

1 (a) *Chemistry* refers to the study, analysis, modification and
2 calculations of physico-chemical or biochemical properties of matter.
3 Chemistry includes the atomic, molecular, surface and supramolecular
4 composition and structure of matter, properties and reactions, the changes
5 which matter undergoes, the energy involved, and the conditions under which
6 such changes occur. Biochemistry, which is defined as the study of the
7 chemical compounds and processes in biological organisms, is included within
8 the scope of chemistry for purposes of this Act.

9 (b) *Registered Chemist* refers to any person who is engaged in the
10 professional practice of chemistry, as defined herein, who is duly registered
11 with the Board of Chemistry and the Professional Regulation Commission. A
12 registered chemist shall have the authority to undertake the professional
13 practice of chemistry.

14 (c) *Registered Chemical Analyst* refers to any person who is engaged in
15 the work of chemical analysis, as defined herein, and who is duly registered
16 with the Board of Chemistry.

17 (d) *Chemical Analysis* refers to a physico-chemical or biochemical
18 technique which includes the following, and related techniques:

19 (1) Use of methods, such as titration, gravimetric analysis,
20 electrochemical measurements, spectroscopy, chromatography, and others;

21 (2) Preparation of a sample for chemical analysis;

22 (3) Determination of the atomic, molecular or supramolecular
23 properties of a substance;

24 (4) Quantitative analysis of the components of a substance;

25 (5) Determination of the molecular structure of a substance using the
26 tools of spectroscopy, mass spectrometry, x-ray crystallography or other
27 techniques;

1 (6) Separation or purification of a mixture into its components using
2 techniques, such as distillation, crystallization, solvent extraction, adsorption,
3 size exclusion, affinity, chromatography, and others; and

4 (7) Other analytical methods which characterize matter at the atomic,
5 molecular or supramolecular level.

6 (e) *Chemical Synthesis* refers to the preparation of a compound or
7 chemical entity from its elements or from other compounds or chemical
8 entities, by one or more chemical reactions. Synthesis as defined herein refers
9 to both chemical synthesis, which may use chemical catalysts, and biochemical
10 synthesis, which uses enzymes and other biological compounds to promote a
11 reaction.

12 (f) *Chemical Laboratory* refers to a facility where activities described
13 in Sections 3(d) and 3(e) are performed. Such activities carried out outside of a
14 chemical laboratory, for example, a factory, mobile laboratory or field
15 analysis, are also covered. The head of a chemical laboratory should be a
16 registered chemist.

17 SEC. 4. *Scope of the Professional Practice of Chemistry.* – The
18 professional practice of chemistry covers the performance of a service related
19 to the public interest, public safety, legal or regulatory matters. The following
20 and similar activities shall be the functions of the registered chemists:

21 (a) Performance of a chemical analysis or chemical synthesis;

22 (b) Certification of a chemical analysis or chemical synthesis;

23 (c) Inspection of a laboratory with respect to its chemical or
24 biochemical activities;

25 (d) Certification of a laboratory with respect to its chemical or
26 biochemical activities;

27 (e) Supervision of a chemical laboratory;

1 (f) Supervision of a chemical analysis or chemical synthesis, whether
2 or not this is performed in a laboratory;

3 (g) Teaching, lecturing and reviewing of a professional chemistry
4 subject in the curriculum of the Bachelor of Science in Chemistry degree or a
5 subject in the chemistry licensure examination given in any college, university,
6 or training or review center, or any other educational institution or certification
7 body;

8 (h) Consultation or investigation, research concerning physico-
9 chemical or biochemical matters which involve the public interest, public
10 safety, laws or regulations. For these purposes, the registered chemist must
11 affix one's signature, license number and official seal to any certification
12 report which one submits;

13 (i) Sale of chemicals, chemical apparatus or chemical equipment;

14 (j) Supervision of the sale of chemicals, chemical apparatus or
15 chemical equipment; and

16 (k) Functions related to the management of chemicals, such as
17 chemical safety, chemical waste management, pollution control, and the like.

18 The Chemistry Board, subject to the approval of the Commission, may
19 revise, exclude from or add to the above-enumerated acts or activities as the
20 need arises to conform to the latest trend in the practice of the profession.

