

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

AN ACT

INSTITUTING REFORMS IN REAL PROPERTY VALUATION AND ASSESSMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, REORGANIZING THE BUREAU OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to a World Bank report, land assets account for an important share of the total wealth in low- and middle-income countries. On average, the percentage of land assets among low- and middle-income countries to total national wealth ranges from 16 to 45 percent.

As a source of revenue, real property tax (RPT) is the most important for local governments. However, the real property valuation system at present has been a concern due to the multiple and overlapping property valuations which has complicated real property assessment and taxation. In addition, the valuations used for governmental purposes are outdated. As of 2018, only 38.8% of LGUs have updated Schedule of Market Values (SMVs), with 93 non-compliant cities and 46 provinces. Within the last five (5) years, only 50.4% of Revenue District Offices (RDOs) have updated zonal values, with 65 RDOs still in the process of revising. Moreover, there is no single agency tasked to ensure the correct valuation of real property. Furthermore, there is an absence of a comprehensive real property electronic database.

The outdated SMVs has resulted in foregone revenues, which in turn, lead to unrealized socio-economic benefits. Multiple and overlapping property valuations have also resulted in Right-of-Way acquisition concerns and delays in the construction of infrastructure projects, thereby resulting also in the delays in the creation of jobs and inducement of consumption and investment.

This measure will ensure that LGUs' financial self-sufficiency through an increased capacity to generate revenues from real property tax. Outdated property values have hindered the growth of tax collections of LGUs, with real property tax contributing to an average of 29 percent to LGU revenues.

As such, the real property valuation system stands to benefit from reforms introduced in this measure, such as the establishment of a single valuation system and a comprehensive electronic database to support the valuation function, as well as the adoption of international standards to rationalize the process. These reforms will ensure the efficient real property tax administration of LGUs to arrive at a fair and equitable RPT, yield higher investor confidence and professionalism in real property valuation, and reduce government costs borne from conflicting appraisals and project delays.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Senate Senate
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RECEIVED BY:

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

SENATE

s. No. 1018

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INSTITUTING REFORMS IN REAL PROPERTY VALUATION AND ASSESSMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, REORGANIZING THE BUREAU OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 Section. 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Real Property Valuation and Assessment Reform Act". 2 3 **ARTICLE I** 4 DECLARATION OF POLICY AND OBJECTIVES, 5 AND DEFINITION OF TERMS Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy and Objectives. – It is the policy of the State to promote 6 7 the development and maintenance of a just, equitable, impartial, and nationally consistent 8 real property valuation based on internationally accepted valuation standards, concepts, principles, and practices. Towards this end, the State shall: 9 10 (a) Establish and maintain standards to govern the valuation of real property in the 11 country; (b) Adopt market value as the single real property valuation base for the assessment 12 13 of real property related taxes in the country, and for the valuation of real property 14 for various transactions by all government agencies; (c) Promote the fiscal autonomy of Local Government Units (LGUs) to provide basic 15 16 services to their constituency by enhancing their capacity to generate local 17 revenues from real property;

1	(d) Separate the function of valuation or appraising of real properties from the
2	functions of tax policy formulation and administration of the taxes due thereon;
3	(e) Support the development and professionalization of the valuation practice in the
4	country pursuant to Republic Act No. 9646, otherwise known as the "Real Estate
5	Service Act of the Philippines";
6	(f) Provide a comprehensive and up-to-date electronic database of all real property
7	transactions;
8	(g) Support the development of an information database on valuation through
9	continuing research and monitoring of new developments in the discipline to
10	upgrade the country's valuation system and be at par with global standards; and
11	(h) Ensure transparency in real property transactions to protect public interest and
12	develop confidence in the valuation system.
13	Sec. 3. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act:
14	(a) Appraiser, also known as valuer, refers to a person who conducts valuation;
15	specifically, one who possesses the necessary qualifications, license, ability, and
16	experience to execute or direct the valuation of real property;
17	(b) Assessed Value, also known as taxable value, refers to the market value of the
18	property multiplied by the corresponding assessment level;
19	(c) Assessment refers to the act or process of determining the value of a property, or
20	proportion thereof subject to taxation, including the discovery, listing,
21	classification, and appraisal of properties;
22	(d) Assessment Level refers to the percentage applied to the market value to
23	determine the taxable value of the property based on property classifications as
24	prescribed in Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government
25	Code of 1991", as amended;
26	(e) Assessor refers to the official or employee in the LGU who is a duly licensed
27	appraiser, and performs appraisal and assessment of real properties, including
28	plant, machinery and equipment, for taxation and other purposes;
29	(f) Building refers to a man-made structure permanently attached to land for
30	residential, commercial, industrial, recreational, or other purposes;
31	(g) Electronic database refers to an organized collection of data, or information, that
32	is stored in computer-readable form;
33	(h) Improvement refers to a valuable addition made to a property or an amelioration
34	in its condition, amounting to more than a mere repair or replacement of parts,

