

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )

SENATE  
S. No. 42



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**Introduced by SENATOR JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

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**AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR WORKERS, ENTERPRISES AND  
ORGANIZATIONS IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY AND PROVIDING  
MECHANISMS FOR RECOGNITION, INTEGRATION, AND TRANSITION TO  
THE FORMAL ECONOMY**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The legislation is one significant contribution toward fulfilling the Constitutional mandate of social justice and human rights for the poor. The 2008 Informal Sector Survey (2008 ISS) showed that there were about 10.5 million informal operators who are either self-employed (without any paid employee) or employer in own-family operated farm or business. Contrary to the usual notion, the informal sector is truly productive. They provide array of services to the public and are engaged in legitimate undertakings. According to official estimates, one-third of the country's total gross domestic product (GDP) can be attributed to the informal sector.

Sadly, this contribution of the informal sector to the economy is insufficiently recognized. This is proven by the inadequate legal and social protection accorded to this sector. What is worse is that members of informal sector groups have been a source of not only of local revenues such as market taxes, and some are even vulnerable to "kotong."

During the deliberations of the Bayanihan Act which sought to provide immediate relief and assistance for the distressed sectors of the economy at the height of the novel Coronavirus pandemic, it was learned that there are no clear data as to the true number and accurate description of the composition of this sector. Such

severely affected the government's efforts to reach the most vulnerable segment of the population.

The proposed Magna Carta for Workers in the Informal Sector is consistent with the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, to which the Philippines is a State Party.

This measure provides the rights and benefits of workers, as well as the rights of legitimate organization of workers in the informal economy, establishes labor standards and enforcement of labor laws for workers in the informal economy, and prescribes social protection such as accessibility of safety nets from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Agriculture (DA) and other agencies, and provision of social insurance programs from SSS, Pag-Ibig and PhilHealth.

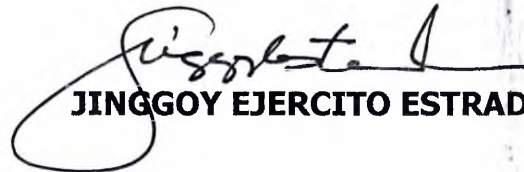
A separate chapter ensuring security in the workplace of workers in informal economy or employment is also provided under this bill, to wit:

- a) Workers in the informal economy shall not be evicted from their homes and workplaces without legal ground and provision of livelihood opportunities, adequate water and electricity availability and decent conditions of living;
- b) Before any public market is closed, sold or demolished, all market vendors shall first be relocated by the LGU to a temporary or new public market;
- c) In cases where demolition or eviction is warranted, the person, government agencies or their respective agents who conduct the same shall issue an itemized receipt of all products, goods, and other materials seized or confiscated from vendors. Tricycles, pedicabs, and other modes of transportation shall not be impounded for violations of license, registration, or traffic regulations.
- d) Designated terminals for tricycles, pedicabs, and other similar modes of transportation shall not be arbitrarily relocated without prior notice and consultation with small transport groups.

I am refiling this bill, which is a product of rigorous consultations with informal sector groups and leaders from the five informal sub-sectors in Luzon, Visayas, and

Mindanao in 2008, and which I originally submitted during the Fifteenth Congress in 2010. This version is an output of the Senate Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Ways and Means; and Finance during the Seventeenth Congress.

In this light, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.



**JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**



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

**Chapter I**

**GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

1  
2  
3 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Magna Carta for*  
4 *Workers in the Informal Economy.*"

5 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

- 6 a) Promote a just and dynamic social order that shall ensure the prosperity  
7 and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through  
8 policies that provide adequate social services, promote decent,  
9 environmentally sound and full employment, a rising standard of living,  
10 and an improved quality of life for all;
- 11 b) Protect, promote and fulfil the rights of every worker, including gender  
12 equity, non-discrimination, the right to self-organization, just and humane  
13 conditions of work, access to social protection programs and services,  
14 access to justice, security of and in the workplaces, and the right to  
15 represent their organizations in a continuing process of consultation, social  
16 dialogue and tripartite bodies; and

- 1 c) Establish an integrated and coherent policy, at all levels of government, of  
2 formalization of informal economic units and informal economy workers  
3 and make them visible in all relevant national and local statistics.

