

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 8192



Introduced by **REP. MANUEL ANTONIO F. ZUBIRI**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The principles of jus soli and jus sanguinis have conservatively shaped the various criteria for citizenship in most constitutions of any nation-state. However, the development of technology has enabled man to travel all over the globe in search of various pursuits—some of which are identity, the feeling of belongingness and home, and of connection. Thus, some keep on going back, or keep on staying despite being a foreigner in a land far from where they were born. Indeed, many foreigners have come to our land and found connection with our people thereby contributing immensely to the development of certain communities, or to the country at large. It is through this selfless acts and adoption of our people and land that make them Filipinos.

This is the reasoning behind this bill aiming to grant Filipino citizenship to Kitson Soriano Kho, thirty-three years of age, born 8 September 1984 and hailing from China. Though a Chinese citizen owing to his place of birth, Mr. Kho is Filipino by blood—his grandfather is Filipino, and they are based in Isabela. His father was even vested the Order of Lapu-Lapu by President Duterte himself. Outside of his ancestry, one could argue that his life's work has made him Filipino. He has spent the last twelve years in the Philippines, arriving in 2006 and staying here to fulfill his job as CEO of Am-Phil and UAA Kinming, companies that contribute greatly to the Philippine economy, and create numerous job opportunities for Filipinos, with greater prospects of job creation ahead once their reclamation project in Manila Bay commences. Aside from his company's economic contributions, Mr. Kho has devoted himself to social causes as well, particularly to the eradication of the country's drug problem. Believing in the power of rehabilitation and second chances, he donated 700 million pesos to help fund the Northern Mindanao Wellness and Reintegration Center in Malaybalay, Bukidnon, a facility that is envisioned to provide care for recovering patients from all social classes. This is an invaluable contribution, and it only skims the charity work that Mr. Kho has involved himself in. Mr. Kho, in helping to uplift the lives of countless Filipinos, has proven his love for this country and its people, thus making him worthy of the privilege to be granted Filipino citizenship.

Thus, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

MANUEL ANTONIO F. ZUBIRI
Representative
3rd District, Bukidnon

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AN ACT
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO KITSON SORIANO KHO

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

Section 1. Mr. Kitson Soriano Kho is hereby granted Philippine citizenship with all the rights, privileges and prerogatives, as well as the duties and obligations appurtenant thereto under the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of the Philippines.

Sec. 2. Upon taking his Oath of Allegiance before an officer duly authorized for this purpose, and the registration of the same with the Bureau of Immigration, Mr. Kitson Soriano Kho shall enter upon the full enjoyment of his Philippine citizenship.

Sec. 3. Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of Immigration shall issue Mr. Kitson Soriano Kho his Certificate of Naturalization.

Sec. 4. This Act shall take effect immediately upon publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,