EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE

s. No. <u>1652</u>



Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

AN ACT

GRANTING TAX EXEMPTIONS AND FEE PRIVILEGES TO SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES WHICH ACQUIRE OR INVEST IN NON-PERFORMING ASSETS, SETTING THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

COVID-19 pandemic is wreaking havoc not only on humanity, but also on the global economy. Undoubtedly, the great majority of the world population will be saved from the deadly effects of this virus, but many of them may also succumb to extreme poverty and hunger due to the adverse effects of the pandemic to the economy.

Economic experts are now predicting an economic recession in many jurisdictions brought about by the enforcement of lockdowns to control the spread of the virus. Also, a post-pandemic adoption of the "new normal" may dramatically change the economic and social landscape of every country.

In the Philippines, our economic managers and both houses of Congress are working on an economic stimulus package to jumpstart the economy and help the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and those critically-impacted businesses.

During the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), only 21,691 firms were open but suffered loss of on the average 74.3% of their total sales, while 135,438

firms were closed.¹ Also, it is expected that many of these firms will be closed this year for an average of three (3) to nine (9) months.² Almost all sectors are affected by the COVID-19 crisis, but the hardest hit are those in the arts, entertainment, and recreation; tourism; education; construction; finance and insurance activities; and real estate.³ This temporary shutdown of business operations would greatly affect their financial capacity to meet both short-term and long-term liabilities including loans from banks and other financial institutions.

Citing its latest report on the Philippine financial system, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) said that the country's entire financial system, with banking sector at the core, remains strong and stable to withstand external vulnerabilities such as the COVID-19 pandemic.⁴ However, it remains uncertain how long this health crisis may last, thus making the future of our economy unpredictable.

The economic uncertainty brought about by the pandemic may soon take a hit on every balance sheet of businesses and enterprises that may result in their inability to pay bank loans, thereby causing the rise in non-performing loans (NPLs) of the entire banking industry. As of April 2020, the NPL ratio stood at 2.3% of the banks' total loan portfolio.⁵

In anticipation of the increase in bad loans to an unprecedented level and to help maintain stability in the financial system, this bill seeks to provide a legal framework for the establishment of asset management companies (AMCs) such as the special purpose vehicle (SPV) for the purpose of acquiring or investing in non-performing assets (NPAs) of the banks and other financial institutions. This is similar to the Special Purpose Vehicle Act of 2002 which was enacted to help cushion the impact of the 1997 Asian financial crisis to the entire Philippine financial system.

¹ DOF MSME Survey, April 4-8, 2020

² DOF MSME Survey, April 4-8, 2020

³ DOF MSME Survey, April 4-8, 2020

⁴ Report on the Philippine Financial System, 2nd Semester 2019

⁵ http://www.bsp.gov.ph/statistics/statagapbs.asp

SPVs are private sector-owned AMCs established primarily to acquire and dispose bad assets of the banks. In general, AMCs are effective means to expeditiously solve NPL problems.⁶ The usual procedure is that banks unload nonperforming assets to an AMC, clean up their books, and continue on with its primary role of financial intermediation.⁷ The AMCs, either government- or private-owned, then take care of disposing the acquired assets through a variety of means such as public auction, resale of assets to original borrowers, joint ventures, securitization, or even running the acquired business themselves.⁸ Typically, the special character of AMCs makes them more flexible than banks to carry out certain activities that help maximize asset values.⁹

The establishment of SPVs is beneficial both to the banks and the private sector-led AMCs. This will improve the liquidity condition of the banks and other financial institutions. On the other hand, the SPVs will be afforded an opportunity to reap profits from the subsequent disposition of valuable NPAs which are usually acquired at a discounted price. Furthermore, to encourage the private sector to establish SPVs, this bill seeks to grant certain tax exemptions and fee privileges on the sale or transfer of NPAs.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