21 *SEC. 5. Scope of the Professional Practice of Chemical Analysis. –*

22 The scope of the practice of chemical analysis shall be limited to the
23 performance of physico-chemical or biochemical analysis, chemical or
24 biochemical synthesis, and sale of chemicals, chemical apparatus or chemical
25 equipment: *Provided*, That such activities are under the supervision of a
26 registered chemist. Any report on chemical analysis or synthesis must be
27 signed by the chemical analyst who performed and who must duly affix one's
28 license number.

ARTICLE II

PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF CHEMISTRY

1
2
3 SEC. 6. *Composition of the Board.* – There is hereby created a
4 Professional Regulatory Board of Chemistry, hereinafter referred to as the
5 Board, under the administrative control and supervision of the Professional
6 Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, which shall
7 be composed of a Chairperson and two (2) members appointed by the
8 President of the Philippines from a list of three (3) recommendees for each
9 position ranked by the Commission from a list of five (5) nominees for each
10 position submitted by the accredited professional organization (APO) of
11 chemists.

12 SEC. 7. *Powers and Duties of the Board.* – The Board shall have the
13 following powers and duties:

14 (a) Supervise and regulate the practice of the chemistry profession in
15 the Philippines in accordance with the provisions of this Act;

16 (b) Determine the requirements and evaluate the qualifications of the
17 applicants for registration and renewal of license of registered chemists and
18 registered chemical analysts;

19 (c) Prescribe the subjects in the licensure examination, determine the
20 syllabi of the subjects and their relative weights, construct the test questions in
21 the examinations and submit the examination results to the Commission;

22 (d) Issue, together with the Commission, certificates of registration to
23 persons admitted to the practice of the professions of Chemistry and Chemical
24 Analysis;

25 (e) Oversee the conduct of the Continuing Professional Education
26 (CPE) program for the professional chemists and chemical analysts;

27 (f) Determine, in consultation with the APO, private industry and
28 relevant government agencies, the requirements of chemistry laboratories, both

1 private and government, and other entities engaged in the practice of chemistry
2 for registration or renewal of permit, and to issue, together with the
3 Commission, the certificate of authority to operate to those which satisfy the
4 said requirements;

5 (g) Conduct on-site inspection of chemistry laboratories and other
6 entities engaged in the practice of Chemistry and seek the assistance of the
7 APO in order to carry out these functions;

8 (h) Inquire into the conditions affecting the practice of the profession
9 and adopt measures for the enhancement and maintenance of high professional,
10 ethical and technical standards;

11 (i) Adopt and promulgate the Code of Ethics and Code of Good
12 Governance for the practice of Chemistry;

13 (j) Issue subpoena *ad testificandum* and subpoena *duces tecum* to
14 secure the attendance of witnesses or the production of documents in
15 connection with any administrative case before the Board;

16 (k) Hear and decide administrative cases filed against chemists,
17 chemical analysts, and the owners and administrators of chemical laboratories.
18 The hearing shall be presided over by the Chairperson or a member of the
19 Board with the assistance of an attorney of the Commission. Any decision
20 shall be decided by a majority of the Board. The decision of the Board may be
21 appealed to the Commission within fifteen (15) days from notice, otherwise
22 such decision shall be final and executory;

23 (l) Administer oaths in connection with the performance of its
24 functions;

25 (m) Adopt the implementing rules and regulations of this Act; and

26 (n) Perform such other functions as may be necessary in order to
27 implement the provisions of this Act.

1 SEC. 8. *Qualifications of the Chairperson and Members of the Board.*

2 – The Chairperson and members of the Board shall have the following
3 qualifications:

4 (a) Must be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;

5 (b) Of good moral character and of sound mind;

6 (c) Must be a holder of at least a Master's degree in Chemistry
7 conferred by a chemistry institution recognized by the Commission on Higher
8 Education (CHED), or by a reputable foreign university;

9 (d) Must be a registered chemist who has been in active practice for at
10 least ten (10) years;

11 (e) Must be a person who does not have any pecuniary interest, directly
12 or indirectly, in any higher educational institution conferring an academic
13 degree necessary for admission to the practice of chemistry or where review
14 classes in preparation for the licensure examination are being offered or
15 conducted; nor shall one be a member of the faculty or administration thereof;

16 (f) Must be a member in good standing of the APO;

17 (g) Must not be an officer or trustee of the APO; and

18 (h) Not convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of an offense
19 involving moral turpitude.

20 SEC. 9. *Term of Office.* – The Chairperson and members of the Board
21 shall hold office for a term of three (3) years from the date of appointment or
22 until their successors shall have been appointed. They may be reappointed for
23 another term of three (3) years immediately after the expiry of their term:
24 *Provided,* That their terms should not be more than two (2) terms or not more
25 than six (6) years, whichever is longer: *Provided, further,* That the first Board
26 under this Act shall hold these terms of office: the Chairperson for three (3)
27 years, the first member for two (2) years and the second member for one (1)
28 year: *Provided, furthermore,* That any appointee to a vacancy with an

1 unexpired period shall only serve such period. The Chairperson and the
2 members shall duly take their oath of office.

3 SEC. 10. *Compensation of the Board.* -- The Chairperson and
4 members of the Board shall receive such compensation and allowances
5 comparable to that being received by the Chairperson and members of other
6 professional regulatory boards under the Commission as provided for in the
7 General Appropriations Act.

8 SEC. 11. *Custodian of Records, Secretariat and Support Services.* --
9 All records of the Board, including applications for examinations, examination
10 papers and results, minutes of meetings, deliberations of administrative and
11 other investigative cases involving the Board shall be kept by the Commission.
12 The Commission shall designate the Secretary of the Board and shall provide
13 secretariat and other support services to implement the provisions of this Act.

14 SEC. 12. *Grounds for Suspension or Removal of the Chairperson and*
15 *Members.* -- The President, upon the recommendation of the Commission
16 after due process and administrative investigation conducted by the
17 Commission, may remove or suspend a Chairperson or member of the Board
18 on any of the following grounds:

19 (a) Gross neglect, incompetence or dishonesty in the discharge of one's
20 duty;

21 (b) Violation of any of the causes/grounds and the prohibited acts
22 provided in this Act and the offenses in the Revised Penal Code, the Anti-Graft
23 and Corrupt Practices Act, and other laws; and

24 (c) Manipulation or rigging of the licensure examination results, or
25 disclosure of examination questions prior to the conduct of the examination, or
26 tampering of the grades.

27 The Commission, in the conduct of the investigation, shall be guided
28 by Section 7(s) of Republic Act No. 8981, otherwise known as the "PRC

1 Modernization Act of 2000”, the rules on administrative investigation, and the
2 applicable provisions of the New Rules of Court.

3 SEC. 13. *Annual Report and Annual Meeting.* – The Board shall
4 submit an annual report to the Commission after the close of each fiscal year
5 giving a detailed account of the proceedings of the Board during the year and
6 embodying such recommendations to the Commission as the Board may desire
7 to make. At least once a year, the Board shall meet with the APO,
8 representatives of departments of chemistry in higher educational institutions,
9 and the CHED to discuss matters pertinent to the professional practice of
10 Chemistry.

11 ARTICLE III

12 LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION

13 SEC. 14. *Certificate to Practice Chemistry and Chemical Analysis.* –
14 Unless exempt from registration or not subject to the requirements of this Act,
15 no person shall practice or offer to practice as a chemist or chemical analyst in
16 the Philippines, without having previously obtained a certificate of registration
17 from the Board and a professional identification card.

18 SEC. 15. *Requirement for Registration as Chemist and Chemical*
19 *Analyst.* -- All applicants for registration for the practice of Chemistry and
20 Chemical Analysis in the Philippines shall be required to pass the licensure
21 examination prescribed herein unless otherwise provided in this Act.