4 Sec. 3. *Coverage.* – This Act shall apply to all workers and economic units,  
5 including enterprises, entrepreneurs and households in the informal economy, in  
6 particular:

- 7 a) Those in the informal economy who own and operate economic units,  
8 including self-employed workers, self-employed own account workers,  
9 employers, members of cooperatives, and members of other social and  
10 solidarity economy units;
- 11 b) Home-based workers or contributing family workers, irrespective of  
12 whether they work in economic units in the formal or informal economy;
- 13 c) Employers holding informal jobs in or for formal enterprises, or for  
14 economic units in the informal economy, including those in contract  
15 arrangement and/or in supply chains, or as paid domestic workers  
16 employed by households;
- 17 d) Workers in unrecognized or unregulated employment relationships;
- 18 e) Agricultural workers or fisherfolk in unrecognized or unregulated  
19 agricultural or farming endeavors and fishing activities; and
- 20 f) Non-regular domestic workers.

21 Sec. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act, the following terms shall  
22 mean:

- 23 a) *Informal Economy* – refers to all economic activities by workers and  
24 economic units that are, in law or in practice, not covered or insufficiently  
25 covered by laws or formal arrangements.
- 26 b) *Economic Units in the Informal Economy* – refer to units that are owned  
27 by individuals working on their own account either alone or with the help  
28 or contributing family workers; household enterprises engaged in the  
29 production of goods and services or unincorporated enterprises owned by  
30 households; cooperatives and other social and solidarity economy units.

- 1 c) *Informal Economy Workers Organization* – refers to a group of informal  
2 sector workers that are organized with the primary objective of promoting  
3 the rights and welfare of workers in the informal economy.
- 4 d) *Informal Employment* – refers to an employment arrangement in the  
5 formal or informal sectors or in households that exist based mostly on  
6 casual employment, kinship or personal and social relations with no formal  
7 guarantees on legal protection and benefits economic units that are  
8 unregistered, unlicensed and unregulated.
- 9 e) *Own-account worker* – refers to workers who, working on their own  
10 account or with one or more partners, hold the type of job defined as a  
11 self-employed job, and have not engaged on a continuous basis any  
12 employees to work for them during the reference period.
- 13 f) *Security of and in the Workplace* – refers to the right of every worker and  
14 informal economic unit to an enabling environment that guarantees and  
15 protects the spaces to undertake their work, including the right to be safe  
16 in one's own work space, free from discrimination, risk, danger, doubt,  
17 anxiety, or fear of being removed, evicted or prevented from working.
- 18 g) *Social Protection* – refers to policies and programs that seek to reduce  
19 poverty and vulnerability to risks and enhance the social status of the  
20 marginalized by promoting and protecting livelihood and employment,  
21 protecting against hazards and sudden loss of income, and improving  
22 people's capacity to manage risk, as well as other interventions that  
23 support communities, households, and individuals, both women and men,  
24 and realizing their rights as citizens through their full participation in  
25 decision-making affecting or which may affect their access to and control  
26 over resources necessary to maintain and sustain a decent and secure life.
- 27 h) *Social and Solidarity Economic Units* – refer to enterprises and  
28 organizations including cooperatives as defined under Republic Act No.  
29 9520, mutual benefit societies, associations, foundations and social  
30 enterprises which produce goods, services and knowledge that meet the  
31 needs of the community they serve, through the pursuit of specific social  
32 and environmental objectives and the fostering of solidarity.