involving capital expenditures and labor intended to enhance its value, beauty, or utility, or to adapt it for new or further purposes;

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- (i) International Valuation Standards (IVS) refer to standards for undertaking valuation assessments using generally recognized concepts and principles that promote transparency and consistency evaluation practice as determined by the International Valuation Standards Council:
- (j) Internationally Accepted Valuation Standards refers to generally accepted standards for the valuation for all types of assets including real estate plant and equipment, intangible assets and businesses which shall include, but not limited to, the international valuation standards:
- (k) Land refers to one of the major factors of production which is supplied by nature without the aid of man. Land may include not only the earth's surface, both land and water, but also anything that is attached to the earth's surface including all natural resources in their original state, such as mineral deposits, wildlife, and timber;
- (i) *Machinery* refers to machines, equipment, mechanical contrivances, instruments, appliances, or apparatus which may or may not be attached, permanently or temporarily, to the real property. It includes the physical facilities for production, the installations and appurtenant service facilities, those which are mobile, self-powered or self-propelled, and those not permanently attached to the real property which are actually, directly, and exclusively used to meet the needs of the particular industry, business or activity, and which by their very nature and purpose are designed for or necessary to its manufacturing, mining, logging, commercial, industrial or agricultural purposes;
- (m) Market value refers to the estimated amount for which a property shall exchange on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's length transaction, which is a transaction between independent, unrelated parties involving no irregularity after proper marketing wherein the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently, and without compulsion;
- (n) *Private appraisal sector* refers to licensed non-governmental real estate service practitioners;
- (o) Real estate refers to the land and all those items which are attached to the land. It is the physical, tangible entity, together with all the additions or improvements on, above, or below the ground;

1	(p) Real property refers to all the rights, interests, and benefits related to the
2	ownership of real estate. It is a legal concept distinct from real estate, which is a
3	physical asset;
4	(q) Schedule of Market Values, hereinafter referred to as SMV, refers to a table of base
5	unit market values for all kinds of real property, except machinery, within an LGU
6	prepared by assessors pursuant to existing laws, rules and regulations;
7	(r) Special purpose property refers to a property that is designed, constructed, and
8	developed for a specific use or purpose. By its very nature, this type of property is
9	rarely offered for sale in the open market except as part of a going concern since
10	its special design and function renders conversion to other types of development
11	or application not economically feasible; and
12	(s) Valuation, also known as appraisal, refers to the systematic, analytic, and logical
13	analysis of the recording of property facts, circumstances, investments and other
14	relevant data resulting in a supportable estimate or professional opinion of the
15	value of a property as of a specific date and for a specific purpose.
16	ARTICLE II
17	STRENGTHENING THE BUREAU OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF FINANCE (BLGF)
18	CHAPTER I
19	BLGF CENTRAL OPERATIONS
20	Sec. 4. Powers and Functions of the Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF). —
21	The BLGF of the Department of Finance (DOF), shall lead and manage the implementation of
22	the provisions of this Act. It shall have the following powers and functions:
23	(a) Develop, adopt, and maintain valuation standards consistent with internationally
24	accepted valuation standards, regulations, and specifications for real property
25	appraisal used for taxation and other purposes, and ensure compliance therewith
26	by LGUs and other concerned parties;
27	(b) In coordination with the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), review and ensure that
28	the Schedule of Market Values (SMVs) as prepared by the provincial assessors
29	together with the municipal assessors, and the city assessors, including the lone
30	municipal assessor in the Metropolitan Manila Area, is compliant with real property
31	valuation policies and standards, and recommend its approval to the Secretary of
32	Finance for local and national taxation, and for other purposes;
33	(c) Provide technical assistance on real property appraisal matters to government
34	agencies and instrumentalities, and coordinate or conduct the valuation and
35	appraisal of special purpose properties, when requested;

