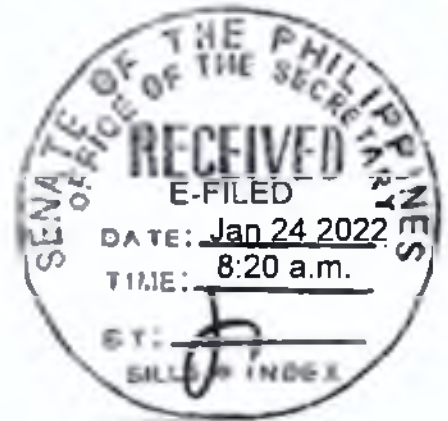


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



SENATE
S. B. No. 2483

Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, AMENDING FOR THIS
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9266, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Through the years, architecture has been a symbol of power, strength, development, and progress of a nation. A lot can be learned and discovered from a nation's history by merely studying its architecture as it reflects a nation's character, values, and ideal. Architecture encompasses everything in the designed and built environment.

As the architecture profession grows, the role of architects in designing and building structures and communities likewise grows. The invaluable contribution of architects in nation-building and development is undeniable. It is thus the duty of the State to ensure that every architect meets the minimum requirements to promote and safeguard the health, safety, and general welfare of the people. Thus, architects' continuing education and professional standards must always be in check to ensure not only their professional growth, but to stimulate their competence to be at par with the world's best.

The passage of Republic Act No. 9266, otherwise known as the "Architecture Act of 2004", was a very welcome development for the field of architecture. It was a significant step of the State in protecting and assuring the public of its policy in developing and nurturing competent, virtuous, productive, and well-rounded architects.

However, there appears to be areas which needed consideration and improvement to further strengthen the architecture profession. As a matter of fact, since 2013, several bills have been filed in Congress calling for the amendment of several provisions of Republic Act No. 9266.

Thus, the proposed measure seeks to emphasize the call for the amendment of Republic Act No. 9266, incorporating additional provisions, while harmonizing the same with other prevailing laws. Among others, the bill intends to provide for a clearer definition of several architectural terms in order to avoid vagueness and to promote accuracy in the implementation of the provisions of RA 9266, in relation to the proposed amendments. Further, the bill intends to provide additional requirements to the qualifications for membership to the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture ("Board") in order to ensure that the leaders enforcing our regulatory law have greater and more considerable qualifications in driving the profession towards competence, while preventing instances of conflict of interests and "politicization" of the profession.

Lastly, the bill intends to ensure the qualifications and competence of future architects by imposing as a requirement upon applicants a one (1)-year break, after failing the third time in the architecture licensure examination.

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



SONNY ANGARA

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9266, otherwise known as the Architecture
2 Act of 2004, is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.- As used in this Act, the following terms shall be
4 defined as follows:

5 (1) "Architecture" is the art, science or profession of **RENDERING OR**
6 **OFFERING TO RENDER SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE**
7 planning, designing and constructing [~~buildings in their totality~~] **A**
8 **STRUCTURE OR GROUP OF STRUCTURES WHICH HAVE AS THEIR**
9 **PRINCIPAL PURPOSE HUMAN HABITATION OR USE AND THE**
10 **UTILIZATION OF SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH**
11 **STRUCTURES** taking into account their environment, in accordance with
12 the principles of utility, strength and beauty;

13 (2) "Architect" means a person professionally and academically qualified,
14 registered and licensed **TO PRACTICE ARCHITECTURE** under this Act
15 with a Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card issued
16 by the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture and the Professional
17 Regulation Commission, and who is responsible for advocating the fair and
18 sustainable development, welfare and cultural expression of society's
19 habitat in terms of space, forms and historical context;

20 "xxx

21 (11) "Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization **OF ARCHITECTS**
22 **(IAPOA)**" means the existing official national organization of all architects

1 of the Philippines in which all registered Filipino architects shall be members
2 without prejudice to membership in other voluntary professional
3 associations;

4 "xxx

5 **(15)"ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN," ALSO REFERRED TO AS "DESIGN" AS**
6 **USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE ILLUSTRATED CONCEPT THAT**
7 **FOCUSES ON THE FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF BUILDINGS OR**
8 **STRUCTURES AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE**
9 **WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES**
10 **AND UNIFIES THEM INTO A COHERENT AND FUNCTIONAL WHOLE,**
11 **FOLLOWING A GENERALLY ACCEPTED APPROACH TO ACHIEVE**
12 **THE OBJECTIVES, ABIDING BY SET NORMS AND CONSIDERING**
13 **THE ARCHITECTURAL PRINCIPLES OF UTILITY, STRENGTH, AND**
14 **BEAUTY, EXCLUSIVELY PREPARED BY AN ARCHITECT;**

