

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Third Regular Session

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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1208**

Submitted by the Committee on Justice on September 13, 2021

Re: House Bill No. 9376

Recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsors: Representatives Vicente "Ching" S. E. Veloso III, Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez and Yedda Marie K. Romualdez

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Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Justice, to which was referred House Bill No. 9376, introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Maria Lourdes T. Arroyo, Antonio "Tonypet" T. Albano, Gerardo "Gerryboy" J. Espina, Jr., Alfred C. Delos Santos, Rodante D. Marcoleta, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, Sergio C. Dagooc, Sonny "SL" L. Lagon, Strike B. Revilla, Paz C. Radaza, Roger G. Mercado, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, Angelica Natasha Co, Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo, Adriano A. Ebcas, Michael T. Defensor, Alan Ty, Hector S. Sanchez, Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro, Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Elizaldy S. Co, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Claudine Diana D. Bautista, Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso, Godofredo N. Guya, Alan B. Ecleo I, Jose Gay G. Padiernos, Geraldine B. Roman, Way Kurat Zamora, and Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, entitled:

"AN ACT  
GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO ELIZABETH EDER ZOBEL DE AYALA"

has considered the same and recommends its approval without amendment, with Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Maria Lourdes T. Arroyo, Antonio "Tonypet" T. Albano, Gerardo "Gerryboy" J. Espina, Jr., Alfred C. Delos Santos, Rodante D. Marcoleta, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, Sergio C. Dagooc, Sonny "SL" L. Lagon, Strike B. Revilla, Paz C. Radaza, Roger G. Mercado, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, Angelica Natasha Co, Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo, Adriano A. Ebcas, Michael T. Defensor, Alan Ty, Hector S. Sanchez, Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro, Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Elizaldy S. Co, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Claudine Diana D. Bautista, Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso, Godofredo N. Guya, Alan B. Ecleo I, Jose Gay G. Padiernos, Geraldine B. Roman, Way Kurat Zamora, Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, and Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso III as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CV', written over the printed name.

**VICENTE "CHING" S. E. VELOSO III**

Chairperson

Committee on Justice

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER**  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
QUEZON CITY

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE**

**HOUSE BILL No. 9376**

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Introduced by:

**REP. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ, REP. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ, REP. JUAN MIGUEL MACAPAGAL ARROYO, REP. MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO, REP. ANTONIO "TONYPET" ALBANO, REP. GERRY BOY ESPINA JR, REP. ALFRED DELOS SANTOS, REP. RODANTE MARCOLETA, REP. LORNA BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN, REP. WILTER "SHARKY" PALMA II, REP. SERGIO DAGOOC, REP. SONNY L. LAGON, REP. STRIKE REVILLA, REP. PAZ C. RADAZA, REP. ROGER G. MERCADO, REP. ANNA VILLARAZA SUAREZ, REP. ANGELICA CO, REP. ANTHONY CRISOLOGO, REP. ADRIANO EBCAS, REP. MIKE DEFENSOR, REP. ALLAN TY, REP. HECTOR SANCHEZ, REP. FREDENIL CASTRO, REP. XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO, REP. ELIZALDY CO, REP. LEONARDO BABASA, REP. CLAUDINE BAUTISTA, REP. SAM VARGAS ALFONSO, REP. GODOFREDO GUYA, REP. ALAN ECLEO, REP. JOSE GAY PADIERNOS, REP. GERALDINE ROMAN, REP. MANUEL ZAMORA, REP. ARGEL CABATBAT**

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**AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO  
ELIZABETH EDER ZOBEL DE AYALA**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Elizabeth Eder Zobel De Ayala and giving her all the rights and privileges as well as the duties and obligations appurtenant thereto under our Constitution and existing laws.

Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala (Lizzie) married Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala in June of 1987 in her hometown of Cali, Colombia. Since August 1987, she has made the Philippines her home. Her four children: Mariana, Jaime Alfonso, Eugenia, and Mercedes and her two grandchildren, Vidal Augusto Zobel de Ayala Aboitiz and Luisa Aboitiz Zobel de Ayala, are all Filipino citizens.

In 1994, she joined the Founding Board of Museo Pambata on which she served until 2001. In 1999, Lizzie co-founded the *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Foundation whose principal

objective was to develop literacy programs that addressed the declining functional literacy rates in public school students in the Philippines. In partnership with the Department of Education, *Sa Aklat Sisikat* trained public school teachers and designed in-class strategies to create reading ready communities in public schools throughout the country until 2011.

Lizzie served on the board of the National Museum of the Philippines from the time of her appointment by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in 2001 to 2010. As an advocate for access to responsible family planning in the Philippines, she was a founding Board Member of the Friendly Care Foundation and the Forum for Family Planning and Development. Since 1998, Lizzie worked in support of the Reproductive Health Bill in the Philippines which was enacted into law in December of 2012. She is also a Member of the Philippine Center for Population and Development.

As a result of her work in the Philippines, Lizzie was named to the board of the Population Council, based in New York City, which delivers evidence-based solutions to overcome obstacles to health and development, with offices in over 50 countries. She served on the Board of the Population Council from 2012-2018 and today continues to participate in its efforts as a Member of its Development and Engagement Committee.

More recently, Lizzie co-founded and is Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Teach for the Philippines, a country partner of Teach for All. In partnership with the Department of Education, Teach for the Philippines is a nationwide non-profit organization that works to ensure that all Filipino children have equal access to quality education. Founded in 2012, Teach for the Philippines focuses its efforts on improving teacher quality and addressing system-wide challenges, informed by an exchange of

experiences with our 14 regional partners such Teach for China, Teach for Japan, Teach for India, Teach for Malaysia and others.

Lizzie is also a founding member of the Board of Trustees of the Center for Asian Philanthropy and Society in Hong Kong dedicated to expanding the quality and quantity of philanthropy and social delivery organizations throughout Asia.

In 2019, Lizzie was named to the Board of Trustees of Boston College, from which she graduated in 1987, with a B.A. Degree in Philosophy and Economics.

For these reasons, the passage of this proposed measure is earnestly sought.

Signed,

**Rep. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez**  
Leyte, First District

**Rep. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez**  
TINGOG Partylist

**Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo**  
Pampanga, Second District

**Rep. Ma. Lourdes T. Arroyo**  
Negros Occidental, Fifth District

**Rep. Antonio "Tonypet" Albano**  
Isabela, First District

**Rep. Gerryboy Espina Jr.**  
Biliran, Lone District

**Rep. Alfred delos Santos**  
ANG PROBINSYANO Partylist

**Rep. Rodante Marcoleta**  
SAGIP Partylist

**Rep. Lorna Bautista-Bandigan**  
Davao Occidental, Lone District

**Rep. Wilter "Sharky" Palma II**  
Zamboanga Sibugay, First District

**Rep. Sergio Dagooc**  
APEC Partylist

**Rep. Sonny L. Lagon**  
AKO BISAYA Partylist

**Rep. Strike Revilla**  
Cavite, Second District

**Rep. Paz C. Radaza**  
Lapu Lapu City, Lone District

**Rep. Roger G. Mercado**  
Southern Leyte, Lone District

**Rep. Anna Villaraza-Suarez**  
ALONA Partylist

**Rep. Angelica Co**  
BHW Partylist

**Rep. Anthony Crisologo**  
Quezon City, First District

**Rep. Adriano Ebcas**  
AKO PADAYON PILIPINO Partylist

**Rep. Mike Defensor**  
ANAKALUSUGAN Partylist

**Rep. Allan Ty**  
LPGMA Partylist

**Rep. Fredenil "Fred" Castro**  
Capiz, Second District

**Rep. Elizaldy Co**  
AKO BICOL Partylist

**Rep. Claudine Bautista**  
DUMPER PTDA Partylist

**Rep. Godofredo Guya**  
RECOBODA Partylist

**Rep. Jose Gay Padiernos**  
GP Partylist

**Rep. Manuel "Way Kurat" Zamora**  
Davao de Oro, First District

**Rep. Hector Sanchez**  
Catanduanes, Lone District

**Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo**  
Camiguin, Lone District

**Rep. Leonardo "Jun" Babasa**  
Zamboanga del Sur, Second District

**Rep. Sam Vargas Alfonso**  
Cagayan, Second District

**Rep. Alan Ecleo**  
Dinagat Islands, Lone District

**Rep. Geraldine Roman**  
Bataan, First District

**Rep. Argel Cabatbat**  
MAGSASAKA Partylist

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*Second Regular Session*

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**HOUSE BILL No. 9376**

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Introduced by REP. FERDINAND MARTIN ROMULADEZ

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**AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO  
ELIZABETH EDER ZOBEL DE AYALA**

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

SECTION 1. Mrs. Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala 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.

