



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1465



Introduced by

HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed legislation introduces a streamlined administrative mechanism to revoke birth certificates unlawfully obtained by foreign nationals through fraud.

A birth certificate is not merely a document—it serves as formal recognition by the State of an individual’s Filipino identity. With this recognition comes access to exclusive rights and privileges, including the ability to engage in regulated professions, operate certain businesses, and participate in public service through elective office.

Disturbingly, recent findings point to a widespread scheme involving non-citizens acquiring Philippine birth certificates under false pretenses. In one case alone, approximately 1,200 forged birth records were discovered in Davao del Sur in July 2024, allegedly issued with the complicity of local civil registry officials. These revelations have prompted lawmakers to intensify calls on the National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine Statistics Authority to broaden their probe and unearth the full scale of the fraud.

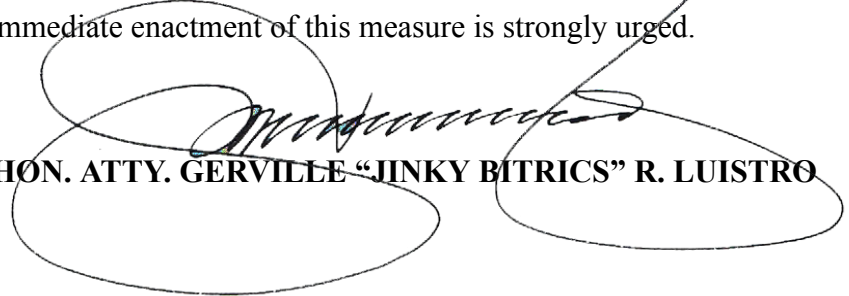
Yet despite accumulating credible evidence confirming the fraudulent registration of these documents, government authorities remain hamstrung by current legal requirements mandating court proceedings to cancel a birth certificate. This reliance on prolonged judicial action provides ample opportunity for foreign individuals—who obtained their Filipino identities through deception—to exploit the system, evade accountability, and continue engaging in activities that pose economic and societal risks, including involvement in illicit trade, financial crimes, and trafficking.

This status quo undermines public trust and weakens the integrity of our civil registration system. It also delays justice and enables wrongdoers to benefit from delays in litigation, even when their deception has been thoroughly documented by competent agencies.

To address this, the bill proposes the establishment of a fair but expedited administrative process—anchored on due notice and hearing—that empowers the State to revoke fraudulently issued birth certificates without awaiting protracted judicial action. It also seeks to hold accountable any public official or individual responsible for facilitating the unlawful entries into our civil registries.

Acquiring Filipino citizenship should not be reduced to a transactional objective for foreign nationals seeking to advance their private interests. Our national identity must be safeguarded, and the privileges of citizenship preserved for those who are truly entitled to them.

For these reasons, the immediate enactment of this measure is strongly urged.



HON. ATTY. GERVILLE “JINKY BITRICS” R. LUISTRO



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1465

Introduced by
HON. ATTY. GERVILLE "JINKY BITRICS" R. LUISTRO

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE CANCELLATION OF BIRTH
CERTIFICATES REGISTERED THROUGH FRAUDULENT MEANS BY FOREIGN
NATIONALS, CREATING A SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CANCELLATION OF BIRTH
CERTIFICATES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Fraudulent Birth Certificate
Cancellation Law"

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to promote a just and
dynamic social order. Towards this end, the State shall enact policies to safeguard and protect the
integrity of the most basic information of its people, especially their birth and nationality.

SEC. 3. *Scope.* - This Act shall cover the cancellation of birth certificates registered
through fraudulent means by foreign nationals.

SEC. 4. *Special Committee on Cancellation of Birth Certificates.* - A Special
Committee on Cancellation of Birth Certificates, herein referred to as the "Committee", is hereby
created for cancellation of birth certificates registered through fraudulent means by a foreign
national. The Committee is composed of the following: (a) Civil Registrar General of the
Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), as Chairperson; and (b) Representatives of the
Departments of Foreign Affairs, Interior and Local Government, and Justice with a rank of
Undersecretary, and the Office of the Solicitor General with a rank of Assistant Solicitor
General, as members.