15 **(16)"ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS," ALSO REFERRED TO AS**
16 **"DOCUMENTS" AS USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE**
17 **ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, ARCHITECTURAL PLANS, DRAWINGS,**
18 **SPECIFICATIONS, TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS AND OTHER**
19 **INSTRUMENTS OF SERVICE PREPARED, SIGNED, AND SEALED,**
20 **EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT;**

21 **(17)"ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT" MEANS A DOCUMENT DULY ISSUED BY**
22 **ANY REGULATING GOVERNMENT ENTITY BASED ON**
23 **ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS AUTHORIZING THE**
24 **CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AND THE**
25 **UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND**
26 **SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES;**

27 **(18)"ARCHITECTURAL PLANS" ALSO REFERRED TO AS "PLANS" AS**
28 **USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE LATERAL SECTION OR**
29 **DIMENSIONAL REPRESENTATIONS OF A PROPOSED**
30 **DEVELOPMENT OR REDEVELOPMENT OF BUILDINGS OR**
31 **STRUCTURES AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE**
32 **WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES**
33 **SHOWING FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL**
34 **DESIGN SUCH AS THE FLOOR PLANS, ELEVATIONS, CROSS AND**
35 **LONGITUDINAL SECTIONS, PERSPECTIVE, REFLECTED CEILING**
36 **PLAN, SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL INTERIORS,**

1 **AND OTHER ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS PREPARED, SIGNED, AND**
2 **SEALED, EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT.**

3 **(19) "MULTIPARTITE COUNCIIL" REFERS TO A BODY COMPOSED OF**
4 **REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY**
5 **BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, THE INTEGRATED AND ACCREDITED**
6 **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS (IAPOA), THE**
7 **ACADEME, PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS AND GOVERNMENT**
8 **PRACTITIONERS."**

9 **SECTION 2.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 "SEC. 4. Creation and Composition of the Professional Regulatory Board. - There is
11 hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture, hereinafter
12 referred to as the Board, a collegial body under the supervision and administrative
13 control of the Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the
14 Commission, to be composed of a chairman and [~~two (2)~~] **FOUR (4)** members
15 appointed by the President of the Philippines from a list of [~~three (3)~~] **FIVE (5)**
16 recommendees chosen from a list of [~~five (5)~~] **EIGHT (8)** nominees for each
17 position submitted to the Commission by the integrated and the accredited
18 professional organization of architects. The Board shall be organized not later than
19 six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act."

20 **SECTION 3.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 "SEC. 5. Qualifications of Members of the Professional Regulatory Board. - Each
22 member shall have at the time of his/her appointment, possess the following
23 qualifications:

- 24 (a) be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- 25 (b) be a holder of a degree in Bachelor of Science in Architecture,
26 **PREFERRABLY WITH A POST-BACCALAUREATE DEGREE IN**
27 **ARCHITECTURE**, conferred by a school, college or university in the
28 Philippines or abroad, **WHOSE PROGRAM** is accredited by the Commission
29 on Higher Education (CHED);
- 30 (c) be an architect with a valid Certificate of Registration and Professional
31 Identification Card and active practitioner of architecture for at least [~~ten~~
32 ~~(10)~~] **FIFTEEN (15)** years on the date of his/her appointment;
- 33 (d) not be a member of the faculty of any good school, college, university or
34 review institution where a regular course or review course in architecture is
35 taught, nor have pecuniary interest in such institution. No former member
36 of the faculty of any school, institute, university or review center where

1 architecture is taught can become a member of the Board unless he/she
2 had officially **FILED A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR** resigned from such an
3 institution and has completely stopped teaching, advising or reviewing
4 activities [~~for at least five (5) years prior to the nomination~~] **ON THE DATE**
5 **OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT;** [~~and~~]

6 (e) has never been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude[.];

7 **(F) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE OFFICER OF THE INTEGRATED AND**
8 **ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS**
9 **AND OTHER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS ON**
10 **THE DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT;**

11 **(G) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE NOR APPOINTIVE LOCAL OFFICIAL UNLESS**
12 **HE/SHE RELINQUISHES HIS/HER OFFICE ON THE DATE OF**
13 **HIS/HER APPOINTMENT; AND**