(d) Provide leadership and policy direction to LGUs on real property valuation and 1 2 appraisal for taxation and other purposes, including the development and 3 maintenance of internationally accepted valuation standards, the regulation of 4 valuation activities and other related matters, and the promotion of valuation 5 training and seminars: (e) Maintain a roster of licensed local government appraisers and assessors in 6 7 consultation and coordination with the Professional Regulatory Board of Real Estate Service (PRBRES) under the Professional Regulation Commission; 8 9 (f) Develop and maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date electronic database of real 10 property transactions and prices of materials for buildings, machinery, and other 11 structures; 12 (g) Conduct continuing study and research on valuation, and maintain information on current global and country trends and developments in real property valuation; 13 (h) Formulate and provide for uniform procedure on the different transactions in the 14 15 assessor's office, including the transfer, annotation, and issuance of tax 16 declarations; (i) Determine, fix, and collect reasonable amounts to be charged as administration 17 fees, fines, and penalties relative to the implementation of this Act; and 18 19 (j) Perform such other functions as are necessary, proper, and incidental to implement 20 the provisions of this Act. 21 Sec. 5. Establishment of the Real Property Valuation Service. - To achieve the policy 22 and objectives declared in this Act, the Real Property Valuation Service, hereinafter referred 23 to as the RPVS, is hereby established within the BLGF with counterpart personnel in the BLGF 24 Regional Offices. 25 Sec. 6. The BLGF Executive Director. - The BLGF Executive Director shall be 26 responsible for the efficient and effective day-to-day performance of the responsibilities set 27 forth in this Act, and the overall internal management and governance of the RPVS. 28 Sec. 7. Creation of a Central Consultative Committee. -29 (a) A Central Consultative Committee shall be created and shall serve as the 30 consultative forum on matters pertaining to the setting and adoption of internationally accepted valuation standards and other related concerns on real 31 32 property valuation; 33 (b) It shall be chaired by the BLGF Executive Director and shall be composed of a 34 representative each from the: 35 1. Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR);

1	2. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
2	3. Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP);
3	4. National organization of government assessors;
4	5. National organization of appraisers in national government agencies; and
5	6. Private appraisal sector:
6	Provided, That the representative from the private appraisal sector shall be
7	active in the practice of real estate appraisal for at least five (5) years as certified
8	by the PRBRES;
9	(c) The representatives from the BIR, the DENR and BSP must be performing
10	valuation-related functions. The national organization of government assessors,
11	and the private appraisal sector shall be represented by their respective heads of
12	organizations or their duly qualified representatives;
13	(d) The Chairperson and members of the Committee shall not receive additional salary
14	for the performance of their functions. Members of the consultative committee
15	who are not incumbent government officials or employees shall be entitled to
16	honoraria, pursuant to existing laws and regulations; and
17	(e) The Committee shall meet at the initiation of the Chairperson at least once every
18	semester and shall have as many meetings as the Chairperson may deem
19	necessary for the adoption of valuation standards. The Chairperson may invite
20	resource persons on specific issues concerning real property valuation.
21	CHAPTER 2
22	BLGF REGIONAL OPERATIONS
23	Sec. 8. Role of the BLGF Regional Offices. – The BLGF Regional Offices, through the
24	Regional Director, shall be responsible for all matters relating to valuation and the supervision
25	of the SMVs in the region. They shall:
26	(a) Implement policies, plans, programs, rules and regulations on real property
27	valuation of LGUs in the region;
28	(b) Review, in coordination with the BIR, and endorse to the RPVS the proposed SMVs
29	prepared by the assessors of the LGUs in the region;
30	(c) Provide for economical, efficient and effective valuation services in the region;
31	(d) Coordinate and consult with other government departments, bureaus and agencies
32	within the region dealing with real property valuation;
33	(e) Adopt and maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date electronic database of all
34	regional real property-related transactions, and have custody of all transaction
35	records submitted by local government assessors; and