22 SEC. 16. *Qualifications of Applicant for Chemist.* – Any person
23 applying for admission to the chemistry examination must have the following
24 qualifications:

25 (a) Must be a citizen and resident of the Philippines or a foreign citizen
26 whose country/state has reciprocity with the Philippines in the practice of
27 chemistry;

28 (b) Of good moral character and of sound mind;

1 (c) Must be a graduate of any higher educational institution and a
2 holder of a degree of Bachelor of Science (BS) in Chemistry or an allied
3 degree, the curricula of which are under the academic supervision of the
4 CHED: *Provided*, That the applicant must have earned at least sixty (60)
5 university units in chemistry which should include all of the professional
6 chemistry courses: *Provided, further*, That the allied degree and its curriculum
7 shall have passed the evaluation of the Board of Chemistry. Graduates of
8 reputable foreign universities who have been conferred the degree of BS
9 Chemistry or its equivalent, and whose curriculum includes all of the
10 professional chemistry courses, may apply to take the licensure examination,
11 subject to evaluation by the Board; and

12 (d) Must not have been convicted of a crime or an offense involving
13 moral turpitude by a court of competent jurisdiction.

14 SEC. 17. *Scope of Examination for Chemists.* – The Chemistry
15 licensure examination shall cover the following professional chemistry
16 subjects: Analytical Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, Inorganic
17 Chemistry and Physical Chemistry: *Provided*, That the relative weight of any
18 subject shall not exceed thirty percent (30%) or be less than fifteen percent
19 (15%) of the total. The Board may modify the coverage of the Board
20 examination as required by developments in chemistry and the professional
21 practice of chemistry. In such a case, the Board shall consult with the CHED
22 and the APO for chemistry. The Board must announce revisions in chemistry
23 subjects and topics at least two (2) years prior to their inclusion in the Board
24 examination.

25 SEC. 18. *Qualifications of Applicant for Chemical Analyst.* – To be
26 authorized to practice the profession of chemical analysis, an applicant must
27 possess the following qualifications:

1 (a) Must be a citizen of the Philippines or a citizen of a foreign country
2 which grants the corresponding privilege to Filipinos;

3 (b) Of good moral character and of sound mind; and

4 (c) Must have successfully completed at least thirty (30) units of
5 undergraduate chemistry courses from an institution duly recognized by the
6 CHED or the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
7 (TESDA). The courses should include both lecture and laboratory courses in
8 the following subjects: General Chemistry, Analytical Chemistry and Organic
9 Chemistry. A certified true copy of the applicant's transcript of records must
10 accompany the application.

11 SEC. 19. *Scope of Examination for Chemical Analyst.* – The licensure
12 examination for chemical analyst shall cover practical aspects of laboratory
13 work in the following chemistry subjects with equal weights: Analytical
14 Chemistry and Organic Chemistry. The Board may modify the coverage of the
15 Board examination as required by developments in chemistry and the
16 professional practice of chemical analysis. In such a case, the Board shall
17 consult with the CHED, the TESDA and the APO for chemistry. The Board
18 must announce revisions in chemistry subjects and topics at least two (2) years
19 prior to their inclusion in the Board examination.

20 SEC. 20. *Holding of Examination.* – Examination of candidates
21 desiring to practice chemistry and chemical analysis in the Philippines shall be
22 given at least once each calendar year on the date(s) and venue(s) prescribed
23 by the Commission in accordance with Republic Act No. 8981.

24 SEC. 21. *Examination Fees.* – Each applicant admitted to take the
25 Chemistry examination shall pay such fees as may be prescribed by the
26 Commission before one is allowed to take the examination.

1 SEC. 22. *Ratings in the Licensure Examination.* – The Board and the
2 Commission shall issue certificates of registration if the examinee attains the
3 following ratings:

4 (a) Examination for Chemist: the examinee must obtain a general
5 average of at least seventy percent (70%) and no rating less than fifty percent
6 (50%) in any subject: *Provided, however,* That if the examinee passes any two
7 subjects, the examinee shall automatically qualify as a chemical analyst; and

8 (b) Examination for Chemical Analyst: the examinee must obtain an
9 overall average of at least seventy percent (70%) and no rating less than fifty
10 percent (50%) in any subject.

11 The results of the examination shall be released within ten (10) working
12 days from the last day of the examination.