14 **(H) NOT BE A CANDIDATE WHO HAS LOST IN ANY ELECTION, WITHIN**
15 **ONE (1) YEAR PRIOR TO THE DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT."**

16 **SECTION 4.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 "SEC. 6. Term of Office. – The members of the Board shall hold office for a term
18 of three (3) years after appointment or until their successors shall have been
19 appointed and duly qualified. Any vacancy occurring within the term of a member
20 shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term only. Each member of the
21 Board may be reappointed for one full term of three (3) years. Of the members of
22 the Board first appointed under this Act, one (1) member shall be appointed and
23 hold office as chairman for three (3) years, [~~ONE (1)~~] **TWO (2)** member**S** for two
24 (2) years, and [~~ONE (1)~~] **TWO (2)** member**S** for one (1) year. Each member of
25 the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath prior to the performance of their
26 duties. Provided, That the incumbent members of the Board shall continue to
27 serve for the remainder of their term as members of the herein created
28 Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture until a new Board shall have been
29 properly organized."

30 **SECTION 5.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 "SEC. 7. Powers and Functions of the Board. – The Board shall exercise the
32 following specific powers, functions and responsibilities:

33 xxx

34 (f) Monitor [~~the~~] **LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS AND**
35 conditions affecting the practice of architecture and adopt such measures as

1 may be deemed proper for the enhancement and maintenance of high
2 professional, ethical and technical standards of the profession;

3 (m) To adopt a program for the full computerization of the licensure
4 examination; ~~and~~

5 **(N) KEEP, MAINTAIN, PUBLISH, AND ANNUALLY UPDATE A ROSTER OF**
6 **ARCHITECTS, A ROSTER OF PRACTICING ARCHITECTS, A ROSTER**
7 **OF FOREIGN ARCHITECTS WITH VALID TEMPORARY PERMITS,**
8 **AND A ROSTER OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS;**

9 **(O) KEEP A RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS AND MAKE AN ANNUAL**
10 **REPORT TO THE COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,**
11 **PHILIPPINE SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIIVES, THE CHED,**
12 **AND THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL; AND**

13 ~~(n)~~ **(P) Discharge such other duties and functions as may be deemed**
14 **necessary for the enhancement of the architecture profession and the**
15 **upgrading, development and growth of the architecture education."**

16 **SECTION 6.** Section 9 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 "SEC. 9. Grounds for Suspension or Removal of Members of the Board. – xxx

18 (a) xxx

19 (b) xxx

20 (c) Final judgment [of crimes involving moral turpitude] **FOR CRIMES UNDER**
21 **THE REVISED PENAL CODE, THE ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT**
22 **PRACTICES ACT, AND OTHER PENAL LAWS; ~~and~~**

23 **(d) Manipulation or rigging of the architecture licensure examination results,**
24 **disclosure of secret and confidential information in the examination**
25 **questions prior to the conduct of the said examination or tampering of**
26 **grades[.];**

27 **(E) SOLICITING AND/OR ACCEPTING, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY,**
28 **ANY GIFT, GRATUITY, FAVOR, ENTERTAINMENT, LOAN OR**
29 **ANYTHING OF MONETARY VALUE FROM ANY SOURCE, IN THE**
30 **COURSE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES OR IN CONNECTION WITH**
31 **ANY OPERATION BEING REGULATED BY, OR ANY TRANSACTION**
32 **WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE FUNCTIONS OF THEIR OFFICE;**

33 **(F) ENGAGING IN UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE."**

34 **SECTION 7.** Section 11 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
35 follows:

1 "SEC. 11. Annual Report. - The Board shall submit an annual report to the
2 Commission after the close of each year giving a detailed account of its
3 proceedings during the year and making such recommendations as it may deem
4 proper.

