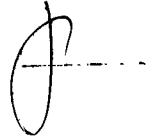


**SENATE**  
S.B. No. 2846

RECEIVED



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Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

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**AN ACT**  
**REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF PLUMBING ENGINEERING IN THE**  
**PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER**  
**PURPOSES**

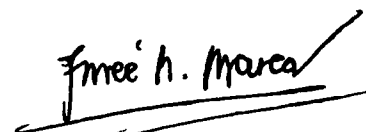
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 1378 otherwise known as the "Plumbing Law" was passed into law on June 18, 1955. Sixty-nine years later, the same law stands without any amendment or revision despite the various changes and advancements that came into place. The said law has become outdated with provisions that do not harmonize with the changing times.

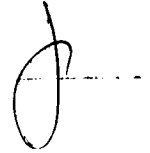
The rapidly expanding plumbing industry dramatizes the need for the participation of Plumbing Engineers with respectable academic background, to cope up with the new technology required and to adopt to globally accepted industry standards and practices.

The need for the participation and enhancement of the Plumbing Engineers with academic background in engineering is vital for them to cope up with new technology, materials, and advancement. This is indeed important with the ongoing rapid urbanization of our country, taking into consideration that the Philippines is the most vulnerable country to climate change.

Thus, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**

**SENATE**  
S.B. No. 2846



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Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

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**AN ACT**  
**REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF PLUMBING ENGINEERING IN THE**  
**PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER**  
**PURPOSES**

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

1       SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Plumbing*  
2 *Engineering Act.*"

3  
4       Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the importance of  
5 plumbing engineering in the rapid urbanization of our country and in nation-building  
6 and development. The State shall encourage the establishment of a pool of  
7 innovative plumbing professionals that adopt to globally accepted industry standards  
8 and practices who are committed to the pursuit of excellence and the ethical  
9 practice in the plumbing profession in order to achieve social upliftment and the  
10 improvement of the quality of life.

11  
12       Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – The following shall be defined in this Act, as  
13 follows:

14       (a) *Master Plumber* shall refer to a person who is a holder of a valid  
15 Certificate of Registration or professional license and professional identification card  
16 as master plumber;

17       (b) *Practice of Plumbing Engineering* shall refer to the professional and  
18 organized act of applying scientific principle and technique for the design,  
19 installation, and operation of plumbing systems involving hot and cold water supply,

1 installation of fixtures, sanitary drainage, vent system, storm drainage, gas piping,  
2 swimming pools, water feature, fire protection system, irrigation system, private  
3 water system and private sewerage disposal system within or adjacent to any  
4 buildings and other structures. It shall embrace services to the following activities:

5 (1) Consultations, designing preparation of plans, specifications,  
6 estimates, erection, installation, and supervision of plumbing works, including  
7 the inspection and acceptance of materials used therein;

8 (2) Extension, addition, alteration, and modification of all piping for  
9 fixtures, equipment, appliances, and appurtenances in connection with any of  
10 the above scope; and

11 (3) Engagement in the teaching or transfer of knowledge and  
12 technology of plumbing engineering in any institution of learning particularly  
13 on subjects included in the licensure examinations; and

14 (c) *Plumbing Engineer* shall refer to a person who is a holder of a valid  
15 Certificate of Registration or professional license and professional identification card  
16 issued by the Professional Regulatory Board of Plumbing Engineering and the  
17 Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and who is legally qualified to practice  
18 plumbing engineering in the Philippines pursuant to this Act.

19  
20 *Sec. 4. Creation of the Professional Regulatory Board of Plumbing*  
21 *Engineering.* – There is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Plumbing  
22 Engineering, hereinafter called the “Board”, which shall be under the administrative  
23 control and supervision of the PRC. The Board shall be composed of a Chairperson  
24 and two (2) members to be appointed by the President of the Republic of the  
25 Philippines from among those recommended by the PRC from the three (3)  
26 nominees of the duly accredited professional organization (APO) of plumbing  
27 engineers.

