

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1315**



Introduced by **Representative JOEY SARTE SALCEDA**

AN ACT
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO KUO-CHIH SU

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A Taiwanese national who have been residing in the Philippines for decades now who are deemed to be highly qualified as development investors because their hearts are inclined towards this country.

Mr. KUO-CHIH SU, was born in Taiwan, or the Republic of China. Despite the fact that they have been accustomed to a life of ease in Taiwan, they chose to come to the Philippines in 1994. Mr. Kuo-Chih Su has manifested their intense desire to become Filipino citizens and have learned to embrace and practice Filipino culture. In fact, all of their children studied and finished their education in the Philippines.

He migrated to the Philippines, with their business acumen, their personal wealth, and their dignity. In 1994, they put up their first business establishment in the Philippines: the New Formosa Shabu-Shabu Restaurant in Mabini Street, Malate, Manila, with an initial capital investment of Two Million Pesos.

At the height of the Asian Financial Crisis in 1997, the brothers, undeterred by the risk of sinking, invested another Twenty-Five Million Pesos worth of a new restaurant in Quezon City.

While the rest of the Southeast Asian countries were still experiencing the drawbacks of the crisis and the Philippines was just surviving a political turmoil, the brothers continued to venture into economic investments in the country worth millions and billions of pesos, such as the Sung Yueh Construction in 2003; the MSK Group in 2005-2010; and the Weishin Subic Bay Corporation in 2007. The investments focused on infrastructure projects that created buildings and houses for the Filipino people. In the years that followed the brothers created four more companies

that caused other foreign entities to invest in the country, also in billions of pesos thereby creating more jobs and uplifting the lives of the people.

It would be unfair, however, to equate the efforts of the development investors as merely for profit, because the brothers proved to be great philanthropists themselves when they created the Ermita-Malate Fire and Rescue Volunteer Association with Three Million Pesos donation.

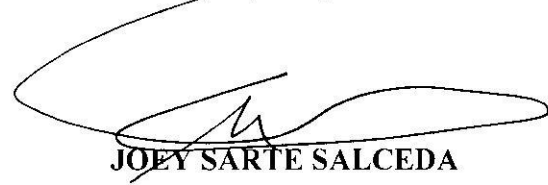
It must be noted that the associate development investors are prime advocates of the country's green recovery program aimed at restoring our forest cover, protecting our endemic species, and ensuring environmental protection and climate change adaptation. This was proven by their support during the: a) 2017 LMP National Roll-Out of the Training Workshop on the Formulation of Local Climate Change Action Plan (LCCAP) in the Philippines; b) Federalism Malasakit at Pagbabago (under the League of Municipalities of the Philippines, Office of the 2nd District of Albay, Local Climate Change Adaptation for Development (LCCAD) in collaboration with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Climate Change Commission (CCC), Philippine Information Agency (PIA), and the University of the Philippines Resilience Institute (UPRI), and the City Government of Legazpi. Their advocacy lies in the ability of the national and local governments to sustainably manage our natural resources and better environmental governance with support from the private sector. The initiative is to empower our communities to come together and cooperate.

Amidst the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic, and while other foreign investors are abandoning the Philippines, the loyal brothers, through their companies continued and increased their efforts in assisting the communities where they operate. Such efforts include: a) repair, beautification, installation of solar lights in the abandoned Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Villas that generated jobs for residents of Subic and other provinces; b) donated laptops to interns of the Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) for their online classes; c) through the MSK Group Work Inc. donated numerous face masks to the City of Olongapo and other LGUs; d) donated 150 electric fans to the quarantine and isolation facilities of the PNP front liners who were victims of COVID -19; e) donated One hundred Fifty thousand Pesos to the New Cabalan National High School; f) constructed a covered court and school fences in Pastolan Elementary School; and g) donated 19 vehicles (SUVs/trucks) for maintenance of peace, security and safety of the Subic Bay Freeport Zone and neighbors.

Mr. Kuo-Chih Su clearly enjoys character traits of a true Filipino: loving, generous, respectful, ethical, loyal, optimistic, persevering and eager to help communities, among others.

Having invested billions of pesos to this country, providing livelihood and jobs to our fellow Filipinos and having shown dedication, loyalty, and love to our beloved country and its people, the associate brothers would be of great addition to the Philippines and the Filipino community. It is high time for the Philippines to show how much we value KUO-CHIH SU's contributions by granting unto them Filipino citizenships by virtue of this Legislative Naturalization.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is urgently sought.



JOEY SARTE SALCEDA

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

SECTION 1. Mr. Kuo-Chih Su 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. Mr. Kuo-Chih Su shall take the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines before an officer duly authorized to administer the same. The Oath of Allegiance shall be registered with the Bureau of Immigration.

SEC. 3. Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of Immigration shall issue a Certificate of Naturalization to Mr. Kuo-Chih Su who shall thereupon enter into the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,