1 **Chapter II**

2 **RIGHTS AND BENEFITS**

3 *Sec. 5. Rights and Benefits of Workers in the Informal Economy.* – Workers in  
4 the informal economy shall be entitled to all the rights accorded to workers by the  
5 Philippine Constitution, the Labor Code of the Philippines, as amended, and relevant  
6 international human rights instruments and international labor standards.  
7 Accordingly, the State shall guarantee all workers in the informal economy the  
8 following:

- 9 a) Right to security of and in the workplace;
- 10 b) Right to make a living by work freely chosen or accepted and avail of  
11 technical and vocational guidance and training programs;
- 12 c) Right to just and favorable conditions of work, including provision for  
13 work-life balance, child care and other facilities;
- 14 d) Right to a living wage and equal remuneration for work of equal value  
15 without distinction of any kind, in particular for women who shall be  
16 guaranteed equal wages for work similar or equivalent to those done by  
17 men;
- 18 e) Right to equal opportunity for promotion, subject to no other  
19 considerations than seniority and competence;
- 20 f) Right to safe and healthy working conditions safeguarding general,  
21 occupational and reproductive health;
- 22 g) Right to basic services including affordable medical care, reproductive and  
23 other health services, low-cost housing, water, sanitation, electricity and  
24 transport;
- 25 h) Right to rest, leisure and reasonable limitation of working hours and  
26 periodic holidays with pay, as well as remuneration for public holidays  
27 whenever applicable;
- 28 i) Right to maternity and paternity benefits, as provided for by law;
- 29 j) Right to equal access to education, skills training, and economic resources  
30 to develop self-reliance, especially of children and young persons, without  
31 any discrimination;

- 1 k) Right to self-organization and to collectively negotiate with government  
2 and other entities in the promotion of their welfare and advancement of  
3 their interests, free from any political interference;
- 4 l) Right to adequate standard of living for workers and their families,  
5 adequate food, clothing, shelter, and the continuous improvement of such  
6 standard;
- 7 m) Freedom from any form of discrimination, violence, exploitation including  
8 sexual exploitation, harassment, abuse and any form of inhumane  
9 treatment which debases, degrades or demeans the intrinsic worth and  
10 dignity of the worker as a human being;
- 11 n) Accessible social protection and safety nets, labor market programs, and  
12 social welfare interventions such as social security, health care and  
13 insurance;
- 14 o) Equal treatment before the law;
- 15 p) Right to participate in policy and decision-making processes and social  
16 dialogue, including access to information and resources relevant to the  
17 promotion and protection of their rights and welfare;
- 18 q) Equal access to justice for redress of grievances, including alternative  
19 dispute resolution processes; and
- 20 r) Access to public procurement including advice and reserving quota for  
21 informal economic units.

22 *Sec. 6. Rights and Benefits of Own-Account Workers.* – Own-account workers  
23 as well as informal economic units, being the working poor's primary instruments to  
24 address and overcome poverty, shall be accorded preferential rights by the State  
25 over the following:

- 26 a) Infrastructure support such as farm to market roads, common, affordable  
27 and secure workplaces and facilities, merchandising centers, farmers' or a  
28 "bagsakan" with proper storage facilities, and inventory bulk-buying  
29 centers;
- 30 b) Policy support to promote and protect locally-produced products and  
31 services including enhancement of the local value chain;



- 1 c) Ease and facilitation of access to markets, including capacity-building to  
2 access e-marketing facilities;
- 3 d) Access to affordable, appropriate and adequate financial services,  
4 including, among others, collateral-free and gender-balanced credit at low  
5 interest;
- 6 e) Access to appropriate and adequate machinery, equipment, and other  
7 technologies, with the end in view of increasing productivity and growth;
- 8 f) Protection from unjust dislocation from places where economic activities  
9 are conducted observing the policy of "relocation before demolition";
- 10 g) Measures against racketeering, extortion, and harassment, by both State  
11 and non-State elements;
- 12 h) Common workplaces, common technology facilities, adequate and  
13 affordable marketing facilities such as economic freedom parks,  
14 merchandising centers, and inventory bulk-buying centers;
- 15 i) Freedom from deprivation of property without valid cause and due process  
16 of law; and
- 17 j) Affordable and customized social security and insurance programs.