RALPH G. RECTO

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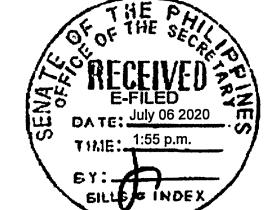
⁶ Gloria O. Pasadilla, PIDS Discussion Paper Series No. 2005-06, March 2005

⁷ Gloria O. Pasadilla, PIDS Discussion Paper Series No. 2005-06, March 2005

⁸ Gloria O. Pasadilla, PIDS Discussion Paper Series No. 2005-06, March 2005

⁹ Gloria O. Pasadilla, PIDS Discussion Paper Series No. 2005-06, March 2005

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

1	ARTICLE I
2	General Provisions
3	Section 1. Title This Act shall be known as "The Special Purpose Vehicle
4	(SPV) Act of 2020".
5	Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy It is hereby declared the policy of the State:
6	(a) To develop and maintain a sound financial sector for the country;
7	(b) To address the problems on non-performing assets of the financial sector;
8	(c) To encourage private sector investments in non-performing assets;
9	(d) To eliminate existing barriers in the acquisition of non-performing assets;
10	(e) To help in the rehabilitation of distressed businesses for the purpose of
11	contributing to economic value added; and
12	(f) To improve the liquidity of the financial system which can be harnessed to
13	propel economic growth and maintain financial stability.
14	Sec. 3. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act, the term:
15	(a) Approval Certificate means the certificate of approval or authority issued
16	by the Commission to an application by an SPV to issue Investment Unit Instruments
17	(IUIs), pursuant to the provisions of this Act;

- (b) Approved Plan means an SPV Plan for which an Approval Certificate has been issued by the Commission.
 - (c) Commission refers to the Securities and Exchange Commission.
- (d) *Financial Institutions (FIs)* mean credit-granting institutions which shall be limited to the following:
 - (1) the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP);

- (2) a bank, as defined under Republic Act No. 8791, also known as "The General Banking Law of 2000";
- (3) a financing company, as defined under Republic Act No. 8556, also known as "The Financing Company Act of 1998";
- (4) an investment house, as defined under Presidential Decree No. 129, as amended, also known as "The Investment Houses Law";
- (5) a lending company, as defined under Republic Act No. 9474, also known as "Lending Company Regulation Act of 2007";
- (6) government financial institutions (GFIs), which for purposes of this Act, refer to the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), and Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), and such other GFIs as may be included by the Secretary of Finance;
- (7) government-owned-or-controlled-corporations (GOCCs), which for purposes of this Act, refer to the National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation (NHMFC), Philippine Guarantee Corporation (PGC), Home Development Mutual Fund (HDMF), Social Security System (SSS), Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), Small Business Corporation (SBC), National Housing Authority (NHA), and such other GOCCs as may be included by the Secretary of Finance; and
- (8) other institutions licensed by the BSP to perform (i) quasi-banking functions and (ii) credit-granting activities, including non-stock savings and loan associations, pawnshops, and non-bank credit card issuers.
- (e) *Investment Unit Instrument (IUI)* refers to a participation certificate, debt instrument or similar instrument issued by the SPV and subscribed by Permitted Investors as provided in Section 11 hereof, pursuant to an Approved Plan: *Provided*, That these shall not include the instruments to be issued by the SPV to the selling FIs as full or partial settlement of the non-performing assets transferred to the said SPV: *Provided*, *further*, That such issuances of the SPV shall not be considered as

deposit substitutes: *Provided, finally,* That these shall not form part of the capital stock of the SPV.

