

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



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2385

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**Introduced by Representative Florida P. Robes**

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

In our world today, there are essential documents that a citizen is required to possess: a birth certificate, an official identification card, and a passport. Without which, a citizen may not be able to enjoy the rights and privileges accorded to him by law. When it comes to passport, it is a must for every Filipino to have a passport as it gives one that official status of citizenship. As a human resource capital among many Asian nations, applications for passports submitted to the Department of Foreign Affairs are voluminous. Even if there are many passport issuance centers outside the premises of DFA, many places in the country do not have one, unfortunately. Residents have to go to nearby cities for passport applications. The City of San Jose Del Monte is not an exemption to this. With almost a half a million population, residents of the city would have to travel to other localities where passport issuance offices exist. This could be both time-consuming and expensive.

This bill seeking to establish a passport issuance office to be manned by the Department of Foreign Affairs would make this basic consular service accessible to the people of San Jose Del Monte City as well other nearby municipalities in the province of Bulacan. The process of passport application will no longer be tedious to them. As such, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
FLORIDA P. ROBES

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PASSPORT ISSUANCE OFFICE UNDER THE  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO BE SITUATED IN THE CITY  
OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, PROVINCE OF BULACAN AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. Establishment Clause.** There is hereby established a Passport Issuance Office under the auspices of the Department of Foreign Affairs to be situated in the City of San Jose Del Monte, Province of Bulacan.

**SEC. 2. Appropriation.** The initial funding of the operationalization of the Office shall be charged against the current year appropriations of the Department of Foreign Affairs. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary in its regular and continued operation shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 3. Implementation.** The Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs or its deputized officers shall formulate and issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

**SEC. 4. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in any a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,