

**News Release**  
**Department of Labor and Employment**  
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## **POEA reassumes licensing of recruitment agencies**

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) will once again take the responsibility of approving and renewing licenses and authorities of agencies engaged in overseas recruitment.

Labor Secretary Silvestre H. Bello III ordered POEA, through Administrative Order No. 443 Series of 2018, to reassume full authority on matters concerning overseas employment.

With the latest issuance, the authority to act on overseas employment-related matters is given back to the administrator of POEA, serving as the authorized representative of the Labor Secretary.

This includes the authority to issue and renew licenses and authorities to engage in the recruitment and placement of workers for overseas employment; grant exemptions from the age requirement for overseas workers; and issue appropriate orders, decisions and resolutions.

The administrative order also states that the applications relative to recruitment and placement licenses shall be filed with and processed by the POEA in accordance with existing rules and regulations.

The administrative order is also issued to streamline administrative procedures, thus promote the welfare and protection of Filipino migrant workers.

**END/Tim Laderas**

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Information and Publication Service  
Department of Labor and Employment  
Intramuros, Manila  
Telephone Nos.: 5273000 local 621-627  
Fax No.: 5273446