- (f) Non-Performing Assets or NPAs consist of the non-performing loans and real and other properties acquired by FIs.
- (g) Non-Performing Loans or NPLs refer to secured or unsecured loans, receivables, and other financial assets of similar nature, including restructured loans, which are to be considered credit-impaired and defined as such in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).
- (h) Real and Other Properties Acquired (ROPAs) refer to real and other properties, other than those used for operating purposes or held for investment, acquired by an FI in settlement of loans and receivables, including real properties, shares of stocks, and security interest which have been acquired by way of dation in payment (dacion en pago) or judicial or extra-judicial foreclosure or execution of judgment or enforcement of security interest.
- (i) *SPV* means the Special Purpose Vehicle created pursuant to the provisions of this Act.
- (j) SPV Plan refers to the plan submitted to and approved by the Commission as pre-requisite to the issuance of an IUI.
- (k) *True Sale* refers to a sale wherein the selling FI transfers or sells its NPAs to an SPV, without recourse to cash or property in exchange for the transfer or sale, and without prejudice to the FI and SPV agreeing on sharing of profits in accordance with the conditions prescribed in the IRR, and subject to the following results:
- (1) The transferor transfers full legal and beneficial title to and relinquishes effective control over the transferred NPAs; and
- (2) The transferred NPAs are legally isolated and put beyond the reach of the transferor and its creditors:

Provided, That the transferring FI shall not have direct or indirect control of the transferee SPV: *Provided*, *further*, That the selling FI shall not have legal or beneficial ownership of more than ten percent (10%) of the transferee SPV.

ARTICLE II

Special Purpose Vehicle

Sec. 4. Special Purpose Vehicle. – An SPV shall be organized as a stock corporation in accordance with Republic Act No. 11232, otherwise known as "The

- Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines" and the rules and regulations promulgated by the Commission for purposes of registering the SPV: Provided, That if the SPV will acquire land, at least sixty percent (60%) of its outstanding capital stock shall be owned by Philippine nationals pursuant to Republic Act No. 7042, as amended, otherwise known as the "Foreign Investments Act." The BSP, GFIs and GOCCs may create an SPV subject to their respective charters and the approval of the Governance Commission for Government Owned or Controlled Corporations (GCG): Provided, further, That the limitations under Section 3 (k) of this Act shall not apply to BSP and such GFIs or GOCCs.
 - Sec. 5. Powers of an SPV. An SPV shall have the following powers:
 - (a) To invest in, or acquire NPAs of FIs;

- (b) To engage third parties to manage, operate, collect and dispose of NPAs acquired from an FI;
- (c) To rent, lease, hire, subject to security interest, mortgage, transfer, sell, exchange, usufruct, secure, securitize, collect rents and profits, and other similar acts concerning its NPAs acquired from an FI;
- (d) In case of NPLs, to restructure debt, condone debt and undertake other restructuring related activities. In restructuring debt, the SPV may reduce the principal amount, interest earned, interest rates, and the period for calculating the interest, extend the time for debt repayment or relax the conditions for debt repayment, agree to the conversion of the borrower's debt to equity in the borrower's business, agree to a transfer of assets or claims from the borrower to repay the debt or dispose of some of the borrower's property or claims to third persons;
- (e) To take, buy or transfer shares issued by the borrower for the purpose of business reorganization or rehabilitation of the borrower, subject to the provisions of the Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines in respect to the rights of the shareholders of the borrower company, and apply any other measures or restructuring techniques with the approval of the Commission;
- (f) To enter into dation in payment (*dacion en pago*) arrangements, foreclose judicially or extra-judicially and other forms of debt settlement involving NPLs;
- (g) To spend funds to renovate, improve, complete or alter its NPAs acquired from an FI;

(h) To issue equity or participation certificates or other forms of IUIs for the purpose of acquiring, managing, improving and disposing of its NPAs acquired from an FI;