5 **"THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY A**
6 **COMPETITIVENESS REPORT, WHICH SHALL BE SUBMITTED**
7 **BIENNIALLY. THE COMPETITIVENESS REPORT SHALL CONTAIN**
8 **ASSESSMENT OF FILIPINO PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTS,**
9 **ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS, THE BOARD, AND THE IAPOA VIS À VIS**
10 **THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN COUNTRIES WITH WHOM THE PHILIPPINES**
11 **HAS NEGOTIATED, IS NEGOTIATING, OR DESIRES TO NEGOTIATE**
12 **MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENTS.**

13 **COPIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND COMPETITIVENESS REPORT**
14 **SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE FOLLOWING:**

- 15 (a) **OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES;**
- 16 (b) **PHILIPPINE SENATE;**
- 17 (c) **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;**
- 18 (d) **THE CHED; AND**
- 19 (e) **THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL."**

20 **SECTION 8.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
21 follows:

22 "SEC. 13. Qualifications of Applicant for Examination. – Any person applying for
23 examination shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board that:

24 xxx

25 (c) He/she is a holder of a degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture conferred
26 by a school, college, academy or institute **IN THE PHILIPPINES OR ABROAD,**
27 **WHOSE PROGRAM IS** duly recognized and/or accredited by the Commission on
28 Higher Education (CHED) and in addition has a specific record of at least two (2)
29 years or equivalent of diversified architectural experience duly certified by a
30 registered/licensed architect: Provided, however, That an applicant holding a
31 Master's Degree in Architecture from a school, college, university or institute **IN**
32 **THE PHILIPPINES OR ABROAD DULY ACCREDITED BY THE CHED,** shall be
33 credited one (1) year in his/her practical experience: **PROVIDED, FURTHER,**
34 **FOR AN APPLICANT THAT HOLDS A DEGREE FROM A SCHOOL, COLLEGE,**
35 **UNIVERSITY OR INSTITUTE, WHOSE PROGRAM IS NOT CURRENTLY**
36 **ACCREDITED BY THE CHED, THE APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT SAID**

1 PROGRAM FOR ACCREDITATION BY THE CHED: PROVIDED,
2 FURTHERMORE, THAT AN APPLICANT WHO HAS OBTAINED
3 DIVERSIFIED EXPERIENCE FROM AN ARCHITECT
4 REGISTERED/LICENSED ABROAD SHALL PROVE THAT THE COUNTRY
5 WHERE HE OBTAINED SUCH EXPERIENCE HAS RECIPROCITY
6 AGREEMENTS WITH THE PHILIPPINES, AND SHALL SUBMIT
7 DOCUMENTATION FOR EQUIVALENCY ASSESSMENT BY THE PRC; and
8 (d) He/she has not been convicted of any criminal offense involving moral
9 turpitude."

10 **SECTION 9.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
11 follows:

12 "SEC. 14. Subjects for Examination. – xxx

13 "xxx

14 "The Board, subject to the approval of the Commission, **AND UPON**
15 **CONSULTATION WITH THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL**, may revise or
16 exclude any of the subjects and their syllabi, and add new ones as the need arises
17 to conform to technological changes brought about by continuing trends in the
18 profession."

19 **SECTION 10.** A new section designated as Section 16-A is hereby added to read as
20 follows:

21 **"SECTION 16-A. RE-EXAMINATION. - AN APPLICANT WHO FAILS TO**
22 **PASS THE EXAMINATION FOR THE THIRD TIME SHALL BE ALLOWED TO**
23 **TAKE ANOTHER EXAMINATION ONLY AFTER THE LAPSE OF ONE YEAR."**

24 **SECTION 11.** Section 19 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
25 follows:

26 "SEC. 19. Roster of Architects. – A roster showing the names and place of
27 business of all registered professional architects, **PRACTICING ARCHITECTS,**
28 **FOREIGN ARCHITECTS WITH VALID TEMPORARY PERMIT, AND**
29 **ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS**, shall be prepared and updated by the Board and
30 copies thereof shall be made available to any party as may be deemed necessary."

31 **SECTION 12.** Section 20 (2) of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
32 follows:

33 "SEC. 20. Seal, Issuance and Use of Seal. – xxx

34 xxx

35 (2) No officer or employee of this Republic, chartered cities, provinces and
36 municipalities, now or hereafter charged with the enforcement of laws,

1 ordinances or regulations relating to the construction or alteration of buildings,
2 shall accept or approve any architectural plans or specifications which have
3 not been prepared **EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT** and submitted in full
4 accord with all the provisions of this Act; nor shall any payments be approved
5 by any such officer for any work, the plans and specifications for which have
6 not been so prepared **EXCLUSIVELY** and signed and sealed by ~~[the author]~~
7 **AN ARCHITECT.**

