



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9594



INTRODUCED BY HON. FAUSTINO MICHAEL T. DY III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Marikit Flores, providing her all the rights and privileges as well as the duties and the obligations appurtenant thereto under our Constitution and existing laws.

Marikit is a highly accomplished artistic swimmer, performing consistently at the championship level. Her extraordinary potential is reflected in a remarkable record of achievements on both national and international stages. She is a championship-caliber athlete with the proven ability to compete at the highest levels of her sport. If granted the opportunity to represent the Philippines, Marikit would bring immediate strength and depth to the current national artistic swimming team and inspire the next generation of young Filipino athletes.

Of course, the goal is for Marikit to represent the Philippines in international competitions in and around Asia and even the Olympics in Los Angeles in 2028 or Brisbane in 2032. Her citizenship is the first crucial step to achieve such a goal.

While she was born in the United States and is currently a United States citizen, Marikit is of Filipino blood and heritage. Her paternal grandfather was a native of Cavite and subsequently became a naturalized U.S. citizen on 08 November 1963. This circumstance prevented Marikit's father and, in turn, Marikit herself from acquiring Philippine citizenship by descent, despite their clear Filipino lineage. Accordingly, the only pathway for her to embrace her heritage fully and to be able to represent the Philippines is through a legislative act of Congress granting Marikit Filipino citizenship.

Marikit has remained strongly connected to her Filipino roots and is steadfast in her aspiration to represent the Philippines in artistic swimming.

Philippine Aquatics, Inc. (PAI) has warmly expressed its support for her inclusion in the national team once citizenship is secured. National Coach for Artistic Swimming Giella Sanchez has openly supported Marikit's journey and believes Marikit will be instrumental to the national team in bringing more swimmers into the sport of Artistic Swimming.

In view of the above, the passage of the foregoing bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above the printed name.

HON. FAUSTINO MICHAEL T. DY III
5th District, Isabela



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AN ACT
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO
MARIKIT FLORES

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

SECTION 1. Marikit Flores 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.

SECTION 2. Marikit Flores shall take the oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines before an officer duly authorized to administer the same. The Oath of Allegiance shall be registered with the Bureau of Immigration.

SECTION 3. The Bureau of Immigration shall issue a Certificate of Naturalization and Marikit Flores shall enter upon the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect 15 days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved,