

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Third Regular Session* )

25 JAN 20 10:55



**SENATE**  
**P.S. RES. No. 1281**

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Introduced by Senator Robinhood C. Padilla

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**RESOLUTION**  
**URGING THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO REVIEW AND REASSESS THE PROPOSAL TO MERGE THE OPERATIONS OF THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO BANK WITH THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES**

1 WHEREAS, the Overseas Filipino Bank (OFBank) traces its origins to the  
2 Philippine Postal Savings Bank Inc. (PPSB), established in 1906 with the mission of  
3 providing banking services to rural communities in the Philippines;

4 WHEREAS, the PPCB ceased operations in 1976 due to competition from  
5 emerging private banks;

6 WHEREAS, through the enactment of Republic Act No. 7354, the PPCB was  
7 reopened in 1994 under the Philippine Postal Corporation (PPC), focusing on providing  
8 wholesale loans to microfinance institutions and facilitating domestic and international  
9 remittance services;

10 WHEREAS, despite initial plans by the state-run Land Bank of the Philippines  
11 (LANDBANK) to acquire the PPCB in 2016, the process was halted with the issuance  
12 of Executive Order No. 44 by President Rodrigo R. Duterte in September 2017,  
13 transforming the PPCB into a wholly-owned subsidiary of LANDBANK and renaming it  
14 the OFBank to address the banking needs of migrant workers worldwide;

1 WHEREAS, citing financial challenges in the bank's operations, the proposal to  
2 merge OFBank with LANDBANK was revived and reportedly affirmed by the  
3 Department of Finance (DOF) during a meeting on 25 April 2024;

4 WHEREAS, the Governance Commission for Government-Owned or -Controlled  
5 Corporations (GCG) is currently conducting a review and assessment of the proposed  
6 merger;

7 WHEREAS, the unique banking needs of our Overseas Filipinos, whom we  
8 proudly call as our 'Bagong Bayani', call for a specialized financial institution tailored  
9 to address their specific requirements;

10 WHEREAS, it must be noted that LANDBANK's primary mandate is to provide  
11 financial assistance and support services to its mandated and priority sectors, which  
12 includes Small Farmers and Fishers (SFFs), Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries (ARBs),  
13 among others;

14 WHEREAS, it is essential to maintain an independent entity to ensure the  
15 efficient delivery of services to Overseas Filipinos across different parts of the globe;

16 WHEREAS, the implications of this proposal must be thoroughly reviewed by  
17 relevant agencies, including but not limited to the DOF, GCG, Bangko Sentral ng  
18 Pilipinas (BSP), Department of Migrant Workers (DMW), and Overseas Workers  
19 Welfare Administration (OWWA): Now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the appropriate  
21 government agencies to review and reassess the proposal to close and merge the  
22 operations of the Overseas Filipino Bank with the Landbank of the Philippines.

Adopted,



**ROBINHOOD C. PADILLA**  
*Senator*