



S E N A T E \*

S. No. 1844

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AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT TO  
EXPEDITE THE PROCESSING AND ISSUANCE  
OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL PERMITS, LICENSES  
AND CERTIFICATIONS IN TIMES OF NATIONAL  
EMERGENCY

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

1           SECTION 1. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover all  
2 agencies of the Executive branch, including departments,  
3 bureaus, offices, commissions, boards, councils;  
4 government instrumentalities, government -owned and  
5 -controlled corporations such as, but not limited to, the  
6 following: Department of Finance (DOF), Bureau of  
7 Internal Revenue (BIR), Bureau of Customs (BOC);

1 Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
2 (DENR), National Water Resources Board (NWRB),  
3 Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), Land  
4 Management Bureau; Department of Justice (DOJ), Land  
5 Registration Authority (LRA), Bureau of Immigration (BI);  
6 Department of Transportation (DOTr), Land  
7 Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board  
8 (LTFRB), Land Transportation Office (LTO), Civil Aviation  
9 Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), Philippine Ports  
10 Authority (PPA), Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA);  
11 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD),  
12 National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);  
13 Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG),  
14 Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP); Department of Health  
15 (DOH), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation  
16 (PhilHealth), Food and Drug Administration (FDA);  
17 Department of Information and Communications  
18 Technology (DICT), National Telecommunications  
19 Commission (NTC); Department of Agriculture (DA),  
20 Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR);

1 Department of Energy (DOE); Energy Regulatory  
2 Commission (ERC); Department of Labor and Employment  
3 (DOLE); Department of Human Settlements and Urban  
4 Development (DHSUD), Home Development Mutual Fund  
5 (HDMF/PAGIBIG), Human Settlements Adjudication  
6 Commission (HSAC); Social Security System (SSS);  
7 Government Service Insurance System (GSIS); and local  
8 government units.

9       SEC. 2. *Authority of the President to Suspend the*  
10 *Requirements for National and Local Permits, Licenses and*  
11 *Certifications, and to Streamline and Expedite the Process*  
12 *for the Issuance Thereof.* – Notwithstanding any law,  
13 decree, order or ordinance to the contrary, the President, in  
14 times of national emergency shall have the authority to:

15       (a) Accelerate and streamline regulatory processes  
16 and procedures for new and pending applications and  
17 renewals of permits, licenses, clearances, certifications or  
18 authorizations, including fixing or shortening the periods  
19 provided for under existing laws, regulations, issuances,  
20 and ordinances;

1           (b) Suspend or waive the requirements in securing  
2 such permits, licenses, clearances, certifications or  
3 authorizations; and

4           (c) In consultation with or upon the recommendation  
5 of the affected government agencies, may prescribe to be  
6 permanent the streamlined regulatory processes and  
7 procedures, and the suspension or waiver of the  
8 requirements in securing permits, licenses, clearances, and  
9 certifications or authorizations:

10           *Provided*, That the authority herein granted under  
11 subparagraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section shall not be  
12 used to undermine the existing procedures and processes,  
13 under applicable laws, rules and regulations, meant to  
14 protect the environment, especially those that aim to  
15 safeguard protected areas and its buffer zones, and  
16 environmentally critical areas.

17           SEC. 3. *Power to Suspend or Remove*. – Consistent  
18 with Article VII Sections 1 and 17 of the Constitution, the  
19 Revised Administrative Code, other existing laws, and  
20 jurisprudence, the President shall have the authority to

1 suspend or remove, any government official or employee  
2 performing acts contrary to the preceding section.

3       SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this  
4 Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions  
5 not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and  
6 effect.

7       SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders,  
8 ordinances, rules and regulations inconsistent with the  
9 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
10 accordingly.

11       SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon  
12 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of  
13 general circulation.

Approved,