28  
29 *Sec. 5. Qualifications of the Chairperson and Members of the Board.* – At the  
30 time of their respective appointments, the members of the Board, including the  
31 Chairperson, must have the following qualifications:

32 (a) Be a natural-born Filipino citizen and resident of the Philippines for at least  
33 five (5) consecutive years;

34 (b) Be at least thirty-five (35) years of age;

35 (c) Be of proven integrity and high moral values;

36 (d) Not have been convicted on final judgment by any court for any offense  
37 involving moral turpitude;

38 (e) Be a Plumbing Engineer holding a valid Certificate of Registration and a  
39 valid professional license as Plumbing Engineer having a degree of Bachelor of  
40 Science in Engineering, and an active practitioner in Plumbing Engineering for not  
41 less than ten (10) years prior to appointment;

1 (f) Not be a member of the faculty of any school, academy, institute, college,  
2 or university where a regular course in Plumbing Engineering is being taught, nor  
3 have pecuniary interest in or administrative supervision over any such institution of  
4 learning; and

5 (g) Not be connected with a review center or with any group or any  
6 association where review classes or lectures in preparation for the licensure  
7 examination are offered or conducted, for a period of at least three (3) consecutive  
8 years prior to appointment.

9  
10 Sec. 6. *Term of Office.* – The Chairperson and members of the Board shall  
11 hold office for a term of three (3) years from the date of appointment.

12 Of the members of the Board first appointed under this Act, one (1) member  
13 shall be appointed and hold office for three (3) years, one (1) member for two (2)  
14 years, and one (1) member for one (1) year.

15 The Chairperson or members of the Board may be reappointed for another  
16 term but shall in no case serve continuously for more than six (6) years. Any  
17 vacancy occurring in the membership of the Board within the term of a member  
18 shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term only. Each member of the Board  
19 shall take an oath of office prior to the official performance of duties.

20  
21 Sec. 7. *Powers, Functions, Duties, and Responsibilities.* – The Board shall  
22 exercise the following powers, functions, duties, and responsibilities:

23 (a) Supervise and regulate the examination, registration, licensure, and the  
24 practice of plumbing engineering;

25 (b) Determine and evaluate the qualifications of the applicants for  
26 registration;

27 (c) Prepare the examination questions in accordance with Section 14 hereof  
28 and supervise, check, and rate the licensure examination papers;

29 (d) Prescribe, amend, or revise the requirements and subjects in the licensure  
30 examination for plumbing engineers and their relative weights, subject to the  
31 approval of the PRC;

32 (e) Administer oaths to successful examinees entering the practice of  
33 plumbing engineering in the Philippines;

34 (f) Issue, suspend, or revoke the license for the practice of plumbing  
35 engineering or to reissue the same;

36 (g) Issue special permits to foreign plumbing engineers for specific duration  
37 of time;

38 (h) Adopt an official seal of the Board;

39 (i) Look into the conditions affecting the practice of the plumbing engineering  
40 profession and, whenever necessary, adopt such measures as may be deemed

proper for the enhancement of the profession and the maintenance of high professional, technical, and ethical standards of the profession;

(j) Prescribe and adopt a set of ethical and technical standards for the practice of plumbing engineering in the Philippines and cause these to be published and disseminated;

(k) Investigate, hear and try administrative cases involving violations of this Act, its implementing rules and regulations, the sets of ethical and technical standards and, for the purpose, issue subpoena *ad testificandum* and subpoena *duces tecum* to secure the appearances of witnesses and the production of documents in connection therewith;

(l) Submit an annual report on the action on all applications for licensure; the names of all persons licensed or certified; actions involving suspension, revocation, or denial of license; recommendations for reciprocity; receipt and disbursement of any monies; and other matters that may be required by law from the PRC after the close of each fiscal year;

(m) Ensure, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), that all educational institutions offering plumbing engineering program comply with the policies, standards and requirements of the course prescribed by the CHED in the areas of curriculum, faculty, library and facilities;

(n) Coordinate with the PRC, CHED, and TESDA in prescribing amending and revising the curriculum of the related course;

(o) Prescribe guidelines and criteria for the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) program for plumbing engineers as a condition for the renewal of their professional licenses; and

(p) Perform such other functions and duties as may be necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

**Sec. 8. *Compensation and Allowances.*** – The Chairperson and members of the Board shall receive compensation and allowances comparable with the compensation and allowances being received by the Chairpersons and members of existing regulatory boards in the PRC and as may be provided for in the General Appropriations Act.