SEC. 2. Mrs. Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala 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.

SEC. 3. Upon registration of the Oath of Allegiance, the Bureau of Immigration shall issue a Certificate of Naturalization to Mrs. Elizabeth Eder Zobel de Ayala who shall thereupon enter into the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

**House of Representatives  
Committee Affairs Department**

FACT SHEET

**House Bill No. 9376**

(Approved by the Committee on September 2, 2021)

**“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO  
ELIZABETH EDER ZOBEL DE AYALA”**

*Introduced by: Reps. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, Maria Lourdes T. Arroyo, Antonio "Tonypet" T. Albano, Gerardo "Gerryboy" J. Espina, Jr., Alfred C. Delos Santos, Rodante D. Marcoleta, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, Sergio C. Dagooc, Sonny "SL" L. Lagon, Strike B. Revilla, Paz C. Radaza, Roger G. Mercado, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, Angelica Natasha Co, Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo, Adriano A. Ebcas, Michael T. Defensor, Alan Ty, Hector S. Sanchez, Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro, Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Elizaldy S. Co, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Claudine Diana D. Bautista, Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso, Godofredo N. Guya, Alan B. Ecleo I, Jose Gay G. Padiernos, Geraldine B. Roman, Manuel "Way Kurat" Zamora, and Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat*

Committee Referral: **COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE**  
Committee Chairperson: **REP. VICENTE "CHING" S.E. VELOSO III**

**OBJECTIVE:**

To grant Philippine citizenship to Elizabeth Eder Zobel De Ayala, a citizen of the United States of America, in recognition of her notable contributions to the Philippines, considering that:

- she has been residing in the Philippines since August 1987;
- she is married to Jaime Zobel De Ayala and has four children, all of whom are Filipino citizens;
- she joined the Founding Board of *Museo Pambata* in 1994 and served until 2001;
- in 1999, she co-founded the *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Foundation which has the principal objective to develop literacy programs that addressed the declining functional literacy rates in public school students in the county;
- she partnered with the Department of Education through her *Sa Aklat Sisikat Foundation* to train public school teachers and design in-class strategies to create reading ready communities in public schools across the county;
- she was appointed by former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as Board Member of the National Museum of the Philippine from 2001 to 2010;
- as an advocate of responsible parenthood, she became the founding Board Member of the Friendly Care Foundation and the Forum for Family Planning and Development that provided access to responsible family planning in the country;
- she worked in support of the Reproductive Health Bill in the Philippines which was enacted into law in December 2012;
- she served, from 2012-2018, on the board of the Population Council, based in New York City with offices in over 50 countries, which delivers evidence-based solutions to



overcome obstacles to health and development, and today continues to participate in its efforts as a member of its Development and Engagement Committee;

- she recently co-founded Teach for the Philippines, a nationwide non-profit organization that works to ensure that all Filipino children have equal access to quality education, and she presently serves as the Chairperson of its Board of Trustees. The organization focuses its efforts on improving teacher quality and addressing system-wide challenges, informed by an exchange of experiences in our 14 regional partners such as Teach China, Teach Japan, Teach India, Teach Malaysia;
- she is also a founding member of the Board of Trustees of the Center for Asian Philanthropy and Society in Hong Kong dedicated to expanding the quality and quantity of philanthropy and social delivery organizations throughout Asia;
- she graduated in 1987 in Boston College with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Philosophy and Economics, where she was also named to the Board of Trustees in 2019; and
- she embodies the Filipino values of perseverance, determination, and dedication to work and service to the country, and has a sincere desire to live in the Philippines as a Filipino citizen.

**KEY PROVISIONS:**

- Grants Philippine citizenship Ms. Elizabeth Eder De Ayala with all the rights, privileges and prerogatives, as well as the duties and obligations, appurtenant thereto.
- Provides that upon the taking of the Oath of Allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines before an officer duly authorized for this purpose, registration of the same with the Bureau of Immigration, and issuance of his Certificate of Naturalization, Ms. Zobel De Ayala shall enter upon the full enjoyment of Philippine citizenship.

**RELATED LAWS:**

- Article IV, Section 1(4), 1987 Constitution