13 SEC. 23. *Exemption from Examination for Chemists.* – Holders of a
14 doctoral degree in Chemistry from a reputable university may apply for
15 registration as chemists without examination from the Board. They must
16 submit a copy of their undergraduate and graduate diplomas, transcripts and
17 cover pages of their Doctoral thesis: *Provided,* That such individuals must
18 show evidence that they have been active in the practice of Chemistry. The
19 Board may require presentation of the Doctoral thesis and other evidence of
20 competence and achievement in Chemistry.

21 SEC. 24. *Issuance of Temporary/Special Permit.* – The Board may
22 issue a special permit to practice Chemistry to the following persons upon
23 proper application with the Board:

24 (a) Foreign-based chemists, recognized as experts in their specific field
25 of chemistry, who are invited by the Republic of the Philippines for purposes
26 of consultation or for a specific project: *Provided,* That their practice shall be
27 confined to such work; and

1 (b) Foreign-based chemists, who have distinguished themselves in their
2 respective fields of specialization, contracted as professors or lecturers on
3 chemistry subjects by Philippine schools, colleges, institutes or universities on
4 a direct hire or exchange basis. The special permit shall indicate the period of
5 validity but shall not exceed three (3) years. It may be renewed subject to the
6 rules and regulations of the Board. Complaints or questions regarding such
7 individuals may be directed to the Board for verification or action.

8 *SEC. 25. Professional Oath.* – All persons to be admitted to the
9 practice as registered chemists and registered chemical analysts are required to
10 take their oath before the Board or any officer authorized by the Commission
11 prior to the issuance of their certificate of registration.

12 *SEC. 26. Issuance of Certificate of Registration for Chemist and*
13 *Chemical Analyst.* – A certificate of registration for a chemist and a chemical
14 analyst shall be issued by the Board to examinees who have passed the relevant
15 licensure examination subject to the payment of fees prescribed by the
16 Commission. The certificate of registration shall state the full name of the
17 registrant and the registration number, bear the signature of the Chairperson of
18 the Commission and the Chairperson and members of the Board, and shall be
19 authenticated by the official seal of the Commission and the Board.

20 The certificate of registration shall remain in full force and effect unless
21 suspended or revoked under the provisions of this Act.

22 *SEC. 27. Issuance of Professional Identification Card for Chemist and*
23 *Chemical Analyst.* – A professional identification card for chemist shall be
24 issued to holders of a valid certificate of registration for chemist, subject to the
25 payment of fees prescribed by the Commission. A professional identification
26 card for chemical analyst shall be issued to holders of a valid certificate of
27 registration for chemical analyst. The professional identification card shall
28 state the full name of the registrant and the registration number, bear the

1 signature of the Chairpersons of the Commission and the Board, and shall be
2 authenticated by the official seal of the Commission and the Board. The
3 professional identification card shall be valid for a period of three (3) years,
4 subject to renewal: *Provided*, That the certificate of registration shall not have
5 been suspended or revoked under the provisions of this Act.

6 SEC. 28. *Indication of Numbers: Certificate of Registration and*
7 *Professional Tax Receipt.* – All registered chemists shall be required to
8 indicate the Certificate of Registration (CR) and Professional Tax Receipt
9 (PTR) Numbers, its date and place of issuance and its expiration date.

10 SEC. 29. *Revocation or Suspension of the Certificate of Registration*
11 *and Cancellation of Temporary/Special Permit.* – The Board shall have the
12 power, upon notice and hearing, to revoke or suspend the certificate of
13 registration of a registered chemist or to cancel a temporary/special permit
14 granted to a foreign chemist, based on the following grounds:

15 (a) Any act of misrepresentation, dishonesty, unethical conduct or
16 gross incompetence in connection with the performance of chemistry services
17 as defined in this law or any act inimical to the chemistry profession;

18 (b) Immorality or commission of any act involving moral turpitude;

19 (c) Conviction by final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction of
20 any criminal offense; or

21 (d) Judicial declaration that the former is of unsound mind.

22 The Board may, for reason it may deem sufficient and upon proper
23 petition, reissue revoked certificates of registration or other certificates.

24 SEC. 30. *Membership in the Accredited Professional Organization*
25 *(APO).* – Registered chemists and chemical analysts are required to maintain
26 regular and associate membership, respectively, in the APO. Membership in
27 the APO shall not be a hindrance to membership in other associations.