1	(f) Perform other functions as may be assigned by the BLGF Executive Director.
2	Sec. 9. The Regional Consultative Committee. –
3	(a) There shall be a Regional Consultative Committee that shall be chaired by the BLGF
4	Regional Director and shall be composed of a representative each from the:
5	 BIR – Regional Office;
6	2. DENR – Regional Office;
7	3. Head of Regional organization of government assessors or its duly
8	authorized representative;
9	4. Head of Regional organization of national government appraisers or its duly
10	authorized representative;
11	5. Head of the private appraisal sector within the region or its duly authorized
12	representative; and
13	6. Head of the bankers association within the region or its duly authorized
14	representative.
15	(b) The members of the Regional Consultative Committee must be performing
16	valuation-related functions in their respective agencies or sectors; and
17	(c) The Committee shall meet at the initiation of the BLGF Regional Director at least
18	once every quarter and shall have as many meetings as the BLGF Regional Director
19	may deem necessary for the performance of its functions. The BLGF Regional
20	Director may invite resource persons on specific issues concerning real property
21	valuation.
22	Sec. 10. Function of the Regional Consultative Committee. – The Regional Consultative
23	Committee shall serve as a consultative forum in the region for discussion on developments
24	in the local real property market; concerns of taxpayers, civil society, and other stakeholders;
25	outcome of real property tax compliance reporting in the region; level of complaints and
26	appeals; local government assessors training in the region; appraisal and assessment concerns
27	in general; and other matters as may be determined by the Committee: Provided, That any
28	report thereof, as a result of the forum, shall be submitted to the Central Consultative
29	Committee.
30	ARTICLE III
31	VALUATION AND APPRAISAL OF REAL PROPERTIES
32	CHAPTER 1
33	VALUATION STANDARDS AND MARKET VALUES
34	Sec. 11. Development of Valuation Standards Notwithstanding the provisions of
35	existing laws to the contrary, the BLGF shall develop, adopt, maintain, and implement uniform

valuation standards which shall be used by all appraisers and assessors in the LGUs and other concerned parties in the appraisal or valuation of lands, buildings, machinery and other real properties for taxation and other purposes. The valuation standards shall conform with internationally accepted valuation standards and principles.

Sec. 12. Valuation and Appraisal of Real Property. — For valuation purposes, all real properties, whether taxable or exempt, shall be valued or appraised based on prevailing market values in the locality where the property is situated, in conformity with the valuation standards adopted under this Act. The Secretary of Finance shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the valuation and appraisal of real property pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

For real properties intended for low-cost or socialized housing, lands included in the government's agrarian reform program and other programs of the government imbued with social policy objectives, the provisions of existing pertinent laws shall be applied after the determination of the prevailing market value of these properties in accordance with internationally accepted international valuation standards.

Sec. 13. *Preparation of the Schedule of Market Values.* – The provincial assessors, together with the municipal assessors and city assessors, including the municipal assessor in the Metropolitan Manila Area, shall prepare the SMVs for the different classes of real property situated within their respective LGUs, pursuant to the valuation standards, rules, regulations, and other specifications set by the DOF. The preparation of the SMVs shall be completed within six (6) months or one hundred eighty (180) days following the announcement from the BLGF to all local assessors to submit their revised SMV.

Upon completion of the proposed SMV, the same shall be submitted by the assessors to the BLGF Regional Office. Within seventy-five (75) days from receipt thereof, the BLGF Regional Office, in coordination with the BIR Regional Office, shall review and endorse the proposed SMV to the BLGF Executive Director and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue: *Provided*, That in the case of cities and municipality within the Metropolitan Manila Area, the proposed SMV shall be submitted to, and reviewed by the BLGF Central Office, in coordination with the concerned BIR Regional Office: *Provided*, *further*, That the SMV complies with all the requirements set by the Secretary of Finance, including the conduct of at least one (1) public consultation on the proposed SMVs.

Sec. 14. Approval of the Schedule of Market Values. – The Secretary of Finance shall approve the SMV in accordance with internationally accepted valuation standards within thirty (30) days from receipt of the joint endorsement of the BLGF Executive Director and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue; otherwise, said schedule shall be deemed approved. In

case of sudden changes in the market values, including but not limited to, ancestral domain, public land, agrarian reform beneficiaries, and other vulnerable sectors, the assessor is mandated to recommend to the *Sanggunian* tax rates and assessment levels that will maintain or minimally affect the real property tax due for the property.

