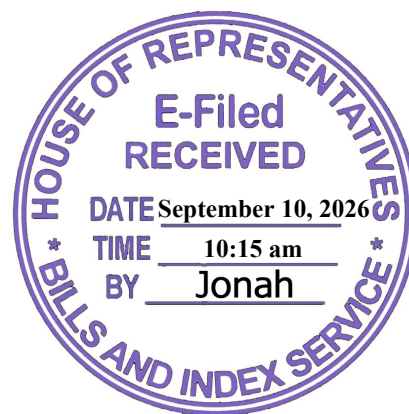


1 Republic of the Philippines
2 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
3 Batasan Hills, Quezon City
4
5 **TWENTIETH CONGRESS**
6 Second Regular Session
7
8 **HOUSE BILL NO. 11251**
9



Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO

10
11 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**
12

13 The right to travel is a fundamental liberty guaranteed by the Constitution. Article III,
14 Section 6 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the right to travel shall not be impaired except
15 in the interest of national security, public safety, or public health, as may be provided by law.
16

17 The issuance of a Philippine passport facilitates the exercise of this constitutional right
18 by enabling Filipino citizens to travel internationally for lawful purposes, including
19 employment, education, business, family reunification, and tourism. Under the New Philippine
20 Passport Act (2024), the State shall protect the people's constitutional right to travel, prescribe
21 only minimum requirements, and ensure expeditious action on applications for and the issuance
22 of passports and other travel documents.¹
23

24 Further, the DFA may provide mobile passport services and consular outreach missions
25 to Filipinos in areas outside its offices to make passport services accessible.² This is particularly
26 relevant given the continuing volume of Filipinos travelling abroad.
27

28 According to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) 2025 Philippine Statistical
29 Yearbook, there were 3,890,671 outbound Philippine residents in 2023 and 6,853,204 in 2024,
30 representing a 76.14 percent increase.³ In addition, the DFA reported that it issued 2,615,953
31 passports in 2024. Of this number, 1,474,317 passports were issued through Regional Consular
32 Offices, while 161,384 passports were issued through Temporary Offsite Passport Services
33 (TOPS).⁴ These growing figures demonstrate the growing importance of establishing timely
34 and accessible passport services.
35

¹ Republic of the Philippines, Republic Act No. 11983: An Act Providing for a New Passport Law, Repealing for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8239, Otherwise Known as the "Philippine Passport Act of 1996," as Amended, and Providing Funds Therefor.

² Ibid.

³ Philippine Statistics Authority, *2025 Philippine Statistical Yearbook* (Quezon City: Philippine Statistics Authority, 2025), chap. 8, "Tourism," https://psa.gov.ph/system/files/psy/2025%20PSY%20Final_signed.pdf.

⁴ Department of Foreign Affairs, *2024 DFA Accomplishment Report* (Manila: Department of Foreign Affairs, 2025), 84, https://dfa.gov.ph/images/2024/transparency/2024_Annual_Accomplishment_Report.pdf.

1 In this regard, the establishment of a DFA Passport Satellite Office in the Municipality
2 of Liloan, Cebu is both timely and necessary. Liloan is a growing and strategically located
3 municipality in northern Cebu, with a population of 158,387 based on the 2024 Census of
4 Population of the Philippine Statistics Authority.⁵ Despite the presence of an existing DFA
5 Passport Satellite Office in nearby Consolacion, residents of Liloan must still travel outside the
6 municipality to access passport services. For applicants, particularly workers, students, senior
7 citizens, and persons with disabilities (PWDs), traveling to another municipality entails
8 additional transportation expenses, travel time, and loss of productive hours.

9
10 Therefore, establishing a satellite office in Liloan would bring passport services closer
11 to the residents and the office can help distribute passport applications among existing
12 facilities and contribute to the decongestion of heavily utilized passport service centers.
13 Ultimately, the establishment of the DFA Passport Satellite Office in Liloan will improve
14 access to essential travel documents, and support the constitutional right to travel by bringing
15 a vital national government service close to the Filipino people.

16
17 In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.
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VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO
Representative, 5th District of Cebu

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25

⁵ Philippine Statistics Authority, "Municipality of Liloan," Philippine Standard Geographic Code, accessed September 7, 2026, <https://psa.gov.ph/classification/psgc/barangays/0702227000>

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Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO

10
11 **AN ACT**
12 **ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PASSPORT**
13 **SATELLITE OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LILOAN, PROVINCE OF**
14 **CEBU, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
15

16 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*
17 *assembled:*
18

19 **SEC. 1. *Establishment of DFA Passport Satellite Office in the Municipality of***
20 ***Liloan.*** – There shall be established, under the supervision and administrative control of the
21 Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), a Passport Satellite Office in the Municipality of Liloan,
22 Fifth District, Province of Cebu. The Satellite Office shall provide passport application
23 processing, passport renewal, authentication, and other consular services to residents of the
24 Municipality of Liloan, Province of Cebu, and adjacent cities and municipalities.
25

26 The Office shall provide passport-related services, including, but not limited to:

- 27 (a) Acceptance of applications for Philippine passports;
28 (b) Processing of passport renewal applications;
29 (c) Biometric enrollment and collection of applicant information;
30 (d) Releasing of passports, subject to applicable DFA rules;
31 (e) Assistance and information services concerning passport applications; and
32 (f) Such other passport-related services as may be authorized by the DFA.
33

34 **SEC. 2. *Purpose.*** – The establishment of a DFA Passport Satellite Office in the
35 Municipality of Liloan, Province of Cebu, aims to:

- 36 (a) Enhance public access to passport and related consular services in Northern Cebu;
37 (b) Reduce the travel time, transportation costs, and other burdens of applicants from
38 geographically distant municipalities;
39 (c) Decongest existing DFA consular offices in the Province of Cebu; and

1 (d) Support the growing demand for passport, travel, overseas employment, and related
2 consular services among the constituents of the Fifth District of Cebu and
3 neighboring areas.
4

5 **SEC. 3. *Staffing and Operations.*** – The DFA shall assign adequate personnel,
6 equipment, and resources to ensure the effective and efficient operation of the Satellite Office.
7 The Office shall adopt the standard operating procedures, security protocols, and digital
8 systems used in all DFA consular offices.
9

10 **SEC. 4. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial establishment and
11 operationalization of the DFA Passport Satellite Office in the Municipality of Liloan, Province
12 of Cebu, shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Department of Foreign
13 Affairs (DFA), to the extent available. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the
14 continued operation and maintenance of the Office shall be included in the annual General
15 Appropriations Act.
16

17 **SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from the
18 effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, in coordination with the Department
19 of Budget and Management (DBM) and other concerned agencies, shall promulgate the rules
20 and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act. The implementing rules
21 and regulations shall include, among others, the organizational structure, staffing requirements,
22 location and facility standards, security requirements, service capacity, appointment
23 procedures, and operating guidelines of the Liloan Passport Satellite Office.
24

25 **SEC. 6. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
26 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
27

28 *Approved,*
29