- (i) To borrow money and issue other instruments of indebtedness for the purpose of paying operational and administrative costs;
- (j) To guarantee credit, and accept or intervene for honor the bills of borrowers;
- (k) To advance funds to borrowers as may be required for an acquired asset or any debt restructuring agreement pursuant thereto, or under any court order or rehabilitation plan; and
- (I) To engage the services of a third-party asset servicing company for the collection and receipt of the payments for debts under debt restructuring or business reorganization, management and disposition of assets of the SPV in accordance with the rules, procedures and conditions prescribed by the Commission or by the courts. Except in the case of ROPAs whose redemption periods have already expired, the SPV shall notify the borrower and all persons holding prior encumbrances upon the properties, or a part thereof, or are actually holding the same adversely against the borrower, of the appointment of such third-party asset servicing company within fifteen (15) days from the date of the appointment.
- Sec. 6. *Period for Filing of Applications.* Applications for the establishment and registration of an SPV shall be filed with the Commission within twenty-four (24) months beginning from the date of effectivity of the IRR promulgated pursuant to this Act: *Provided*, That the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Finance may extend the period by a maximum of twenty-four (24) months.

Entities created under Republic Act No. 9182, as amended, are qualified to avail of the privileges and incentives under this Act, subject to compliance with the requirements prescribed in the IRR.

- Sec. 7. Capitalization of an SPV. An SPV shall have an adequate minimum capitalization in such amount as may be prescribed by the Commission or by the appropriate regulatory agency of the SPV.
- Sec. 8. Submission of SPV Plan. After the establishment of an SPV pursuant to Section 4 hereof, an SPV Plan shall be submitted to the Commission for approval and shall include the following:

1 (a) Investment policies of the SPV;

- 2 (b) Contribution plan including the amounts and draft of subscription documents;
- 4 (c) Features of the IUIs including the specific amounts issued and to be issued;
 - (d) Rights of the holders of the IUIs;
 - (e) Draft agreements for the appointment of trustees and agents with respect to the IUIs and the NPLs acquired from an FI;
 - (f) Name of the external auditor of the SPV;
 - (g) Roles and responsibilities of the trustees, advisors, loan servicers and property managers;
 - (h) Draft form of financial reports of the SPV;
 - (i) Details of distribution policies;
 - (j) Methods for the increase and decrease of future fund contribution;
 - (k) Methods for the alteration or modification of the approved SPV Plan;
- 16 (I) Methods for the liquidation and distribution of assets to the holders of IUIs;
 - (m) Details of credit enhancements like guarantees or standby letters of credit or advances that may be extended to the SPV by an entity which shall not be the selling FI, its parent, subsidiaries or affiliates; and
 - (n) Such other documents or information as may be required by the Commission.
 - Sec. 9. *Approval of SPV Plan.* Upon approval of the SPV Plan, the Commission shall issue an Approval Certificate stating that the application has been approved and that the IUIs may be issued.
 - Sec. 10. *Issuance of IUIs.* The SPV may be allowed to issue IUIs subject to the rules and regulations the Commission is herein mandated to promulgate.
 - Sec. 11. *Permitted Investors.* Any qualified buyer, as defined in Section 10 (!) of Republic Act No. 8799, may acquire or hold IUIs in an SPV in the minimum amount of Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00): *Provided*, That an SPV shall not be authorized to acquire the IUIs of another SPV: *Provided*, *further*, That the parent, subsidiaries, affiliates or stockholders, directors, officers or any related interest of the selling FI or the parent's subsidiaries, affiliates or stockholders, directors, officers

or any related interest shall not acquire or hold, directly or indirectly, the IUIs of the SPV that acquired the NPAs of the FI.