 The approved SMVs shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication by the DOF in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, and posting in the respective provincial capitol, city hall and municipal hall, and in two (2) other conspicuous public places within the LGU covered by the approved SMVs.

The DOF and the concerned LGUs shall post the approved SMVs in their official website.

Sec. 15. Setting Assessment Levels and Tax Rates. – The approved SMV shall be transmitted to the concerned local chief executive, through the respective provincial, city, and municipal assessor. The concerned assessor, in coordination with the local treasurer, shall estimate the revenue and tax impact of the new SMV based on existing assessment levels and tax rates, and recommend amendments thereon based on three (3) different scenarios. The assessor shall thereafter prepare and submit the revenue and tax impact report to the local chief executive for consideration.

The local chief executive shall transmit the approved SMV, together with the revenue and tax impact report, within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the same to the *Sanggunian* for the enactment of an ordinance setting the appropriate assessment levels and tax rates. During the Sanggunian's deliberations prior to the enactment of the tax ordinance, it may call upon the assessor to provide technical assistance and calculate the revenue and tax impact of additional options to arrive at a desired level of revenue and tax burden that the *Sanggunian* will adopt. The concerned *Sanggunian* shall enact the tax ordinance within sixty (60) days from receipt thereof, upon conduct of public hearings and proper consultations; otherwise, the existing ordinance on assessment levels and tax rates shall remain in force and effect.

Upon the enactment by the *Sanggunian* of an ordinance for the assessment levels and tax rates, the local chief executive shall act within ten (10) days, in the case of cities and the municipality in the Metropolitan Manila Area, or within fifteen (15) days, in the case of provinces, to approve the same. Failure of the concerned local chief executive to act on the ordinance within the prescribed period shall render the same approved: *Provided*, That this law shall not be construed to abridge the power of LGUs to lower and adjust assessment levels and tax rates in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", as amended, to provide with it to residential property owners as deemed necessary.

Sec. 16. *Publication of Assessment Levels and Tax Rates.* – The approved ordinance for the assessment levels and tax rates shall be published by the concerned LGU in a newspaper of local circulation once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks: *Provided,* That in provinces and cities, including the municipality within the Metropolitan Manila Area, where there are no newspapers of local circulation, the same shall be posted in the provincial capitol, including all concerned city halls, municipal halls, and in two (2) other conspicuous public places therein.

Sec. 17. *Use of Schedule of Market Values.* – The approved SMV shall be used as basis for the determination of real property-related taxes of national and local governments, as follows:

- (a) For purposes of real property taxation, the approved SMV shall, in no case, be adopted by the LGU less than six (6) months prior to the effectivity of the new assessment rates to ensure the proper cleansing and updating of records, and notification of property owners in the conduct of general revision of assessment and property classification;
- (b) In computing any internal revenue tax, the BIR Commissioner shall use the SMV, or the actual gross selling price in consideration, as stated in real property transaction documents, whichever is higher; and
- (c) For other purposes, such as local transfer tax, tax on sand and gravel, community tax, fees and charges, or as benchmark for real property appraisal of other government agencies, the approved SMV shall be used upon its effectivity.

Notwithstanding the provisions of existing laws to the contrary, the failure to conduct a general revision of assessment and property classification, and use of the approved SMV shall render an LGU ineligible for any conditional or performance-based grant or to contract any form of credit financing.

Sec. 18. *Updating of the Schedule of Market Values.* – All provincial assessors, together with the municipal assessors and the city assessors, including the municipal assessor within the Metropolitan Manila Area, shall update their respective SMVs within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act. Thereafter, they shall update the SMVs and conduct a general revision of property assessments and classifications once every three (3) years from the date of the last revision. The BLGF shall prepare the schedule for the updating of the SMVs in all provinces and cities, including the municipality within the Metropolitan Manila Area.

In case of any significant change in the market value where the property is located after the SMVs have been approved and prior to the next revision, such as in times of calamities, disasters, man-made or natural and other adverse circumstances, or where

correction of errors and inequalities in the SMV is deemed necessary, or upon the directive of the Secretary of Finance, the provincial and city assessors shall recommend revisions to the existing SMVs to the BLGF Regional Office, through the BLGF Regional Director exercising jurisdiction over the LGU concerned: *Provided*, That the city assessors and municipal assessor within the Metropolitan Manila Area, shall recommend revisions to the existing SMVs to the BLGF Central Office.