8 **"UPON APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS, THE**
9 **CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT SHALL BE ISSUED;**
10 **PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO BUILDING PERMIT OR OTHER**
11 **DOCUMENT OF SIMILAR IMPORT SHALL BE ISSUED WITHOUT THE**
12 **CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, PLANS, AND**
13 **DOCUMENTS PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY AND SIGNED BY AN**
14 **ARCHITECT.**

15 "xxx"

16 **SECTION 13.** Section 25 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
17 follows:

18 "SEC. 25. Registration of Architects Required. – No person shall practice
19 architecture in this country, or engage in preparing architectural plans,
20 specifications or preliminary data for the erection or alteration of any building
21 located within the boundaries of this country or use the title "Architect", "**ARCH.**",
22 "**ARCH'T.**", "**AR.**", or display the word "Architect" together with another word
23 **INCLUDING "ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN", "ARCHITECTURAL**
24 **DRAWINGS", "ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES", OR ANY OF THEIR**
25 **DERIVATES OR TRANSLATIONS INTO OTHER LANGUAGES OR DIALECTS,**
26 **IN CONNECTION WITH HIS OR HER NAME, STYLE, BUSINESS**
27 **DESIGNATION, BUSINESS NAME, LOGO, OR ON PLANS, DRAWINGS, OR**
28 **SPECIFICATIONS FOR BUILDINGS OR PARTS OF BUILDINGS, ~~[or display~~**
29 **~~or use any title, sign, card, advertisement, or other device]~~ to indicate **THAT** such
30 person practices or offers to practice architecture, or is an architect, unless such
31 person shall have received from the Board a Certificate of Registration and be
32 issued a Professional Identification Card in the manner hereinafter provided and
33 shall thereafter comply with the provisions of this Act.**

34 "xxx"

35 **SECTION 14.** Section 29 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
36 follows:

1 "SEC. 29. Prohibition in the Practice of Architecture and Penal Clause. - Any person
2 who shall practice or offer to practice architecture in the Philippines without being
3 registered/licensed and who are not holders of temporary or special permits in
4 accordance with the provisions of this Act, or any person presenting or attempting
5 to use as his/her own the Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification
6 Card or seal of another or temporary or special permit, or any person who shall
7 give any false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board or to any member
8 thereof in obtaining a Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card or
9 temporary or special permit, or any person who shall falsely impersonate any
10 registrant of like or different name, or any person who shall attempt to use a
11 revoked or suspended Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card or
12 cancelled special/temporary permit, or any person who shall use in connection
13 with his/her name or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title or description
14 tending to convey the impression that he/she is an architect when he/she is not
15 an architect, or any person whether Filipino or foreigner, who knowingly allows
16 the use, adoption, implementation of plans, designs or specifications made by any
17 person, firm, partnership or company not duly licensed to engage in the practice
18 of architecture, **OR ANY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE CONNECTED WITH THE**
19 **PERMITTING AUTHORITIES WHO PREPARES, SIGNS AND SEALS**
20 **ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR**
21 **GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PERMITS, CLEARANCES AND LICENSES, SUCH**
22 **AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ARCHITECTURAL PERMITS, BUILDING**
23 **PERMITS, OCCUPANCY PERMITS AND ZONING/LOCATIONAL**
24 **CLEARANCES, AND BUSINESS PERMITS,** or any person who shall violate any
25 of the provisions of this Act, its implementing rules and regulations, the Code of
26 Ethical Conduct and Standards of Professional Practice, or any policy of the Board
27 and the Commission, shall be guilty of misdemeanor and charged in court by the
28 Commission and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to a fine of not less than One
29 hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five Million pesos
30 (P5,000,000.00) or to suffer imprisonment for a period not less than six (6)
31 months or not exceeding six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of the Court."

32 **SECTION 15.** Section 30 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
33 follows:

34 "SEC. 30. [~~Prohibition in the Practice~~] **COERCION, AIDING AND ABETTING**
35 **ILLEGAL PRACTICE** of Architecture. – Any person or entity, whether public or
36 private, Filipino or foreigner, who/which shall entice, compel, coerce, require or

1 otherwise force an architect registered and licensed under this Act to
2 undertake/perform any service under the general practice of architecture as
3 defined under this Act, without first executing a written contract/service
4 agreement, **OR ANY PERSON WHO FACILITATES THE ISSUANCE OF A**
5 **GOVERNMENT PERMIT FOR ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS PREPARED,**
6 **SIGNED AND SEALED BY REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS**
7 **EMPLOYED IN GOVERNMENT PERMITTING AUTHORITIES, OR ANY**
8 **PERSON OR ENTITY, WHO/WHICH SHALL AID AND ABET PERSONS OR**
9 **ENTITITES IN COMMITTING THE PROHIBITED ACTS RELATIVE TO THE**
10 **PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 29 OF THIS**
11 **ACT** shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to
12 a fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) or to suffer
13 imprisonment for a period not exceeding six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of
14 the Court.”

