

# NATURALIZATION LAW

## OF THE

# GENERAL CONGRESS.

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PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE, }  
*Department of Internal Relations.* }

### SOLE SECTION.

*His Excellency, the President of the United States of Mexico, has been pleased to direct me the following Decree.*

The President of the United States of Mexico to the inhabitants of the Republic; be it known: that the General Congress has decreed as follows:—

ARTICLE 1. Every foreigner, who has resided for the term of two years in succession within the limits of the republic, may request a certificate of naturalization in conformity to what is prescribed in this law.

ART. 2. For obtaining it, he must produce legal information to the district or circuit judge nearest the place of his residence, with citation and audience of the promoter fiscal:

*First*,—That he is a Roman Catholic, or the certificate of baptism proving the same.

*Second*,—That he has some business, useful skill or income whereby to subsist; the witnesses being required to state what is his business, skill or income.

*Third*,—That he has a good character.

ART. 3. Every person becoming naturalized shall present himself by writing, one year beforehand, to the Ayuntamiento of the place in which he resides, manifesting his design in establishing himself in

the country. An attested copy of said declaration shall accompany the documents mentioned in the foregoing article.

ART. 4. He shall present himself with these documents to the governor of the state, or principal political chief of the federal district or territories of the confederacy requesting the certificate of naturalization.

ART. 5. The exposition wherewith he requests his certificate of naturalization:—

*First*,—Shall contain an express renunciation of all submission and obedience to any other nation or foreign government, especially the nation or government to which he belongs.

*Second*,—It shall be therein stated, that he likewise renounces every title, token of honor, or grace he may have obtained from any government.

*Third*,—That he will support the constitution, constitutive act and general laws of the United States of Mexico.

ART. 6. These conditions having been complied with, the governor of the state, or principal political chief of the district or territory shall issue the certificate of naturalization agreeably to the formula annexed to this law.

ART. 7. Absence to foreign countries with a passport from the government shall not interrupt the successive residence of those who desire to become naturalized; provided, that it does not exceed eight months.

ART. 8. The wife, and the children when they are not free, shall be considered naturalized in the person of the husband.

ART. 9. The children of Mexican citizens, born out of the territory of the republic shall be considered as born therein.

ART. 10. The right of naturalization shall not descend to the children of those, who have never resided within the Mexican territory.

ART. 11. The children of foreigners not naturalized born in the Mexican territory may obtain the certificate of naturalization; provided, that within the year following, their becoming free they present themselves to the governor of the state, district or territory wherein they wish to reside.

ART. 12. Naturalization in a foreign country, and admission of office, commission, income, or token of honor, from another government shall deprive one of the rights of naturalization.

ART. 13. Every empresario, who comes with the view of colonizing, and effects it in accordance with the general law, and private law of the respective state, shall have a right to request a certificate of naturalization, which shall be granted him making oath of due obedience to the constitution and laws.

ART. 14. Foreigners who come to settle upon colonizable lands shall be considered naturalized after the expiration of one year from their establishment.

ART. 15. Foreigners, who, being in the marine service as soldiers, sailors, or enrolled therein, declare to the political authority nearest the place of their residence that they wish to become naturalized, making oath before said authority to support the constitution, constitutive act, and general laws, and that they renounce all submission and obedience to any other dominion or foreign government, and also, every title, token of honor or grace that is not of the republic of México.

ART. 16. The authorities to whom those foreigners mentioned in the foregoing article present themselves, shall forward to the governors of the respective states semi-annually an exact list, comprising the names, places, of nativity, age, and married or single state of the persons, who by virtue of said article should have become naturalized.

ART. 17. Certificates of naturalization shall not be granted to the subjects, or citizens of a nation at war with the United States of Mexico.

ART. 18. Those who have presented themselves to the general government up to the 1st of March, 1826, requesting to become naturalized, shall be considered to have employed the time required, complying with the other conditions prescribed by this law.

ART. 19. Every year in December, the governors of the states, district, or territory, shall transmit to the president of the republic a statement, expressing the names, places of birth, skill or business, and age of the persons to whom certificates of naturalization should have been granted. A register of all the same shall be kept in the office of the Secretary of internal relations, and in the archives of the respective governors.

ART. 20. Every year, on the first month of ordinary session, the secretary of internal relations shall transmit to both houses expressly, separate from the report, a note stating all that should be expressed in the reports he should have received from the governors in accordance with the preceding article, noticing at the conclusion thereof the faults he might observe on the part of the said governors, or others to whom it belongs, in conformity to this law.

FRANCISCO ANICETO PALACIOS,  
President of the Senate.

CASIMIRO LICEAGA,  
President of the House of Representatives.

MIGUEL DUQUE de ESTRADA,  
Secretary of the Senate.

JOSE PEREZ de PALACIOS,  
Secretary of the House of Representatives.

FORM

FOR GRANTING CERTIFICATES OF NATURALIZATION.

*N. N. Governor of N. or Political Chief of N.*

N. a native of N. having complied with the requisites and conditions, provided, by the law of \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ of the general congress regulating the manner in which the certificate of naturalization should be granted to foreigners, and accompanying the documents that prove the same, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the said law, I do by these presents declare the aforesaid N naturalized in the United States of Mexico.

(Date, place, and signature of the governor and his secretary.—*Two rubrics.*)

Wherefore, I order it to be printed, published, circulated and duly fulfilled.

Capitol at Mexico, on the 14th day of April, 1828.

GUADALUPE VICTORIA.

To Don Juan de Dios Cañedo.

And I hereby communicate the same to you for your information, and the consequent effects.

God and Liberty. Mexico, April 14th, 1828.

CANEDO.