Such revision or revisions shall be subject to review by the concerned BLGF Regional Office and the BIR Regional Office, which shall complete the review and submit their recommendations to the BLGF Executive Director, in accordance with Sections 13 and 14 hereof.

Sec. 19. *Conduct of Capacity Building Interventions.* – The BLGF shall, in coordination with the Philippine Tax Academy of the DOF, develop and conduct the necessary training for all local assessors, local officials and staff, and other concerned BIR personnel on the preparation of the SMVs in accordance with internationally accepted valuation standards, concepts, principles and practices, conduct of impact studies, preparation of compliance reports, and other subject areas.

CHAPTER 2

DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF REAL PROPERTY MARKET DATABASE

Sec. 20. Development of Real Property Information System. – The BLGF shall develop and maintain an up-to-date electronic database of the sale, exchange, lease, mortgage, donation, transfer, and all other real property transactions and declarations in the country and on the cost of construction or renovation of buildings and other structures, and on the prices of machinery.

For this purpose, the BLGF shall require the mandatory submission of necessary documents from the concerned officials or employees of national government offices or instrumentalities, LGUs and the private sector: *Provided,* That in the case of government agencies and instrumentalities, the mandatory submission of documents and information shall be subject to the prohibition of disclosure of certain information under the Data Privacy Act and other existing laws. The updated database shall be made available to the LGUs, national government agencies and the private sector: *Provided, further,* That the Commissioner of Internal Revenue or a duly authorized representative shall be allowed access to the database without need of prior approval: *Provided, finally,* That non-submission of the required documents to the BLGF shall subject the concerned official or employee to the administrative penalties pursuant to the provisions of Section 28 of this Act.

To further ensure efficient real property tax administration, all provinces, cities and municipalities shall automate their operations, adopt tax mapping technology, maintain software-enabled valuation systems, undertake regular data cleansing and computerize records management. The National Government, through the Department of Information and Communications Technology, shall provide the appropriate equipment and connectivity, information and communications technology platform, training and capability building programs to ensure the compliance with this Section. The BLGF shall establish mechanisms for the electronic submission of the required documents in accordance with the provisions of Article II, Chapter 2 this Act.

 Sec. 21. Duty of Register of Deeds to Supply Assessors with Real Property Transactions Data. – The Register of Deeds shall prepare and submit to the provincial assessors, together with the municipal assessors, and city assessors, including the municipal assessor in Metropolitan Manila Area, an abstract of the entire registry every three (3) months and copies of all contracts selling, transferring or otherwise converting, leasing, or mortgaging real property registered every end of the month. The abstract shall include brief, but sufficient descriptions of the real properties entered therein, their present owners, and the dates of their most recent transfer or alienation accompanied by copies of corresponding deeds of sale, donation, or partition, or other forms of alienation.

Sec. 22. Duty of Official Issuing Building Permits or Certificates of Registration of Machinery to Transmit Copy of Permit to the Assessor. — Any public official or employee who may now or hereafter be required by law or regulation to issue to any person a permit for the construction, addition, repair or renovation of a building, or permanent improvement on land, or a certificate of registration for any machinery, including machines, mechanical contrivances and apparatus attached or affixed on land or to another real property, shall transmit a copy of such permit or certification within thirty (30) days of its issuance to the assessor of the province, city, or municipality where the property is situated.

Sec. 23. Duty of Geodetic Engineers to Furnish Copy of Plans to Assessor. – It shall be the duty of all geodetic engineers, public or private, to furnish free of charge, the assessor of the province, city or municipality where the land is located, a copy of the blue or white print of each of all approved original subdivision plans or maps of surveys, duly signed by a Senior Geodetic Engineer, executed by them every end of the month form receipt of such approved plans from the Land Management Bureau (LMB), the Land Registration Authority (LRA), or the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), as the case may be.

Sec. 24. *Duty of Registrar of Deeds and Notaries Public to Assist the Provincial, City, or Municipal Assessor.* – It shall be the duty of the Registrar of Deeds and notaries public to furnish, free of charge, the provincial, city or municipal assessor with copies of all contracts selling, transferring, or otherwise conveying, leasing, or mortgaging real property received by, or acknowledged before them within such periods as the BLGF shall prescribe.

