

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4040

Introduced by: Rep. Isidro S. Rodriguez, Jr.
2nd District-Rizal

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Citizenship refers to a person's membership in a political community. It is a *legal status* whereby civil, political and social rights are granted to a person. Thus, he is free to act according to the law and having the right to claim the law's protection.

Under the present (1987) Philippine Constitution, Philippine citizenship can be conferred to an alien through the process of naturalization. Naturalization is a process by which a foreigner becomes a citizen of another state. This operates either directly or indirectly. By direct operation, citizenship may be acquired through a special act of legislature.

Naturalization by direct legislative action is a privilege granted by the legislature and this is usually granted as a privilege to aliens who have made outstanding contributions to the country.

This bill seeks to confer this privilege of citizenship to Mr. Denis Guy Martin, a French national, through a special act of the Philippine Congress.

Mr. Denis Martin, 53 years old, is a resident of Barangay Hulo, Pililia, Rizal and has been residing in the Philippines for more than twenty years. Born on March 5, 1958 in Nancy, France, he obtained his degree in Technicien Supérieur in Physics and Chemistry at the AFPA Champs Sur Marne in 1980. In 1984, he became an Explosive Engineer at the Institute of Explosive Engineers, United Kingdom. He is a father to five Filipino/French children all of whom were enrolled in schools duly recognized by the Philippine government where Philippine history, government and civics are taught as part of the school curriculum and which do not limit admission to particular race or nationality. He speaks English, French and Filipino language.

Mr. Martin started his career in 1981 by helping Filipinos to obtain overseas employment on the oil rigs and platforms found in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). He provided work and livelihood opportunities to hundreds of Filipinos. From 1987 to 1991, he worked for an international company where its head office in the South East Asia was based in Manila. In 1991, he decided to reside permanently in the Philippines and began to embrace Filipino culture, tradition and way of life. Upon residing in the Philippines, he started to incorporate his present company -- Drilling and Blasting Management Group, Inc. In 1992, he applied and was subsequently granted by the Bureau of Investment a Special Investor Resident Visa (S.I.R.V.). At present, Mr. Martin possesses a multiple entry-indefinite resident visa issued by the Bureau of Immigration.

In 1996 up to 2005, his expertise in the field of explosive engineering has gained him the reputation of being the only foreigner given by the Philippine National Police (PNP) the license to Possess Explosives. He shared his technical knowledge to his Filipino workers in his company by teaching them special skills in the field of drilling equipment maintenance, hydraulic drill operation and proper use of explosives. Eventually, these Filipino workers were able to find employment abroad.

Mr. Martin's passion for helping Filipinos, for the past 19 years, is best exemplified by his very active participation in the development of his community in Pililia, Rizal. He participated in the community's infrastructure development by entirely financing a farm-to-market road (Calubcob feeder Road) in Barangay Hulo, Pililia, Rizal. He likewise participated in the construction of a national school (Hulo Elementary School) in Pililia, Rizal, by supplying the municipality heavy equipment machinery and shouldering the costs of the initial leveling and earthmoving of the land where the national school is currently stood. This endeavor has benefited some 300 local children in Pililia, Rizal. To maintain the community's cleanliness and peace and order, he donated to Barangay Hulo some grass cutters, uniforms and other equipments. Furthermore, he participates in town celebrations, such as fiestas and other happenings.

His generosity and desire to help his community extends even up to the use of his personal properties (such as but not limited to his resort and swimming pool) by the local children, municipal employees, school teachers and students of Pililia, Rizal.

Even in times of calamities like the typhoon "Ondoy", Mr. Martin rendered "bayanihan" to the victims thereof in Pililia, Rizal, by helping them to desilt the base of the Pililia River and in the stabilization of the soil where the Hulo Elementary School stands. Likewise, he has donated one truckload of rice to the affected inhabitants of Barangay Hulo, Pililia, Rizal.

These are just some of the worthy but immense contributions of Mr. Martin who unselfishly devotes his time, effort and resources to help Filipinos. At present, he is constructing, in coordination with the Office of the Mayor of Baras, Rizal, a small bridge that will serve as a farm-to-market road for the inhabitants of Baras, Rizal.

For this, he has gained the favorable endorsements and recommendations of Mayor LEANDRO V. MASIKIP, SR.(Municipality of Pililia, Rizal), LT. GENERALS (retired) DELFIN N. BANGIT AND HERMOGENES ESPERON, JR. and other government officials.

Mr. Martin has manifested his desire to live in the Philippines, to be fully integrated into the home and heart of every Filipino – for the rest of his life – and to be a Filipino in activity with all the responsibilities and pride as a "Pinoy".

By virtue of his invaluable and immense contributions to the development of the infrastructure, livelihood and educational aspects of Filipinos, Mr. Martin has proven his worth to be granted the legal status to become a citizen of the Philippines.

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


ISIDRO S. RODRIGUEZ, JR.

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AN ACT
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO DENIS MARTIN

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

SECTION 1. Denis Guy Martin is hereby granted Philippine citizenship with all the rights, privileges and prerogatives appurtenant thereto.

SECTION 2. Upon the taking and registration of the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines before the Bureau of Immigration and the issuance to him of the Certificate of Naturalization, Denis Guy Martin shall enter upon the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.