18 *Sec. 7. Rights of Legitimate Organization of Workers in the Informal Economy*  
19 *or Employment.* – Workers in the informal economy or employment may organize  
20 into unions, cooperatives, social and solidarity economic units' organizations and  
21 mutual benefit associations. Legitimate organization of workers in the informal  
22 economy or employment shall have the right:

- 23 a) To freely function and act as the representatives of their members in  
24 policy and decision-making processes, collective negotiations, tripartite  
25 bodies and consultations, multi-sectoral and other similar bodies;
- 26 b) To establish, join or affiliate with national federations or confederations  
27 and international trade union organizations;
- 28 c) To access information from concerned government institutions and other  
29 parties that are pertinent to the protection and promotion of the rights  
30 and welfare of their members;
- 31 d) To own property, real or personal, for the use and benefit of their  
32 organizations and members;

- 1 e) To sue and be sued under their registered name; and  
2 f) To undertake all other activities, not contrary to law, designed to benefit  
3 their organizations and members.

4 *Sec. 8. Assistance to Organizations of Workers in the Informal Economy. –*

5 The State shall encourage and support the formation of organizations among  
6 marginalized farmers, fisherfolk, women, and workers in the informal economy or  
7 employment whether in manufacturing, agriculture, transport, retail, services, and  
8 home-based workers.

9 Toward this end, all national government agencies, government financial  
10 institutions and local government units' plans, programs and policies shall foster an  
11 atmosphere conducive to the exercise of the right to self-organization of the workers  
12 in the informal economy and access to purchase inputs at lower cost, obtain fair  
13 prices for their produce, avail of credit assistance and skills training, and share from  
14 collective gains in the case of the cooperatives.

15 **Chapter III**

16 **SECURITY IN THE WORKPLACE OF WORKERS IN**  
17 **INFORMAL ECONOMY OR EMPLOYMENT**

18 *Sec. 9. Designation of Workplaces. –* Local Government Units (LGUs), in  
19 coordination with their respective organization of workers in the informal economy  
20 and their members, affected communities and other relevant groups, shall endeavor  
21 to identify, designate and design a system of assignment on the following:

- 22 a) Productivity and merchandising centers as viable workplaces for informal  
23 workers, which may include markets and vacant areas near markets,  
24 vacant public spaces and other spaces which may be a private property  
25 that the LGU may acquire, lease or negotiate with legitimate organization  
26 of workers in the Informal economy for lease under a memorandum of  
27 agreement; and  
28 b) Routes, terminals and specific lanes for small transport workers.

29 *Sec. 10. Policy on Eviction and Demolition. –* Workers in the Informal  
30 economy or employment shall not be evicted from their homes and workplaces  
31 without legal ground as provided under Republic Act No. 7279, otherwise known as  
32 the "Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992," and provision of livelihood

1 opportunities, adequate water and electricity availability as well as decent conditions  
2 of living in accordance with law. Logistical viability for the displaced shall be given  
3 priority in the course of determining the relocation sites or areas.

4 *Sec. 11. Policy on Confiscation of Materials and Impounding of Vehicles.* – In  
5 cases where demolition or eviction is warranted, the person, government agencies or  
6 their respective agents who conduct the same shall issue an itemized receipt of all  
7 products, goods, and other materials seized or confiscated from vendors and other  
8 affected workers in the informal economy or employment.

9 Tricycles, *pedicabs*, and other modes of transportation shall not be  
10 impounded for violations of license, registration, or traffic regulations unless the said  
11 vehicles were utilized in the conduct of criminal activities. In cases of violation of  
12 traffic regulations, a traffic violation ticket shall be issued to the erring driver without  
13 impounding his/her vehicle.

14 *Sec. 12. Policy on Relocation of Vending Sites.* – Before any public market is  
15 closed, sold or demolished, all market vendors shall first be relocated by the LGU to  
16 a temporary or new public market. Notice of the intention to close, sell or demolish  
17 any public market shall be made to all concerned vendors at least sixty (60) days  
18 before the actual transfer or relocation to another market site. Within the sixty-day  
19 period after issuance of notice, the LGU shall conduct consultations with affected  
20 vendors on the selection of the relocation site and implementation of the relocation.