ARTICLE III

Transfer of Assets to SPV

- Sec. 12. Notice and Manner of Transfer of Assets. (a) No transfer of NPLs to an SPV shall take effect unless the FI concerned shall give prior notice to the borrowers of the NPLs and all persons holding prior encumbrances upon the assets mortgaged or subject to security interest. Such notice shall be in writing and made in accordance with the 1997 Rules of Procedure, as amended, and the IRR, at their last known address or their email address registered and on file with the FIs. The borrower and the FI shall be given a period of at most ninety (90) days upon receipt of notice to restructure or renegotiate the loan under such terms and conditions as may be agreed upon by the borrower and the FI concerned.
- (b) The transfer of NPAs from an FI to an SPV shall be subject to prior certification of eligibility as NPA by the appropriate regulatory authority having jurisdiction over its operations which shall issue its certification within forty-five (45) days from the date of application by the FI for eligibility.
- (c) After the sale or transfer of the NPLs, the transferring FI shall inform the borrower in writing at the last known address or email address of the fact of the sale or transfer of the NPLs.
- Sec. 13. *Nature of Transfer.* All sales or transfers of NPAs to an SPV shall be in the nature of a true sale after proper notice in accordance with the procedure as provided for in Section 12: *Provided*, That disposition of assets of a GFI and a GOCC shall be covered by special rules to be incorporated in the IRR: *Provided, further*, That in the transfer of the NPLs, the provisions on subrogation and assignment of credits under the New Civil Code shall apply: *Provided, finally*, That after the sale, the SPV shall assume all rights and obligations of the transferring FI.

In the transfer of NPAs, the parties shall exercise the requisite due diligence and any fraud, collusion or irregularity shall be subject to Section 24 of this Act, as well as other pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

Sec. 14. *Issuance of Injunctive Relief Against Transfer of Assets.* – No court, other than the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court, shall issue any temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, preliminary mandatory injunction, status

quo order, stay order, commencement order, or any other issuance of injunctive relief against the transfer of NPAs from the FI to an SPV, and from an SPV to a third party, or dation in payment (*dacion en pago*) by the borrower or by a third party in favor of an FI or in favor of an SPV, or judicial or extrajudicial foreclosure sales or execution sales of the FI or SPV of collateral in settlement of NPLs.

Any restraining order, injunction, status quo order, stay order, commencement order, or any other issuance of injunctive relief issued in violation of this Section is void and of no force and effect.

The pertinent provisions of the Rules of Court on injunctions insofar as these are applicable and not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, shall govern the issuance and dissolution of restraining orders, injunctions, status quo orders or stay orders against said transfers.

ARTICLE IV

Incentives and Exemption Privileges

Sec. 15. *Tax Exemptions and Fee Privileges.* – Any existing law to the contrary notwithstanding, the transfer of NPAs from the FI to an SPV, and from an SPV to a third party or dation in payment (*dacion en pago*) by the borrower or by a third party in favor of an FI or in favor of an SPV shall be exempt from the following taxes:

- (a) Documentary stamp tax on the abovementioned transfer of NPAs and dation in payment (*dacion en pago*) as may be imposed under Title VII of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended;
- (b) Capital gains tax imposed on the transfer of lands and/or other assets treated as capital assets as defined under Section 39(A)(1) of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended;
- (c) Income tax on the transfer of land, buildings and/or other assets treated as ordinary assets as may be imposed under Title II of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended;
- (d) Value-added tax on the transfer of NPAs as may be imposed under Title IV of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended, or gross receipts tax under Title V of the same Code, whichever is applicable.

The abovementioned transfers shall also be subject to the following, in lieu of the applicable fees: (a) Fifty percent (50%) of the applicable registration and transfer fees on the transfer of real estate mortgage and security interest to and from the SPV, as imposed in accordance with the existing circulars of the Land Registration Authority (LRA);

- (b) Fifty percent (50%) of the filing fees for any foreclosure initiated by the SPV in relation to any NPA acquired from an FI, as prescribed by the Rules of Court; and
- (c) Fifty percent (50%) of the land registration fees prescribed under the existing circulars of the LRA.

All sales or transfers of NPAs from the FIs to an SPV or transfers by way of dation in payment (*dacion en pago*) by the borrower or by a third party to the FI shall be entitled to the privileges enumerated herein for a period of not more than two (2) years from the date of effectivity of the IRR: *Provided*, That the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Finance may extend such period by a maximum of two (2) years.

