



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **8923**



Introduced by:

HON. KHYMER ADAN T. OLASO
Representative, 1st District, Zamboanga City

and

HON. PRINCESS RIHAN MANGUDADATU SAKALURAN
Representative, 1st District, Sultan Kudarat

AN ACT

EXEMPTING ALL TRAVELLERS DEPARTING FROM ALL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS AND SEAPORTS IN THE PHILIPPINES TO ANY DESTINATION IN THE BRUNEI DARUSSALAM-INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-PHILIPPINES – EAST ASEAN GROWTH AREA FROM THE PAYMENT OF TRAVEL TAX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1183 AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1205, EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 283 SERIES OF 1987 AND OTHER RELATED LAWS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The purpose of this bill is to promote enhanced cooperation and integration among member-countries of the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) and to stimulate tourism and travel between the Philippines and these neighboring countries.

The BIMP-EAGA region has immense potential for economic growth and development, and its member-countries have been actively working towards

fostering closer ties and promoting regional tourism. In line with this objective, it is crucial to provide incentives for travellers from the Philippines to BIMP-EAGA member-countries to encourage tourism, business, and cultural exchanges.

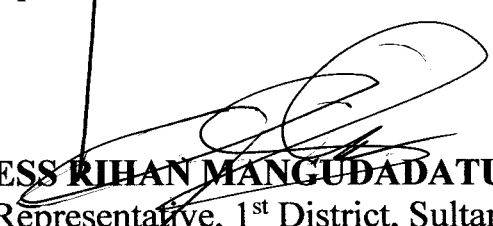
This bill seeks to exempt travellers from the Philippines destined for BIMP-EAGA member-countries from paying the travel tax imposed under Presidential Decree No. 1183 as amended by Presidential Decree No. 1205 and Executive Order No. 283 series of 1987. By providing this exemption, the financial burden on travellers will be alleviated thereby making travel more accessible and affordable. This, in turn, will encourage more individuals to explore the diverse cultures and unique destinations in the BIMP-EAGA region, thereby boosting tourism and economic activity.

The proposed exemption is a strategic move to strengthen economic ties and promote regional integration among the BIMP-EAGA member-countries. It recognizes the potential for mutual benefits and fosters greater connectivity and cooperation among nations in the region. Furthermore, it aligns with the goals of the Philippines in enhancing trade relations, cultural exchanges, and people-to-people connectivity with its neighboring countries.

The approval of this bill will be in the best interest of our nation and our regional partners.


KHYMER ADAN T. OLASO

Representative, 1st District, Zamboanga City


PRINCESS RIHAN MANGUDADATU SAKALURAN

Representative, 1st District, Sultan Kudarat



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TO ANY DESTINATION IN THE BRUNEI DARUSSALAM-INDONESIA-
MALAYSIA-PHILIPPINES – EAST ASEAN GROWTH AREA FROM
THE PAYMENT OF TRAVEL TAX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1183 AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL
DECREE NO. 1205 EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 283 SERIES OF 1987 AND
OTHER RELATED LAWS**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “BIMP-EAGA
Travel Tax Exemption Act.”

1 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is the policy of the State to foster closer
2 economic cooperation and integration with neighboring countries and promote the
3 development of tourism through enhanced travel and exchanges. In line with this
4 policy, it is imperative to provide incentives to travellers from the Philippines to
5 the member-countries of the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines
6 East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).

7
8 **SEC. 3.** Section 2 of Presidential Decree 1183, as amended by Presidential
9 Decree 1205 and Executive Order No. 283 series of 1987, is hereby amended to
10 include the following provision:

11
12 “SEC. 2. The following are exempted from the payment of travel tax
13 imposed herein:

14
15 a. xxx

16
17 xxx

18
19 m. xxx

20
21 *n. all travellers departing from all international airports and*
22 *seaports in Philippines to any destination among member-countries*
23 *of the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East*
24 *ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA)”*

25
26 **SEC. 4. Implementing Guidelines.** - The Department of Tourism, in
27 coordination with the Department of Finance and the Tourism Infrastructure and
28 Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), shall issue the necessary rules and
29 regulations within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act to ensure the
30 proper implementation thereof.

31
32 **SEC. 5. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
33 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

34
35 *Approved,*