Sec. 25. *Transmission of Real Property Transactions Data to the BLGF.* – Upon the operationalization of the real property transactions database as provided in Section 20 of this Act, it shall be the duty of the registers of deeds, notaries public, officials issuing building permits, and geodetic engineers conducting surveys within a locality to electronically transmit to the concerned BLGF Regional Office relevant real property transactions data, in accordance with the rules and regulations to be promulgated by the Secretary of Finance.

CHAPTER 3

APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF ASSESSORS

Sec. 26. Appointment of Assessors. – The local chief executive shall appoint the provincial, city and municipal assessors and assistant assessors, as the case may be, in accordance with Civil Service Law, Real Estate Service Act, rules and regulations, and the following guidelines:

- (a) In the case of provincial and assistant provincial assessors and city and assistant city assessors, the appointee shall be chosen from the list of at least three (3) ranking eligible candidates within the region;
- (b) In the case of city and assistant city assessors, and the municipal and assistant municipal assessors in the Metropolitan Manila Area, the appointee shall be chosen from the list of at least three (3) ranking eligible candidates within the region; and
- (c) In the case of municipal and assistant municipal assessors, the appointee shall be chosen from the list of at least three (3) ranking eligible candidates within the province.

The assessors shall be under the technical supervision of the BLGF, primarily through a system of compliance reporting and of capacity building programs.

Sec. 27. *Qualification of Local Government Assessors.* – No person shall be appointed assessor or assistant assessor unless a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the region for a provincial or city assessor/assistant assessor, and of the province for a municipal assessor/assistant assessor, a registered and licensed appraiser, of good moral character, and must not have been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude. The appointee must have experience in real property valuation or assessment work or in any suitable field, either in private or public practice, for at least five (5) years in the case of the provincial or city

assessor, and three (3) years in the case of the municipal assessor. Once appointed, all assessors and local government appraisers must comply with the requirements of the PRBRES for the regular updating of their licenses.

ARTICLE IV

PENAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 28. Failure to Comply with the Required Submission of Documents. – Any government official or employee who fails without justifiable reason to provide or furnish data or information required pursuant to Sections 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 of this Act, shall be punished by a fine equivalent to one (1) month to six (6) months basic salary of the official or employee, or suspension from the service for a period not exceeding one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the competent authority.

Sec. 29. Failure to Comply with the Valuation Standards. – An assessor who, for unjustifiable reasons, fails to comply with the valuation standards developed and adopted pursuant to this Act, or deliberately conceals any deviation or departure from such standards in the valuation and appraisal of real property, shall be punished by a fine equivalent to one (1) month to six (6) months basic salary of the official or employee, or suspension from the service for a period not exceeding one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the competent authority.

Sec. 30. Failure to Prepare Schedule of Market Values. — An assessor who, for unjustifiable reasons, intentionally or deliberately refuses or fails to prepare the SMVs within the period set forth in this Act shall be punished by a fine equivalent to one (1) month to six (6) months basic salary of the official or employee, or suspension from the service for not more than one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the competent authority. This shall also be a ground for administrative and criminal liability in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 9646, otherwise known as the "Real Estate Service Act of the Philippines".

Sec. 31. Government Agents Delaying the Review, Approval, and Implementation of the SMV, and Conduct of General Revisions. – Any government official or employee who delays, without justifiable cause, the review, approval and implementation of the SMV, the conduct of general revisions, or causes the improper use thereof, shall be punished by a fine equivalent to one (1) month to six (6) months basic salary of the official or employee, or suspension from the service for a period not exceeding one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the competent authority.

Sec. 32. *Violations of Other Provisions.* – Any person, whether natural or juridical, who violates any provision of this Act other than those punishable under Sections 28, 29, and 30 hereof shall, when warranted, be dealt with under applicable existing laws.

Sec. 33. *Taxpayers' Remedies in Case of Erroneous Assessments of Real Properties.* – The provisions of Sections 226 on Local Board of Assessment Appeals and 229 on Action by the Local Board of Assessment Appeals of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended, shall apply in all cases of appeal as remedies for the taxpayers in the assessment of their properties.

