to loss of life. The inclusion of the family name of a mother who is usually the closest to a person's heart will encourage and motivate our citizens to care for and defend their dear name.

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


ANTONIO F. LAGDAMEO, JR.

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE USE OF THE MIDDLENAME IN ALL DOCUMENTS
OR TRANSACTIONS WHERE THE NAME OF THE PERSON IS REQUIRED

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

Section 1. Every person shall use a middle name in all documents or transactions where the name of a person is required. The middle name is the maiden name of the mother, as registered in the Certificate of live birth subject to the following exceptions:

- a) In the case of an adopted child, the middle name shall be decided upon by the adopter following the legal adoption; and
- b) In case of a child born out of wedlock, the mother or the person who has custody of the child shall choose the middle name of the child.

Section 2. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,