**Sec. 9. *Supervision of the Board, Custodian of its Records, Secretariat and Support.*** – The Board shall be under the administrative supervision of the PRC. All records of the Board, including the application for examination, examination papers and results, minutes of deliberation, administrative cases, and other investigations involving plumbing engineers shall be kept by the PRC.

The PRC shall designate the Secretary of the Board and shall provide the secretariat with the necessary support services to implement the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 10. *Removal of a Member of the Board.* – The President may remove any member of the Board, upon the recommendation of the PRC, on the following grounds:

- (a) Neglect of duty or incompetence;
- (b) Violation or tolerance of the violation of this Act or the Code of Ethics or Technical Standards for Plumbing Engineers; and
- (c) Final judgment of a crime involving moral turpitude.

Members shall be given due notice and hearing where the right to be heard and to defend themselves, assisted by a counsel, shall be respected in a proper administrative investigation the PRC shall conduct.

Sec. 11. *Annual Report.* – The Board shall, at the close of each calendar year, submit an annual report to the President of the Philippines and the Congress through the PRC, giving detailed account of its recommendation for the adoption of measures that will upgrade and improve the conditions affecting the practice of plumbing engineering in the Philippines.

Sec. 12. *Requirement of Licensure Examination.* – All applicants for registration as plumbing engineers shall be required to undergo and pass a written examination as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 13. *Qualifications of Applicants for Plumbing Engineering Licensure.* – The applicant for the plumbing engineering examination shall, on the day of the examination, possess the following qualifications:

- (a) Be at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- (b) Be a citizen of the Philippines or of a foreign country that upholds the reciprocal practice of plumbing engineering therein by Philippine nationals;
- (c) Be of good moral character; and
- (d) Be a holder of a Bachelor of Science degree in Plumbing Engineering.

Sec. 14. *Scope of Examination.* – The applicant for registration as plumbing engineer shall be examined in the following subjects:

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| (a) General Engineering and Mathematics | 20%         |
| (b) Plumbing Code                       | 20%         |
| (c) Plumbing Design                     | 40%         |
| (d) Practical Problems and Installation | <u>20%</u>  |
|   | <b>100%</b> |

1       The subjects and their syllabi may be amended by the Board to conform to  
2 technological changes brought about by the continuing trends in the profession.

3  
4       Sec. 15. *Grounds for Suspension or Revocation of License.* – The Board may  
5 suspend or revoke a Certificate of Registration obtained through misrepresentation  
6 in the application for examination.

7       The Board shall have the power, upon proper notice and hearing, to revoke or  
8 suspend any Certificate of Registration of any registrant who:

9       (a) Has been convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude;

10       (b) Has been found guilty of dishonorable conduct;

11       (c) Has been found of being unsound mind;

12       (d) Has been found guilty of gross negligence or incompetence, or  
13 unprofessional or dishonorable conduct; and

14       (e) Has been found guilty of any violation of this Act, the rules and  
15 regulations and other policies of the Board, and the Code of Professional Ethics.

16       The decision of the Board may be appealed to the Chairperson of the PRC,  
17 whose decision shall be final.

18       Any person, firm, association, or corporation may file charges against a  
19 certified licensed plumbing engineer in accordance with the provisions of this section  
20 in writing, sworn to, and filed with the Secretary of the Board. The Board may  
21 investigate or take cognizance of acts and practices constituting cause for the  
22 suspension or revocation of the Certificate of Registration by proper resolution or  
23 order.

24  
25       Sec. 16. *Examination Fees.* – Every applicant admitted to take the plumbing  
26 engineering examinations shall pay such fees as may be prescribed by the PRC.