SEC. 5. *Committee Secretariats* - The PSA Board Secretariat shall act as the secretarial of the Committee. The Committee Secretariat shall accept complaints involving birth certificates registered through fraudulent means by foreign nationals, assign docket numbers, schedule hearings, and issue notices thereof.

SEC. 6. *Powers and Functions*. - The Committee shall have the following powers and functions:

a) Formulate rules of procedure concerning the investigation, filing and reception of complaints, conduct of hearings, and appeals involving cancellation of birth certificates registered through fraudulent means by any foreign national;

b) Conduct clarificatory hearings and investigations on birth certificates registered through fraudulent means by any foreign national;

c) Issue summon, subpoena, and subpoena duces tecum to secure the production of all necessary evidence concerning cases of birth certificates registered through fraudulent means by foreign nationals such as affidavits, records, testimonies, and other pertinent documents;

d) Promulgate decisions, after due notice and hearing, concerning complaints of cancellation of birth certificates registered through fraudulent means by any foreign national;

e) Recommend to the Departments of Foreign Affairs, Justice and the Interior and Local Government, the Ombudsman, and other appropriate agencies the filing of deportation, criminal, civil and administrative cases under existing laws against foreign nationals, private individuals and public officers and employees who have participated in the fraudulent registration of birth certificates of a foreign national; and

f) Perform such other powers and functions necessary to attain its objectives.

SEC. 7. *Complaint*. - Any person of legal age, including duly authorized representatives of law enforcement agencies, may file with the Committee Secretariat, a verified complaint for the administrative cancellation of a birth certificate registered through fraudulent means by any foreign national. The complaint shall set forth the following:

a) Name of the foreign national, which shall be sufficient to the extent that such individual is known by such name;

b) Last known address of the foreign national;

c) Particulars of the fraudulent birth certificate;

d) Specific acts, events, and circumstances which establish the illegal acquisition of a birth certificate by the foreign national; and

e) Such other proof necessary to establish the illegal acquisition of a birth certificate by the foreign national.

SEC. 8. *Answer*. - Within ten (10) days from the filing of the complaint, the Committee Secretariat shall require the foreign national to submit a verified answer to the attached complaint within a non-extendible period of fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof.

SEC. 9. *Case Report.* - Within thirty (30) days from the submission of the verified answer of the foreign national, the Committee Secretariat shall submit to the Committee a report including the case records stating all the pieces of evidence provided by the parties.

SEC. 10. *Clarificatory Hearing.* - Upon receipt of the case report, the Committee may conduct a clarificatory hearing and inquire on any matter to properly decide the case.

SEC. 11. *Weight of Evidence.* - The Committee shall decide on the complaint based on substantial evidence or the amount of relevant evidence that a reasonable person would consider adequate to support a conclusion.

SEC. 12. *Decision.* - The Committee shall evaluate all evidence presented by the parties, and with a vote of at least two (2) Committee members, shall issue a decision to cancel the birth certificate of a foreign national which was registered by fraudulent means within thirty (30) days from receipt of the report from the Committee Secretariat. The decision of the Committee shall be immediately executory pending appeal to the Office of the President. The decision shall likewise recommend whether criminal civil, administrative, or deportation proceedings, as the case may be, should be pursued against the foreign national, any person, public officer, or employee who may have participated in the illegal acquisition of birth certificate.

SEC. 13. *Appeal.* - Any person adversely affected by a decision of the Committee may file an appeal with the Office of the President within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof. The Office of the President shall decide on the appeal within thirty (30) days from the filing of the appeal.

SEC. 14. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Philippine Statistics Authority. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act

SEC. 15. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act the Committee shall promulgate the pertinent rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 16. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining parts provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 17. *Repealing Clause* - All laws, ordinances, orders, rules, regulations and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly. **SEC. 18. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,