

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

18th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5418



Introduced by: **HON. LORNA C. SILVERIO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act no. 9225, otherwise known as the “Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of 2003” or simply the “Dual Citizenship law”, states that a natural born Filipino who becomes a naturalized citizen of a foreign country is deemed not to have lost his/her Philippine citizenship. Therefore, Filipinos who opt to re-acquire their Filipino citizenship by virtue of birth, can once again enjoy full civic, political, and economic rights and be once again subjected to the Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines. In the same Act under paragraphs (2) and (3) of Section 5 made it kind of restrictive for “Dual Citizens” to seek for any appointive or elective post in their Motherland unless they voluntarily renounce their foreign citizenship prior to assumption of office or upon filing of their certificate of candidacy. This bill gives justice to our “Kababayans” who can vote under the Absentee Voting Law but cannot be voted upon by this mere obstacle. It is the belief of this representation that Filipinos who are dual citizens can opt not to join politics anymore or meddle with local affairs but are willing to share their experiences and knowledge earned from another land and apply it to their Motherland because of the inherent love for country. Let us give equal footing to Filipinos who want to give back to their land of birth and let not the law hinder them to.

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

Lorna C. Silverio
LORNA C. SILVERIO

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AN ACT ALLOWING FILIPINOS WITH DUAL CITIZENSHIP TO SEEK AN
ELECTIVE OR APPOINTIVE PUBLIC OFFICE WITHOUT RENOUNCING
THEIR FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of existing laws, Filipinos with dual citizenship shall be allowed to seek elective or appointive public office in the Philippines without renouncing any and all of their foreign citizenship.

SECTION 2. Section 5, Paragraphs (2) and (3) of Republic Act 9225, Section 40 of Republic Act No. 7160 and all other laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.


Approved,