27  
28       Sec. 17. *Schedule of Examination.* – Examinations for candidates for plumbing  
29 engineering shall be given by the Board twice a year in Metro Manila, and in such  
30 other places as may be deemed appropriate by the Board. The dates of the  
31 examinations shall be fixed by the Board.

32  
33       Sec. 18. *Admission to Examination.* – The Board, with the approval of the  
34 PRC, shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement  
35 or carry out the provisions of this Act, especially those relating to the scope of  
36 examinations for plumbing engineering, proper conduct of the examinations, custody  
37 and correction of examination papers, and registration of plumbing engineers.

1 The Board shall have control and jurisdiction over examination papers, from the  
2 preparation, printing and distribution to examinees, during the review of test scores  
3 up to the time the list of successful examinees is released for publication in  
4 newspapers of general circulation in the country.

5  
6 Sec. 19. *Rating in the Board Examination.* – To pass the board examination  
7 for Plumbing Engineers, an examinee must obtain a weighted general average of  
8 seventy percent (70%), with no grade lower than fifty percent (50%).  
9

10 Sec. 20. *Re-examination.* – An applicant who fails to pass the examination for  
11 the third time shall be allowed to take another examination only after the lapse of  
12 one (1) year.  
13

14 Sec. 21. *Report of Ratings.* – The Board shall submit to the PRC the ratings  
15 obtained by each examinee, not later than the twentieth (20th) day after the  
16 examination, unless extended for a just cause. Upon the release of the results of the  
17 examination, the Board shall send by mail the rating received by each examinee at  
18 the latter's given address, using the self-addressed mailing envelope submitted  
19 during the examination.  
20

21 Sec. 22. *Oath.* – All successful plumbing engineering examinees and all those  
22 who have qualified for registration without examination shall be required to take the  
23 Oath of Profession before the Board or any person authorized by the PRC to  
24 administer oaths before the examinee can be registered and issued a Certificate of  
25 Registration and professional identification card. The oath taking shall be a  
26 prerequisite to the practice of the profession as a Plumbing Engineer.  
27

28 Sec. 23. *Issuance of Certificates of Registration and Professional License.* –  
29 The effectivity of the registration of plumbing engineers commences on the date the  
30 registrant's name is entered in the roll of registrants or licenses for the profession.  
31 Every registrant who has satisfactorily met all the requirements specified in this Act,  
32 upon payment of the registration fee, shall be issued a Certificate of Registration as  
33 a Plumbing Engineer.

34 The Certificate of Registration shall show the full name of the registrant and a  
35 serial number, signed by the Chairperson and members of the Board, and stamped  
36 with the official seal, evidencing that the person named therein is entitled to practice  
37 the profession with all the rights and privileges appurtenant thereto. The Certificate  
38 of Registration shall remain in full force and effect until withdrawn, suspended, or  
39 revoked.

40 A professional license signed by the Chairperson and bearing the registration  
41 number, the date of issuance and the month of expiry or renewability shall likewise



1 be issued to every registrant who has paid the registration fees for three (3)  
2 consecutive years and has complied with the requirements of the CPD, unless  
3 exempted therefrom. This license shall serve as evidence that the licensee can  
4 lawfully practice the profession until the expiration of its validity.

5  
6 *Sec. 24. Seal of Plumbing Engineer.* – All licensed plumbing engineers may  
7 obtain a personal seal of a design prescribed by the Board bearing the registrant's  
8 name, the certificate number and the legend "Plumbing Engineer". Plans,  
9 specifications, reports, and other professional documents prepared by or executed  
10 under the immediate supervision of and issued by a licensee shall be stamped on  
11 every sheet with the seal when filed with government authorities or when submitted  
12 or used professionally.

13 It shall be unlawful for anyone to use the seal on any document when the  
14 registrant's name has been delisted from the roster of plumbing engineers, or after  
15 the validity of the professional license has expired. The seal or stamp can be used  
16 again only after the registrant is reinstated to the practice of the profession and  
17 reissued a new professional license.