Transfers from an SPV to a third party of NPAs acquired by the SPV within such two (2)-year period, or within such extended period, or transfers by way of dation in payment (*dacion en pago*) by a borrower or by a third party to the SPV shall enjoy the privileges enumerated herein for a period of not more than five (5) years from the date of acquisition by the SPV: *Provided*, That the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Finance may extend such five (5)-year period by a maximum of five (5) years: *Provided*, *further*, That properties acquired by an SPV from GFIs or GOCCs which are devoted to socialized or low-cost housing shall not be converted to other uses.

The tax exemptions, incentives, and fee privileges given to FIs and SPV at the various stages of the transactions under this Section shall likewise be extended to any individual subject to the conditions prescribed in the IRR: *Provided*, That:

- (i) the transaction is limited to a ROPA that is either a single family residential unit or an empty lot, or to NPL secured by real estate mortgage on a residential unit or an empty lot;
- (ii) there shall only be one transaction consisting of one residential unit or empty lot per individual; and

(iii) the two (2)-year transfer period, including its extension, and the five (5)-year entitlement period granted to NPA, as may be extended by the President upon recommendation of the Secretary of Finance, shall also apply to said single family residential unit or empty lot.

Sec. 16. Additional Tax Exemptions and Fee Privileges. – To encourage the infusion of capital and/or financial assistance by the SPV for the purpose of rehabilitating the borrower's business, the following additional tax exemptions and privileges shall be enjoyed:

- (a) The SPV shall be exempt from income tax on net interest income, documentary stamp tax and mortgage registration fees on new loans in excess of existing loans extended to borrowers with NPLs which have been acquired by the SPV.
- (b) In case of capital infusion by the SPV to the borrower with NPLs, the SPV shall also be exempt from the documentary stamp tax.

Provided, That the tax exemptions and fee privileges under this Section shall apply for a period of not more than five (5) years from the date of acquisition of NPLs by the SPV: *Provided, further*, That the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Finance may extend the period for the enjoyment of such tax exemptions and fee privileges by a maximum of five (5) years: *Provided, finally*, That distressed businesses which are indispensable to the national interest or security shall be given priority in the capital infusion by the SPV.

Sec. 17. Net Operating Loss Carry-Over (NOLCO) of Participating FIs. — (a) Any loss that is incurred by an FI as a result of the transfer of an NPA within the two (2)-year period from the effectivity of the IRR shall be treated as ordinary loss: Provided, That the accrued interest and penalties shall not be included as loss on said loss carry over from operations, subject to the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended, on net operating loss carry-over (NOLCO). Such loss incurred by the FI from the transfer of NPAs within the two (2)-year period from the effectivity of the IRR may be carried over for a period of five (5) consecutive taxable years immediately following the year of such loss: Provided, further, That for purposes of corporate gain or loss, the carry-over shall be subject to pertinent laws: Provided, finally, That the tax savings derived by FIs from the NOLCO shall not be made available for dividend declaration but shall be retained as

- a form of capital build-up. The Department of Finance (DOF), upon the recommendation of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), shall issue the rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Section.
- (b) The regulatory authority concerned shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations governing the treatment of any loss of the FIs in the books of account as a result of the transfer of the NPAs.
- (c) In the case of non-bank GFIs and GOCCs enumerated in Section 3 hereof, the DOF, in consultation with the Commission on Audit (COA), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations governing the treatment of any loss in their books of account as a result of the transfer of their NPAs.
- Sec. 18. Abuse of Tax Exemptions and Privileges. Any person, natural or juridical, who benefits from the tax exemptions and privileges herein granted, when such person is not entitled thereto, shall be subject to the penalties provided in Section 24 hereof. In addition, the offender shall refund to the government double the amount of the tax exemptions and privileges availed of under this Act, plus interest of twelve percent (12%) per year from the date prescribed for its payment until the full payment thereof.

18 ARTICLE V

Enforcement and Protection Provisions

Sec. 19. Consumer Protection Mechanism. – The SPV shall set up an appropriate consumer protection mechanism as may be prescribed in the IRR or rules and regulations to be issued by the appropriate regulatory authority.