15 **SECTION 16.** Section 37 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
16 follows:

17 “SEC. 37. Limitation to the Registration of a Firm, Company, Partnership,
18 Corporation or Association. – xxx

19 xxx

20 (b) Registered and licensed architects shall compose at least [~~seventy-five~~
21 ~~percent (75%)~~] **A MAJORITY** of the owners, shareholders, members
22 incorporators, directors, executive officers, as the case may be;

23 xxx

24 **“A FILIPINO REGISTERED AND LICENSED ARCHITECT MAY PRACTICE**
25 **AS A ONE PERSON CORPORATION SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF**
26 **REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11232, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED**
27 **CORPORATION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES.”**

28 **SECTION 17.** Section 40 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
29 follows:

30 “SEC. 40. Integration of the Architecture Profession.- The Architecture profession
31 shall be integrated into one (1) national organization which shall be accredited by
32 the Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, as the [i]Integrated and
33 [a]Accredited [p]Professional [e]Organization of [a]Architects (**IAPOA**):
34 Provided, however, That such an organization shall be registered with the
35 Securities and Exchange Commission, as a non-profit, non-stock corporation,
36 **WITH ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION SPECIFYING AS ONE OF ITS**

1 **PURPOSES THE INTEGRATION OF ALL ARCHITECTS INTO A NATIONAL**
2 **ORGANIZATION, AND** to be governed by by-laws providing for a democratic
3 election of its officials[-]: **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT SUCH**
4 **ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE A ROBUST NETWORK OF LOCAL AND**
5 **FOREIGN- BASED CHAPTERS LOCATED IN KEY CITIES AND**
6 **MUNICIPALITIES: PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT [A]An architect duly**
7 registered with the Board shall automatically become a member of the [~~integrated~~
8 ~~and accredited professional organization of architects~~] **IAPOA** and shall receive
9 the benefits and privileges provided for in this Act upon payment of the required
10 fees and dues[-]: **PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT** Membership in the
11 [~~integrated and accredited professional organization of architects~~] **IAPOA** shall
12 not be a bar to membership in other associations of architects[-]: **PROVIDED**
13 **FINALLY THAT, UPON FILING FOR APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION**
14 **OR RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION, SUCH ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE A**
15 **MEMBERSHIP COMPRISING OF AT LEAST THE MAJORITY OF**
16 **REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS POSSESSING CURRENT AND**
17 **VALID PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.**

18 **"THE IAPOA SHALL, IN ADDITION TO THE PURPOSES STATED IN ITS BY-**
19 **LAWS, HAVE THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND**
20 **RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- 21 **(1) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION FOR WHICH SUCH**
22 **ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND ACCREDITED;**
- 23 **(2) SUBMIT NOMINEES FOR VACANT POSITIONS IN THE BOARD;**
- 24 **(3) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION IN THE MONITORING**
25 **COMMITTEES FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS**
26 **(MRA) IN THE ASEAN AND APEC;**
- 27 **(4) DEFINE THE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF ITS**
28 **MEMBERS;**
- 29 **(5) ENSURE THAT ITS MEMBERS ADHERE TO THE CODE OF ETHICS,**
30 **PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, AND HIGHEST PROFESSIONAL AND**
31 **TECHNICAL STANDARDS;**
- 32 **(6) LOOK INTO THE CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE PRACTICE OF THE**
33 **ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, LOCALLY AND ABROAD, AND TO**
34 **PROPOSE POLICIES OR MEASURES TO THE BOARD AND/OR THE**
35 **COMMISSION FOR ITS IMPROVEMENT;**