18  
19 *Sec. 25. Refusal to Issue Certificates.* – The Board shall not issue a Certificate  
20 of Registration to any person convicted by the court of any criminal offense involving  
21 moral turpitude, or to any person guilty of immoral or dishonorable conduct, or to  
22 any person of unsound mind. In the event of refusal to issue certificates for any  
23 reason, the Board shall give the applicant a written statement setting forth the  
24 reasons for such action, which statement shall be incorporated in the records of the  
25 Board.

26  
27 *Sec. 26. Reissue of Revoked Certificates and Replacement of Lost Certificates.*  
28 – A person may apply to the Board for reinstatement of a license or certificate at any  
29 time after one (1) year from the date of revocation of the license or certificate.

30  
31 *Sec. 27. Exemption from Examination and Registration.* – Registration shall  
32 not be required from any of the following persons:

33 (a) Foreign plumbing engineers employed as technical consultants by the  
34 Philippine government or by private firms, subject to the following conditions:

35 (1) That no qualified Filipino is available for the work or undertaking  
36 that the foreign professional is being hired or commissioned for, as  
37 certified by the Accredited Integrated Professional Organization of  
38 Plumbing Engineers;

39 (2) That the foreign professional concerned is legally qualified to  
40 practice their profession in his or her country in which the

requirements and qualifications for obtaining a license or certificate of registration are not lower than those specified in this Act;

(3) That the scope of work to be performed by foreign professional concerned shall be limited only to the particular work for which he or she was contracted;

(4) That prior commencing to work, the foreign professional concerned shall secure a special permit to practice plumbing engineering in the Philippines;

(5) That foreign professional shall not engage in private practice on their own account;

(6) That for every foreign professional contracted pursuant to this section, a duly registered Filipino plumbing engineer shall be employed by the government agency or private firm concerned: Provided, That the Filipino plumbing engineer concerned shall remain employed for at least the duration of the contract of the foreign professional; and

(7) That the exemption herein granted shall be valid for six (6) months, renewable for another six (6) months subject to the approval of the Board: Provided, That in the event that the original employment or service contract involving a foreign professional has been completed or terminated, the foreign professional concerned and his or her new contracting government agency or private firm shall likewise satisfy the conditions and requirements as stipulated under this Act;

(b) Foreign plumbing engineers who have distinguished themselves in their respective fields of specification, contracted on a direct hire or exchange basis as professors or lecturers for plumbing engineering subjects by higher education institutions duly-recognized by CHED, subject to verification of credentials by the Board; or

(c) Engineering students, apprentices and other persons employed or acting as subordinates of, or undergoing training under persons holding a valid certificate of registration and license under this Act.

**Sec. 28. Practice of Plumbing Engineering.** – Except as may be provided in this Act, no person shall use the title “Registered Plumbing Engineer”, or display or use any title, sign, card, advertisement, or other device to indicate such person practices or offers to practice plumbing engineering unless the person shall have received from the Board a Certificate of Registration and issued a professional identification card by the PRC and the Board.

The activities enumerated in section 3 describing the coverage of the practice of plumbing engineering shall not be construed as excluding any other work requiring plumbing engineering knowledge and application.

1 No firm, partnership, corporation or association may be licensed and  
2 registered as such for the practice of plumbing engineering, but duly licensed and  
3 registered plumbing engineers may form partnerships among themselves or with  
4 other licensed and registered engineers and architects and use the title "Plumbing  
5 Engineers", "Engineers", or "Engineers and Architects" in their partnership names.  
6

7 *Sec. 29. Prohibited Acts.* – The following acts shall be prohibited:

8 (a) Practice or offer to practice plumbing engineering in the Philippines  
9 without having previously obtained a Certificate of Registration and a  
10 professional license from the Professional Regulatory Board of Plumbing  
11 Engineers;

12 (b) Use or attempt to use the Certificate of Registration, professional license  
13 or seal of another;

14 (c) Submission of fraudulent evidence of any kind to the Board or to any  
15 member thereof to obtain a Certificate of Registration and professional  
16 license;

17 (d) Fraudulent impersonation of any registered plumbing engineer;