Sec. 20. *Redemption Periods.* – The redemption periods allowed to borrowers under Section 47 of Republic Act No. 8791, also known as "The General Banking Law of 2000", the Rules of Court, as well as other relevant laws for non-bank borrowers shall be applicable.

ARTICLE VI

Reporting Provisions

Sec. 21. *Books of Accounts and Records.* – The SPV shall set and keep accurate accounts and internal financial controls and shall appoint an external auditor that is acceptable to the Commission. The Commission, the BSP, and the BIR may look into the books of accounts and records of the SPV at any time during office hours after due notice.

Sec. 22. *Reports.* – The Commission, the regulatory authorities, and the BIR shall prescribe the submission of reports from the SPV and the FIs for the proper implementation of this Act.

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ARTICLE VII

Final Provisions

Sec. 23. *Primary Implementing Agency.* – The Commission shall be the primary implementing agency of this Act. It shall have the authority to enlist the assistance of any branch, department, bureau, office, agency or instrumentality of the government, including GOCCs and GFIs which may include the use and transfer of its personnel, facilities and resources.

Sec. 24. Penalties. - Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Act, or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, or any person who, in a notice, certification or plan filed under this Act, makes any untruthful statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact required to be stated therein, shall, upon conviction, suffer a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) nor more than Two million pesos (P2,000,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than six (6) years nor more than twelve (12) years, or both, at the discretion of the court, without prejudice to the penalties provided under Section 18 hereof, Section 37 of Republic Act No. 7653, as amended, and other applicable laws. If the offender is a corporation, association, partnership or any juridical person, the penalty shall be imposed upon the responsible officers, as the case may be, who participated in the commission of the crime or who shall have knowingly permitted or failed to prevent its commission. If the offender is a juridical person, other than a bank or financial institution supervised by the BSP, the court may order the suspension or revocation of its license. If the offender is an alien, the offender shall, in addition to the penalties herein prescribed, be deported without further proceedings after serving the penalties herein prescribed. If the offender is a public official or employee, the offender shall, in addition to the penalties prescribed herein, suffer absolute or temporary disqualification from government or public office, as the case may be.

Sec. 25. *Applicability Clause.* – The provisions of this Act shall be applicable to assets that have become non-performing as of December 31, 2020: *Provided,* That

the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Finance may extend the said period by a maximum of two (2) years.

Sec. 26. *Conscience Clause.* – Nothing in this Act shall be construed in such a manner that condones or exempts from any liability any person responsible for acts or omissions constituting unsound business practices or mismanagement.

Sec. 27. Oversight Committee. — There is hereby created a Joint Congressional Oversight Committee to oversee, monitor, and evaluate the implementation of this Act. It shall be composed of the chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies, and the House of Representatives Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries, and additional four (4) members, at least one member of which shall be from the minority, from the same committees of each house to be designated by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively.

Sec. 28. *Use of Registration Fees.* – To carry out the purposes of this Act, the Commission shall retain and use all fees paid to it relative to the establishment of an SPV in addition to its annual budget and to what is provided for under Section 75 of Republic Act No. 8799 or the Securities Regulation Code.

Sec. 29. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Commission, jointly with the BSP, the DOF, and the BIR, shall promulgate the necessary IRR for the effective implementation of this Act: *Provided,* That within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOF, upon the recommendation of the BIR, shall promulgate the revenue regulations implementing the tax exemptions under this Act: *Provided, further,* That the Commission, BSP, DOF and BIR may issue separate rules and regulations that will apply exclusively to the institutions under their respective jurisdiction, which shall not be inconsistent with the IRR to be issued by the Commission.

Sec. 30. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 31. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 9182, as amended, otherwise known as the "Special Purpose Vehicle Act of 2002," is hereby repealed. All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof

- which are contrary to and inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended
- 2 or modified accordingly.
- Sec. 32. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
- 4 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
- 5 general circulation.

Approved,