21 Vendors, ambulant or otherwise, occupying or selling in public places not  
22 previously designated as vending site shall be provided with viable temporary sites  
23 by the LGU and notice of temporary transfer shall be given to the vendors at least  
24 fifteen (15) days before the actual transfer to temporary vending site. The fifteen  
25 (15) days notice shall likewise apply to vendors granted with permits but whose  
26 workplaces are withdrawn from the list of allowable vending sites. Any change in the  
27 list of allowable vending sites shall be done after consultations with affected  
28 vendors.

29 In the event that a new public market is constructed in place of an old one,  
30 market vendors with stalls displaced from their workplaces shall be given priority in  
31 the assignment of stalls in the new market.





1 mechanisms for their full utilization and benefit shall be formulated by the SSS,  
2 HDMF, and PhilHealth.

### 3 Chapter V

## 4 LABOR STANDARDS AND ENFORCEMENT OF LABOR LAWS 5 FOR WORKERS IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY

6 Sec. 19. *Applicability of the Provisions of the Labor Code.* – The provisions of  
7 the Labor Code governing the employer-employee relationship particularly on  
8 general labor standards and occupational safety and health standards shall apply to  
9 all forms of work arrangements in the informal economy.

10 Sec. 20. *Prohibited Acts Specific to Workers in the Informal Economy.* – The  
11 following are deemed prohibited:

12 1) Non-compliance with minimum labor standards and occupational health  
13 and safety standards. – The employment contract shall be in writing  
14 specifying the terms and conditions of engagement which must not be  
15 lower than the minimum standards provided by law. However, the  
16 absence of a written agreement does not mean the absence of an  
17 employment relationship.

18 The contract shall be explained to the worker and attested to by a  
19 representative from the LGU or an elected Barangay official in the city or  
20 municipality where the worker is designated to work.

21 2) Recruitment or Finders' Fees. – Regardless of whether the worker was  
22 sourced either through an employment agency or a third party, workers in  
23 the informal economy shall neither be charged nor levied a recruitment  
24 fee or finders' fee by the aforementioned employment agency or third  
25 party.

26 3) Hazardous Work and Conditions. – Workers shall not be engaged to do  
27 hazardous work, activity or undertaking, or be exposed to hazardous  
28 working conditions in accordance with law.

29 4) Interference and Coercion. – Any person is prohibited from committing  
30 any of the following acts of interference and coercion:

31 a) Preventing any worker from upholding or exercising his/her rights;

- 1 b) Preventing any worker from joining or assisting organization for  
2 purposes not contrary to law;
- 3 c) Preventing any worker from carrying out his/her duties or functions in  
4 an organization, or to penalize the same for any lawful action  
5 performed in that capacity;
- 6 d) Harassing, threatening, coercing or intimidating any worker that result  
7 in preventing him or her from performing his or her duties and  
8 functions;
- 9 e) Transferring, penalizing or terminating the services of a worker without  
10 valid or legal ground; and
- 11 f) Other acts calculated to diminish the independence and freedom of  
12 workers' organization to direct its own affairs.
- 13 5) Non-compliance with Republic Act No. 7610, as amended by Republic Act  
14 No. 9231 in the employment of minors. – In cases where minors are  
15 contracted or hired to render work or services, the age should be at least  
16 fifteen (15) years old and there is parental or legal guardian consent in the  
17 employment contract. In addition, the employment contract should also be  
18 attested to by any representative of the LGU or duly elected barangay  
19 official where the work is to be done. The employers of the minors shall  
20 also provide them with access to at least elementary or secondary  
21 education, either through traditional schooling or alternative learning  
22 systems.

23 *Sec. 21. Visitorial and Enforcement Power of the Secretary of Labor and*  
24 *Employment.* – Employment contracts and/or engagements in the Informal Economy  
25 shall be subject to the visitorial and enforcement power of the Secretary of Labor  
26 and Employment pursuant to Article 128 of the Labor Code of the Philippines.

## 27 **Chapter VI**

### 28 **POLICY COORDINATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

29 *Sec. 22. Function of National Economic and Development Authority.* – The  
30 Committee on Social Development of the National Economic and Development  
31 Authority (NEDA) shall develop policies and programs that shall institutionalize and  
32 strengthen informal economy workers and the informal economy units.