18 (e) Attempt to use a revoked or suspended Certificate of Registration or an  
19 expired professional license;

20 (f) Use, in connection with the person's name, or otherwise assume or  
21 advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that such  
22 person is a plumbing engineer or master plumber without holding a valid  
23 Certificate or a valid license; and

24 (g) Sign a document involving plumbing design, plan, technical specification,  
25 valuation, and the like on behalf of a plumbing engineer.  
26

27 *Sec. 30. Database of Plumbing Engineers.* – The PRC shall keep and regularly  
28 update a database of all the licensed and registered plumbing engineers. The  
29 database shall include their names, registration numbers, and places of business.  
30

31 *Sec. 31. Foreign Reciprocity.* – No foreign engineer shall be admitted to take  
32 the board examination, be given a Certificate of Registration, or be entitled to any of  
33 the rights and privileges under this Act unless the country of which the person is a  
34 subject or citizen specifically permits Filipino engineers to practice within its  
35 territorial limits on the same basis as the subjects or citizens of that country.  
36

37 *Sec. 32. License Number and Privilege Tax Receipt.* – The plumbing engineer  
38 shall be required to indicate the Certificate of Registration, the professional  
39 identification card number, the date of issuance, and the duration of validity,  
40 including the Privilege Tax Receipt (PTR) on the documents the plumbing engineer  
41 signs, uses, or issues in connection with the practice of the profession.

1  
2       Sec. 33. *Integration of the Plumbing Professional Organizations.* – The  
3 plumbing professional organizations shall be integrated into one (1) national  
4 organization which shall be recognized by the Board as the one and only integrated  
5 and accredited association of plumbing engineers. A plumbing engineer, upon  
6 registration with the Board as such, shall ipso facto become a member of the  
7 integrated national organization. Those who have been registered with the Board  
8 but are not members of the said organization at the time of the effectivity of this Act  
9 shall be allowed to register as members of the said integrated organization within  
10 three (3) years after the effectivity of this Act. Membership in the integrated  
11 organization shall not be a bar to membership in other associations of the  
12 engineering profession.

13  
14       Sec. 34. *Continuing Professional Development (CPD).* – The CPD guidelines  
15 shall be prescribed and promulgated by the Board subject to the approval of the  
16 PRC, after consultation with the integrated and accredited plumbing engineering  
17 associations, other associations of the plumbing engineering profession, and other  
18 concerned sectors. The Board shall incorporate in the said guidelines the creation of  
19 a CPD council that shall be composed of officers coming from the Board, the PRC,  
20 the APO, and other concerned sectors. It shall be vested with the functions, duties  
21 and responsibilities to implement the guidelines and shall have the juridical  
22 personality that is distinct and separate from and independent of the Board, the PRC  
23 and the APO.

24  
25       Sec. 35. *Penalties.* – In addition to the administrative sanctions, a person  
26 found to have violated any of the provisions of this Act shall, upon conviction, be  
27 penalized by a fine of not less than fifty thousand pesos (Php 50,000.00) nor more  
28 than two hundred thousand pesos (Php 200,000.00) or imprisonment of not more  
29 than six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of the court. If the offender is a  
30 corporation, partnership, or juridical person, the penalty shall be imposed on the  
31 officers responsible for permitting or causing a violation of the provision/s of this  
32 Act.

33  
34       Sec. 36. *Enforcement.* – The Board shall be assisted by the PRC in carrying  
35 out the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations and other  
36 policies. The lawyers of the PRC shall act as prosecutors against illegal practitioners  
37 and other violators of this Act and its rules. The duly constituted authorities of the  
38 government shall likewise assist the Board and the PRC in enforcing the provisions  
39 of this Act and its rules.  
40

1           Sec. 37. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) calendar  
2 days after the effectivity of this Act, the PRC shall formulate the implementing rules  
3 and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.  
4

5           Sec. 38. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations  
6 or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
7 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.  
8

9           Sec. 39. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is  
10 declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected  
11 thereby shall remain in force and effect.  
12

13           Sec. 40. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
14 following the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a  
15 newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

*Approved,*