Legal Watch

REVENUE MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 54-2026

Photo Credit: BusinessMirror

Agency Name

Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR)

Issuance Title

Clarification on the Personal Equity Retirement Account (PERA) eligibility of securities covered by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) notice on the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) bi-annual rebalancing

Issuance Date

26 May 2026

Link

https://bir-cdn.bir.gov.ph/BIR/pdf/RMC%20No.%2054-2026.pdf

SUMMARY

This circular clarifies the tax treatment and eligibility of equity investments for Personal Equity and Retirement Accounts (PERA) following the bi-annual index rebalancing by the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE). Based on the guidelines for the PERA Act of 2008, the BIR clarifies three key points regarding tax-exempt investments:

A. **Eligible Securities**: Stocks included in the recently updated Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) and PSE Dividend Yield Index are officially recognized as qualified PERA investments, provided they meet existing SEC and BIR regulations.

B. **Effective Date**: The eligibility of these newly updated securities officially begins on February 2, 2026.

C. **Tax Exemption Status**: Any income generated from these qualified securities, as long as they are held within a PERA account, remains strictly exempt from income tax.