- 1 **(7) ENSURE THE WELFARE, AND BEST INTEREST, AS WELL AS**
2 **HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP AMONG ITS MEMBERS;**
- 3 **(8) REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT TO THE BOARD AND/OR THE**
4 **COMMISSION, THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE LEGAL SERVICE,**
5 **FOR POSSIBLE PROSECUTION OR FILING OF COMPLAINT;**
- 6 **(9) SUBMIT TO THE BOARD, AT THE END OF EVERY FISCAL YEAR,**
7 **THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**
- 8 **A. YEARLY AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE**
9 **ORGANIZATION, DULY SIGNED BY A CERTIFIED PUBLIC**
10 **ACCOUNTANT WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE**
11 **SUBMISSION MADE TO THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE**
12 **COMMISSION (SEC);**
- 13 **B. AUTHENTICATED COPY OF THE LATEST GENERAL**
14 **INFORMATION SHEET WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE**
15 **CONDUCT OF NATIONAL ELECTION; AND**
- 16 **C. REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS AS A CORPORATE**
17 **BODY IN ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE**
18 **ORGANIZATION, ON ENHANCEMENT OF THE WELFARE OF ITS**
19 **MEMBERS AND THE STATURE OF THE PROFESSION, AND ON**
20 **TANGIBLE PROGRAMS SUCH AS MEMBERS' INSURANCE,**
21 **SCHOLARSHIP, AND LIFE, HEALTH, AND DEATH BENEFITS, TO**
22 **BE SIGNED BY THE BOARD WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER**
23 **THE FISCAL YEAR; AND**
- 24 **(10) OTHER FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS MAY BE**
25 **PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD."**

26 **SECTION 18.** A new section designated as Section 40-A is hereby added to read as
27 follows:

28 **"SEC. 40-A. MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL FOR ARCHITECTURE. – THERE IS**
29 **HEREBY CREATED A MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL FOR ARCHITECTURE**
30 **WHICH SHALL PROVIDE A PLATFORM TO DISCUSS POLICY CONCERNS**
31 **IN THE EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, PROFESSIONAL REGULATION AND**
32 **CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND SHALL PROMOTE**
33 **AND ENCOURAGE COLLABORATION AMONG THE DIFFERENT**
34 **STAKEHOLDERS IN THE REGULATION AND PRACTICE OF THE BUILT**
35 **ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONS.**

1 "THE MULTI- PARTITE COUNCIL, WHICH SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THE
2 COMMISSION, SHALL BE COMPOSED OF:

- 3 A. CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD;
- 4 B. PRESIDENT OF THE IAPOA;
- 5 C. PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION (DEANS AND
6 HEADS OF SCHOOLS) DULY ACCREDITED BY THE PRC UPON THE
7 RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHED;
- 8 D. ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM PRIVATE PRACTICE; AND
- 9 E. ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM GOVERNMENT PRACTICE.

10 **SECTION 19.** A new section designated as Section 40-B is hereby added to read as
11 follows:

12 "SEC. 40-B. POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MULTI-PARTITE
13 COUNCIL. – THE MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL SHALL PERFORM THE
14 FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:

- 15 A. MONITOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS IN
16 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND
17 PRACTICE;
- 18 B. STUDY AND EVALUATE EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS THAT
19 SHALL LEAD TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT;
- 20 C. REGULARLY REVIEW OF THE SUBJECTS FOR EXAMINATION;
- 21 D. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW THE TABLE OF
22 SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION;
- 23 E. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW INTERNSHIP/GUIDELINES
24 IN AREAS SUCH AS DIVERSIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE, DUTIES AND
25 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MENTORS AND COLLABORATIVE WORK;
- 26 F. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW CONTINUING
27 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES;
- 28 G. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW STANDARDS OF
29 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN AREAS SUCH AS SCOPE OF SERVICES,
30 SCHEDULE OF FEES, AND INTER-PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION;
31 AND
- 32 H. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION,
33 INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND PRACTICE STANDARDS IN
34 REFERENCE TO THE PHILIPPINE QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT."

35 **SECTION 20.** Section 44 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as
36 follows:

1 "SEC. 46. Enforcement of the Act. – xxx

2 **"FOR CASES OF ILLEGAL PRACTICE LODGED BEFORE IT, [F]**The Board
3 shall assist the Commission **IN THE PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AND** in
4 filing the appropriate charges through the concerned prosecution office in
5 accordance with law and the Rules of Court."

6 **SECTION 21. Implementing Rules and Regulations –** The Board and the IAPOA
7 shall promulgate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act
8 within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

9 **SECTION 22. Separability Clause –** If for any reason, any part or provision of this
10 Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected
11 shall remain in full force and effect.

12 **SECTION 23. Repealing Clause –** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
13 rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
14 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

15 **SECTION 24. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
16 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,