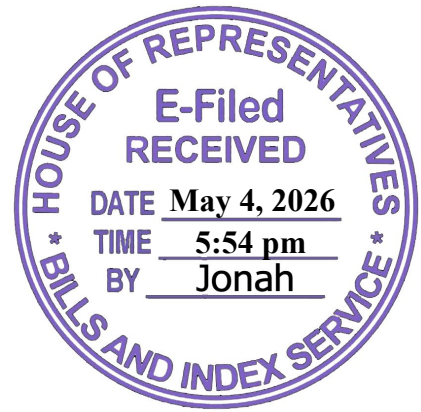


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
20TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 9067

Introduced by:
REP. JOEL R. CHUA and REP. FAUSTINO MICHAEL CARLOS T. DY III

**AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP
TO KAELA DANIELLE MERCADO HANSEN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed measure seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Kaela Danielle Mercado Hansen, a distinguished athlete of Filipino descent whose talent, discipline, and international experience embody the excellence and resilience of the Filipino spirit.

Born on 13 April 2000 in Vancouver, Canada, Hansen has built a commendable professional football career in Europe. She played a key role in the success of ŽFK Spartak Subotica in Serbia, contributing to the club's championship victories in both the Serbian Women's Super League and the Serbian Cup. She likewise competed in the UEFA Women's Champions League qualifying rounds, gaining valuable experience at the highest levels of international competition. She currently plays for Association Football Club (AFC) Toronto in the Northern Super League.

Beyond her athletic credentials, Hansen represents the strength and global reach of the Filipino diaspora. Though born abroad, she carries with her a deep

connection to the Philippines through her mother, a Filipina from Pampanga. Her willingness to represent the country reflects a shared identity and pride that transcends borders and reinforces the unity of Filipinos worldwide.

Hansen has already begun her journey with the national program, having participated in a Philippine national team identification camp in 2023 and a training camp in Manila in February 2025. Granting her Philippine citizenship will formally recognize this connection and enable her to represent the country in international competitions.

Her inclusion comes at a pivotal moment as the Philippines prepares for the FIFA Women's World Cup 2027 in Brazil. Participation on the world stage is not only a matter of competition but will be a source of national pride and inspiration for future generations of Filipinos. Strengthening the national team with players of Hansen's caliber enhances the country's ability to compete with the world's best, particularly by reinforcing the defensive line with international-level experience, composure, and leadership.

More importantly, this measure affirms the State's commitment to harnessing the potential of Filipinos abroad, recognizing that national identity is not confined by geography but strengthened through shared heritage and purpose. By welcoming Hansen into the fold, the Philippines continues to build a national team that reflects both excellence and the enduring pride of being Filipino.

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


JOEL R. CHUA


**FAUSTINO MICHAEL
CARLOS T. DY III**

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

Section 1. *Grant of Philippine Citizenship to Kaela Danielle Mercado Hansen.*

Kaela Daielle Mercado Hansen 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. *Oath of Allegiance.* Kaela Danielle Mercado Hansen shall take the Oath of Allegiance before an officer duly authorized to administer the same. The Oath of Allegiance shall be registered with the Bureau of Immigration.

Sec. 3. *Certificate of Naturalization and Enjoyment of Philippine Citizenship.* Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of Immigration shall issue a

Certificate of Naturalization to Kaela Danielle Mercado Hansen who shall thereupon enter into the full enjoyment of Philippine Citizenship.

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

Approved,