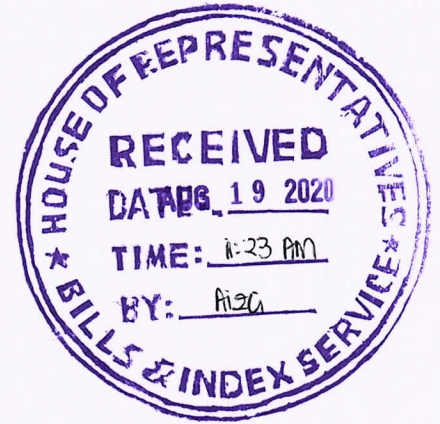


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 7427**



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Introduced by **Representative Manuel Luis T. Lopez**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

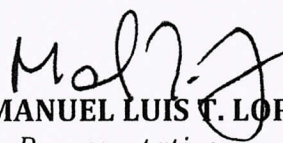
The proposed measure seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to one of the leading football players in the country, Mr. Bienvenido Marañón.

Marañón moved to the Philippines in 2015 to join then-Ceres Football Club. He has since been proudly representing and playing for the Ceres-Negros Team in the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Champions League.

In his five-year football career in the Philippines, Marañón has shown exceptional skills complemented by commendable work ethics. He is known as one of the most prolific scorers in Southeast Asia.<sup>1</sup> Currently, Marañón is the leading goal scorer of the Philippines Football League and the all-time top scorer in the AFC Cup after scoring his 35th goal in Ceres-Negros's 4-0 win against Bali United on 11 March 2020. In fact, Marañón is credited as the catalyst for the Philippines' growing reputation as a football powerhouse in Southeast Asia.<sup>2</sup>

If granted the opportunity to play for the Philippines, Marañón will undoubtedly be an invaluable asset to the national football team, the Azkals, and bring pride and honor to our country. This will also be an opportunity on the part of Congress to contribute to the Philippines' success in the global football arena.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**HON. MANUEL LUIS T. LOPEZ**  
*Representative*  
*1<sup>st</sup> District, City of Manila*

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<sup>1</sup> Reuben Terrado, Prolific Spanish striker Marañón signs with United City FC, spin.ph, August 2, 2020. <https://www.spin.ph/football/pfl/spanish-striker-bienvenido-mara-on-signs-with-united-city-fc-a795-20200802>

<sup>2</sup> Gabriel Tan, Bienvenido Marañón powering Ceres-Negros FC's evolution into Asian football powerhouse, April 20, 2020. [https://www.espn.com/espn/story/\\_/id/29050319/bienvenido-maranon-keys-ceres-negros-fc-evolution-asian-football-power](https://www.espn.com/espn/story/_/id/29050319/bienvenido-maranon-keys-ceres-negros-fc-evolution-asian-football-power)

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**AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO BIENVENIDO MARAÑÓN**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** Mr. Bienvenido Marañón is hereby granted Philippine citizenship  
2 with all the rights, privileges, and prerogatives, as well as the duties and obligations  
3 appurtenant thereto and with the same effects and subject to the same conditions as  
4 provided under the Constitution.

5  
6           **SEC. 2.** After taking the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of the Philippine before  
7 an officer duly authorized for this purpose, the registration of the same with the Bureau  
8 of Immigration, and the issuance to him of the Certificate of Naturalization, Mr.  
9 Bienvenido Marañón shall enter upon full enjoyment of the Philippine citizenship.

10  
11           **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
12 *Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

13  
14           Approved,