

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8502, February 13, 1998]

**AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE JEWELRY
MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, PROVIDING INCENTIVES
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Jewelry Industry Development Act of 1998."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - Recognizing that the jewelry industry has the potential for more employment generation, enhance tax collection efficiency, increase the industry linkages with the other sectors of the economy, and to increase our foreign exchange earnings through export and import substitutes, it is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to support, promote and encourage the growth and development of the predominantly, small and medium scale jewelry industries. Toward this end, the State shall undertake to encourage the development of the jewelry industry:

- a. by promoting and encouraging local jewelers to join the formal sector by making the jewelry industry sector a partner in the task of building up the small and medium enterprises through the establishment of an adequate support structure and the creation of a business environment conducive to the viability, legalization and development of the jewelry sector;
- b. by adopting appropriate tax incentives and programs necessary for the acceleration and growth of the industry; and
- c. by promoting and institutionalizing the effective promotion and participation of associations of the jewelry industry and cooperatives particularly in the advancement of the skills and craftsmanship of Filipino workers therein.

SEC. 3. *Development Incentives.* - The following incentives shall be available to qualified jewelry enterprises in the jewelry industry:

- a. Entitlement to zero (0) duty on imported raw materials which include precious metals, loose gems, precious stones, jewelry parts, accessories and supplies for use by jewelry enterprise, as specifically mentioned in Chapter 5 of Section I, Chapter 12 of Section II, Chapters 25, 26 and 27 of Section V, Chapters 28, 34 and 38 of Section VI, Chapter 70 of Section XIII, Chapter 71 of Section XIV, Chapter 83 of Section XV, and Chapter 96 of Section XX of the Tariff and Customs Code, as amended;