All concerned local governments shall cause the constitution of a fully functioning Local Board of Assessment Appeals in their respective jurisdictions in coordination with the Land Registration Authority.

ARTICLE V

TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

Sec. 34. *Transitory Guidelines.* – LGUs which are in the process of updating their SMVs shall, upon the effectivity of this Act, continue with such revisions in accordance with Sections 15, 16, 17, and 18 of this Act: *Provided,* That proper notification and coordination with the

13 BLGF shall be undertaken.

In case the SMVs are not yet available or updated, the BIR Commissioner shall adopt the existing SMVs, zonal values or the actual price in consideration as stated in real property transaction documents, whichever is higher, for purposes of computing any internal revenue tax.

Sec. 35. Saving Clause. – The zonal values, as determined by the BIR and approved by the Secretary of Finance for internal revenue tax purposes, and the SMVs prepared by the provincial assessors together with the city assessors, and municipal assessors, including the municipal assessor in Metropolitan Manila Area, that have been approved by their respective Sanggunian for real property taxation purposes shall continue to be in force and effect until repealed, superseded, modified, revised, set aside, or replaced by the values provided under the updated SMVs as approved in accordance with Section 15 of this Act, which shall be within two (2) years upon the effectivity of this Act.

ARTICLE VI

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Sec. 36. Budgetary Requirements for the Updating of Schedule of Market Values. – Each local Sanggunian shall appropriate the necessary funds from locally generated revenues, the National Tax Allotment (NTA), or such other sources every fiscal year to constitute the Real Property Tax Administration Fund (RPTAF), which shall be established and used for the proper implementation of the updating of the SMVs and general revision of real property assessments, and the administration of real property taxes in all LGUs.

The BLGF shall annually furnish the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) with a list of LGUs whose SMVs that are due for updating. The DBM, in their review of the

1	ensuing year's budget of provinces, highly urbanized cities, independent component cities and
2	municipality within the Metropolitan Manila Area, shall ensure that sufficient funds are so
3	appropriated for the RPTAF: Provided, That failure to provide the appropriations required shall
4	render their annual budgets inoperative.
5	ARTICLE VII
6	MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
7	Sec. 37. Appropriations The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act
8	shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
9	Sec. 38. Suppletory Application of Existing Laws The provisions of Republic Act No.
10	7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", and other laws consistent
11	with this Act shall have suppletory effect.
12	Sec. 39. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). – Within six (6) months after the
13	effectivity of this Act, the DOF shall, in consultation with concerned parties, issue the IRR for
14	the effective implementation of this Act.
15	Sec. 40. Separability Clause. – If any section or provision of this Act shall be declared
16	unconstitutional or invalid, other sections or provisions not affected thereby shall continue to
17	be in full force and effect.
18	Sec. 41. Repealing Clause. – The following provisions are hereby repealed:
19	(a) Sections 188, 199(o), 201, 202, 209(a), 212, 214, 219, 220, 472(a) paragraph 1,
20	472(b)(8), and 473(a) paragraph 1 and 518 of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise
21	known as the "Local Government Code of 1991";
22	(b) Section 3(n) of Presidential Decree No. 464 of 1974;
23	(c) Section 6 of Republic Act No. 10752, otherwise known as the "The Right-of-Way
24	Act";
25	(d) Section 4(a) and (b) of Republic Act No. 8974; and
26	(e) Section 9 of Presidential Decree No. 921 on the administration of local financial
27	services in Metropolitan Manila and creating Local Treasure and Assessment
28	Districts.
29	The following provisions are hereby amended accordingly:
30	(a) Sections 19, 135(a), 138, 198(a), 199(o), 218 and 224(a) of Republic Act No. 7160,
31	otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991", are also amended or
32	modified accordingly;
33	(b) Likewise, Sections 6(e), 24(d), 27(d)(5), 88(b) and 102 of Republic Act No. 8424,
34	otherwise known as the "Tax Reform Act of 1997"; and

1	(c) Section 4(h) and Section 9 of Presidential Decree 538 on the power of Philippine
2	Veterans Investment Development Corporation Industrial Authority to collect real
3	property tax.
4	All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and
5	regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,
6	superseded, or modified accordingly.
7	Sec. 42. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication
8	in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
	Approved,