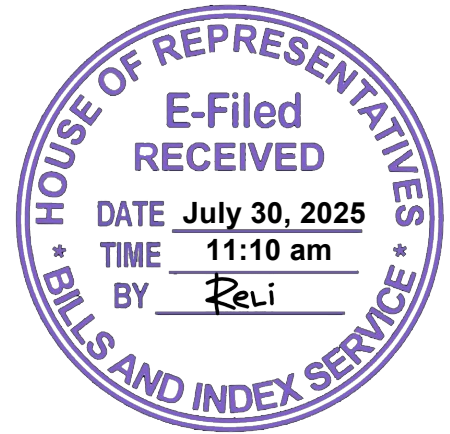




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 2600

Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representative
EDUARDO “BRO. EDDIE” C. VILLANUEVA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In today’s rapidly evolving digital economy, the nature of work is undergoing a profound transformation. A growing global demographic known as digital nomads—individuals who leverage digital technologies to work remotely while traveling across borders—has emerged as a significant contributor to local economies, tourism, and knowledge exchange.

However, current immigration policies and visa options are not designed to accommodate the unique circumstances of digital nomads, who are neither traditional tourists nor long-term expatriates. Without a dedicated visa pathway, these individuals face uncertainty and legal limitations, thereby discouraging them from choosing the Philippines as a base for remote work.

The Digital Nomad Visa Act seeks to address this gap by establishing a clear, legal, and attractive framework for digital nomads to live and work remotely in the Philippines while remaining employed by entities outside the country. This legislation promotes the Philippines as a forward-thinking hub for innovation and global talent, in line with its goals of economic diversification and digital transformation.

By attracting digital nomads, the country stands to benefit from increased foreign exchange inflows, support for local businesses—especially in the hospitality, transportation, and service sectors—and heightened global visibility. Importantly, the Act maintains safeguards to

ensure that digital nomads do not displace local employment or circumvent tax and labor regulations, as their income originates abroad and they are prohibited from being employed locally.

Moreover, this bill promotes inter-agency collaboration, with the Bureau of Immigration working alongside the Department of Tourism, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Finance, and other stakeholders to ensure the smooth implementation of this program. The inclusion of a renewable visa structure, mandatory insurance coverage, and background checks also ensures national security and the sustainability of the initiative.

In enacting this law, the Philippines joins a growing number of countries that are adapting to the digital age by crafting progressive migration policies. The Digital Nomad Visa Act is thus a strategic move toward fostering a globally connected, resilient, and inclusive Philippine economy.


EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA
Representative, CIBAC Partylist



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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A NEW VISA CATEGORY FOR DIGITAL NOMADS,
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 referred to as the "Digital Nomad Visa Act."

SEC. 2. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the following terms are defined as follows:

- (a) Alien refers to an individual who is not a citizen of the Republic of the Philippines;
- (b) Digital Nomad refers to an individual who works remotely using digital technologies while travelling to different countries;
- (c) Digital Nomad Visa refers to the visa granted by the Bureau of Immigration to a person to whom this Act applies.

SEC. 3. Digital Nomad Visa. - An alien who is employed in a country other than the Republic of the Philippines may, upon making an application to the Bureau of Immigration, be granted a Digital Nomad Visa to work in the Philippines for a period of twelve (12) months, renewable for another twelve (12) months, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Said individual must be at least eighteen (18) years old;
- (b) Said individual is a digital nomad as defined in Section 2 of this Act;
- (c) Said individual can show valid proof of sufficient income, based on standards to be determined by the Bureau of Immigration, in consultation with relevant government agencies, and that said income is generated outside of the Philippines;
- (d) Said individual holds a valid health insurance valid for the period for which the Digital Nomad Visa is granted;
- (e) Said individual must not have a criminal record in his home country and will not be a threat to the Republic of the Philippines;
- (f) Said individual will pay a fee to be determined by the Bureau of Immigration to cover the cost of processing and issuing the visa;
- (g) Said individual will pay a reasonable Entry Fee and Exit Fee, the amount of which will be determined by the Bureau of Immigration.

SEC. 4. Effect of Grant of Visa. - An alien who has been granted a digital nomad visa shall not be deemed a resident of the Philippines for taxation purposes and the income they receive from their employer abroad, while in the country, shall not be considered income from Philippine sources.

SEC. 5. No Employment in the Philippines. - An alien who has been granted a Digital Nomad Visa shall not be employed in the Philippines.

SEC. 6. Revocation of Visa. - The Bureau of Immigration may revoke the Digital Nomad Visa if the holder violates any of the terms or conditions of the visa, or if it is determined that the holder no longer meets the qualifications established in Section 3 hereof.

SEC. 7. Digital Nomad Visa Register. - A register of all individuals issued a Digital Nomad Visa shall be maintained by the Bureau of Immigration and shall contain such information as the Bureau may deem necessary.

SEC. 8. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to cover the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Bureau of Immigration. Thereafter, the funding shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 **SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The Bureau of
2 Immigration, shall, in consultation with the Department of Tourism,
3 Department of Finance, Department of the Interior and Local Government,
4 Department of Trade and Industry, Local Government Units, other
5 relevant government agencies and instrumentalities, the private sector,
6 and other stakeholders, issue within ninety (90) days from the effectivity
7 of this Act, the rules and regulations necessary to effectively implement
8 its provisions.

9
10 **SEC. 10. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any portion or
11 provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act
12 or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

13
14 **SEC. 11. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, executive orders,
15 proclamations, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts
16 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
17 amended accordingly.

18
19 **SEC. 12. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15)
20 days following its complete publication.

21
22 *Approved,*