1 The database shall also indicate informal economic units which may be  
2 categorized as livelihood enterprises and entrepreneurial or growth  
3 oriented informal businesses.

4 The database shall also include information on payments collected  
5 from IE workers, Workers in the Informal Economy (WIE) organizations  
6 and economic units. The Barangay Micro Business Enterprise (BMBE)  
7 Registry, in general, shall include these informal economic units, pursuant  
8 to the qualification of micro-enterprises under Republic Act No. 8425.

9 The aforesaid comprehensive database shall form part of the bases of  
10 assessment and monitoring of the growth of the informal economy.

11 All local government units shall formulate a uniform and simple  
12 checklist of requirements for registration and establish an IE One-Stop  
13 Shop Center which shall handle all transactions and processing of business  
14 permit applications within their respective jurisdiction and worker's  
15 registration. The Center shall ensure that processing of the business  
16 permit of the informal economy units shall be expedited and shall be  
17 completed within one day.

18 The DOLE shall create a checklist of requirements for registration.

19 c) *Informal Economy Organizations/Associations (IEO/A)*. – IEO/A shall  
20 register or accredit with the Department of Labor and Employment  
21 (DOLE).

22 *Sec. 36. Annual Dues.* – IE workers and organizations shall pay annual dues  
23 to be determined by the Local Government Unit (LGU) concerned, in consultation  
24 with their respective Local Development Councils referred herein. In no case shall  
25 the annual dues to be paid by the IE workers be more than 30% of the prescribed  
26 daily minimum wage as determined by the Regional Tripartite Wages and  
27 Productivity Board (RTWPB) in their respective regions or provinces.

28 These annual dues shall accrue to the respective LGU where they are  
29 accredited. The accumulated funds from these dues shall be used for programs to  
30 benefit IE workers and organizations/associations, business activities, enterprises  
31 and organizations, as recommended by the Local Development Council. Such

1 programs and disbursement of funds shall be approved by the concerned LGU  
2 Council in consultation with the local informal economy constituents.

3 *Sec. 37. Registration and Non-Registration.* – In no case shall registration be  
4 construed as a basis for rights and entitlements and rights under this Act, and it  
5 shall not be made as a prerequisite to work by any private enterprise or government  
6 unit.

### 7 **Chapter VIII**

### 8 **FINAL PROVISIONS**

9 *Sec. 38. Penal Provisions.* –

10 a) Any person who shall wilfully interfere with, restrain or coerce a worker in  
11 the exercise of his or her rights or shall in any manner commit any act in  
12 violation of any of the provisions of this Act shall, upon conviction, be  
13 punished by a fine of not less than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00)  
14 or imprisonment of one (1) to six (6) years or both fine and imprisonment  
15 at the discretion of the Court.

16 b) If the offender is a public official, the Court, in addition to the penalties  
17 provided in the preceding paragraph, may impose the additional penalty or  
18 disqualification from public office.

19 c) Any person who violates Section 11 of this Act (Policy on Confiscation of  
20 Materials and Impounding of Vehicles) shall be liable. Nothing herein shall  
21 prohibit the aggrieved workers in the informal economy from initiating a  
22 criminal or civil action against the responsible person or officer.

23 d) Failure to implement Sections 12 (Policy on Relocation of Vending Sites)  
24 and 13 (Policy on Relocation of Terminals) shall render the responsible  
25 official/s administratively liable pursuant to Republic Act No. 7160 and  
26 other applicable laws, without prejudice to any civil or criminal cases that  
27 may be filed against such erring official/s.

28 e) If a private institution/company is found to have violated any provisions of  
29 this Act, its business shall be suspended or revoked at the discretion of the  
30 Court.

31 *Sec. 39. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – The DOLE, DILG and  
32 NEDA, in coordination with other concerned agencies and stakeholders, shall



1 formulate the implementing rules and regulations within one hundred eighty (180)  
2 days from the effectivity of this Act.

3       Sec. 40. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or  
4 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise  
5 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

6       Sec. 41. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
7 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation  
8 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed,  
9 modified, or amended accordingly.

10       Sec. 42. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
11 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*