

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7207



INTRODUCED BY HON. ANNA YORK P. BONDOC, M.D.

AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING A PASSPORT SERVICE SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
STO. TOMAS AND SAN LUIS, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 8239, or the Philippine Passport Act of 1996, mandates the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to administer passport services nationwide; however, the growing demand for passports has caused congestion in existing DFA offices, resulting in delays and inconvenience, particularly for applicants residing far from urban centers.

The Fourth District of Pampanga, despite its rapidly growing and highly mobile population, has no permanent DFA passport facility, forcing residents—including overseas Filipino workers, students, senior citizens, and constituents from nearby municipalities—to travel long distances at considerable cost and hardship.

The establishment of a DFA Passport Service Satellite Office in the Municipality of Sto. Tomas and San Luis, will bring essential government services closer to the people, provide great comfort and convenience to constituents of the Fourth District and adjacent towns, reduce travel time and expenses, and help decongest existing DFA offices, thereby ensuring efficient, accessible, and equitable delivery of passport services in accordance with Republic Act No. 8239.

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


Rep. Anna York P. Bondoc, M.D.
4th District Pampanga

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7207

INTRODUCED BY HON. ANNA YORK P. BONDOC, M.D.

AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING A PASSPORT SERVICE SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
STO. TOMAS AND SAN LUIS, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Establishment of a Passport Service Satellite Office.

There is hereby established a Passport Service Satellite Office of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) in the municipality of Sto. Tomas and San Luis, Pampanga, which shall be under the direct supervision and control of the DFA.

SEC. 2. Functions.

The Passport Service Satellite Office shall accept and process applications for the issuance, renewal, or replacement of Philippine passports, including the capture of biometric and biographic data, and shall perform such other passport-related functions as may be authorized by the Department of Foreign Affairs, consistent with Republic Act No. 8239.

SEC. 3. Staffing.

The Passport Service Satellite Office shall be staffed by personnel of the Department of Foreign Affairs, to be designated or deployed by the DFA in accordance with existing laws, rules, and regulations.

SEC. 4. Funding.

The amount necessary for the establishment and initial operation of the Passport Service Satellite Office shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued operation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.

The Department of Foreign Affairs shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. Effectivity.

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

APPROVED.