

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 6115



Introduced by **Representative Ron P. Salo**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Paragraph 1 of Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9225, specifically provide that "[t]hose who retain or re-acquire Philippine Citizenship (dual citizens) shall enjoy full civil and political rights and be subject to all attendant liabilities and responsibilities under existing laws of the Philippines." Although granted full civil and political rights, dual citizens, however, are prejudiced and disadvantaged in that they cannot seek appointment in public office without renouncing their oath of allegiance to the country where they took that oath. Many of them wish to seek appointment in UP and other State Universities and Colleges, in order to teach or share their knowledge and expertise.

Filipinos abound overseas, and through exposures in advances in education, employment and working conditions, many of these Filipinos have acquired extensive learning, education, skills, experience, and expertise in different fields and professions that the Philippine Government could tap and harness for national development, welfare and progress. Many of these highly educated and trained Filipino experts have also retained or re-acquired their Philippine Citizenships or have become dual citizens under the terms provided for in Republic Act No. 9225.

From experience, there are dual citizens who, because of patriotic impulses and love for the country, are willing to leave their lucrative and comfortable lives abroad and return to the Philippines in order to teach, do research work, or share their knowledge and expertise in UP and other SUCs. These dual citizens, however, are prevented from doing so because of what they believe to be burdensome or impractical requirements imposed on them for appointment in public office, such as that mentioned in Section 5, paragraph 3 of RA 9225 requiring them to renounce their oath of allegiance to the country where they took that oath.

It is worthy to note that professors of foreign citizenship have a distinct advantage in that they generally only need to, among others, secure an alien employment permit and a working visa from the government in order to be allowed to teach in universities locally, whether private or public. Yet, dual citizens, are required

to renounce their oath of allegiance in order to be appointed to public office, including those positions available in UP and the SUCs.

It should be understood that their inability to renounce their oath of allegiance is oftentimes merely for practical purposes. They or their families abroad wish to continue to enjoy or take advantage of educational, health, pension, unhampered travel without visas, and other benefits that in fact they have earned.

In order to enable the country to benefit from the learning, education, skills, experience, and expertise of dual citizens for national development, necessary amendments to RA 9225 has to be made.

Thus, the immediate approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


RON P. SALO
KABAYAN Partylist

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 5, PARAGRAPH 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9225
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CITIZENSHIP RETENTION AND RE-
ACQUISITION ACT OF 2003"

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

SECTION 1. Amendment to Section 5, paragraph 3 of Republic Act No. 9225. – Section 5, paragraph 3 of Republic Act No. 9225 otherwise known as the "Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of 2003" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 5. Civil and Political Rights and Liabilities - Those who retain or re-acquire Philippine citizenship under this Act shall enjoy full civil and political rights and be subject to all attendant liabilities and responsibilities under existing laws of the Philippines and the following conditions:

- 1) Xxx
- 2) Xxx
- 3) Those appointed to any public office shall subscribe and swear to an oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines and its duly constituted authorities prior to their assumption of office: *Provided*, that they renounce their oath of allegiance to the country where they took that oath; PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT APPOINTEES TO THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AND OTHER STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO MAKE SUCH RENUNCIATION AS A CONDITION FOR THEIR APPOINTMENT;

4) xxx

5) xxx"

SEC. 2. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders and issuances, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.