1 SEC. 31. *Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Program.* – The
2 CPE program guidelines for Chemistry and Chemical Analysis shall be
3 prescribed and promulgated by the Board, subject to the approval of the
4 Commission. The Board shall create a CPE Council to administer the CPE
5 program. The CPE Council shall be composed of a Chairperson coming from
6 the Board, a member from the APO and a member from the academe.

7 SEC. 32. *Roster of Chemists and Chemical Analysts.* – The
8 Commission shall keep a roster of all registered chemists and chemical
9 analysts, stating their names, registration numbers and places of business. The
10 Commission shall regularly update such roster and make it available to all
11 interested parties.

12 SEC. 33. *Seal of Registered Chemist.* – Each registered chemist shall,
13 upon registration, obtain a seal as prescribed by the Board with the label
14 “Registered Chemist” bearing the registrant’s name and registration number.
15 All official documents or reports which require the certification or signature of
16 the registered chemist shall be stamped with the personal seal of the registered
17 chemist.

18 SEC. 34. *Foreign Reciprocity.* – No foreign chemists and chemical
19 analysts shall be allowed to take the licensure examination, issued a certificate
20 of registration and professional identification card, and allowed to practice
21 chemistry and chemical analysis in the Philippines or be entitled to any of the
22 rights and privileges under this Act, unless the country such foreign chemist or
23 chemical analyst is a subject or citizen of specifically permits Filipino chemists
24 and chemical analysts to practice within its territorial limits on the same basis.

25 SEC. 35. *Certificate of Authority to Operate for Firms, Corporations*
26 *and Government Agencies.* – Only firms, corporations and government
27 agencies duly authorized by the Board and which hold a valid certificate may
28 operate a chemical laboratory or engage in the practice of chemistry or

1 chemical analysis in the Philippines: *Provided*, That such chemical practice is
2 carried out only by registered Chemists or registered Chemical Analysts
3 holding valid certificates of registration and professional identification cards
4 issued by the Board. The person or officer who is charged with the
5 management or administration of such firm, corporation or government agency
6 shall be held personally liable for violations of this Act.

7 SEC. 36. *Requirements for Certificate of Authority to Operate.* – The
8 Board, in consultation with the relevant entities and the APO, shall set the
9 requirements for the issuance of the certificate of authority to operate a
10 chemical laboratory or to engage in the practice of chemistry or chemical
11 analysis. Such requirements shall be issued as Board resolutions.

12 SEC. 37. *Roster of Chemical Laboratories and Related Entities.* – The
13 Commission shall keep a roster of all chemical laboratories and entities
14 engaged in the practice of chemistry, including their business addresses and
15 registration numbers. The Commission shall regularly update such roster.

16 ARTICLE IV

17 GENERAL PROVISIONS

18 SEC. 38. *Penal Clause for the Professional Practice of Chemistry and*
19 *Chemical Analysis.* – No person shall undertake the professional practice of
20 chemistry or chemical analysis without a valid certificate of registration and
21 professional identification card. This includes any person who:

22 (a) Practices chemistry without a valid certificate of registration and/or
23 a valid professional identification card or a valid temporary/special permit;

24 (b) Attempts to use the certificate, license number or seal of another
25 person or impersonate any registered chemist or chemical analyst;

26 (c) Abets the illegal practice of chemistry by an unregistered or
27 unauthorized person;

1 (d) Furnishes the Board or the Commission any false information or
2 document in order to secure a certificate of registration; or

3 (e) Impersonates a registered chemist or a holder of a
4 temporary/special permit.

5 Upon conviction, a violator shall be sentenced with a penalty of
6 imprisonment for a period of not less than one (1) month or not more than one
7 (1) year, or a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00)
8 or not more than One million pesos (P1,000,000.00), or both, at the discretion
9 of the court.

10 *SEC. 39. Penal Clause for Chemical Laboratories and Related Firms.*

11 – No chemical laboratory or firm shall undertake activities covered by this Act
12 without a valid authority to operate the same. The president or the highest
13 ranking officer of the corporation shall be held liable for violations of this Act.
14 Upon conviction, these persons shall be sentenced to a penalty of
15 imprisonment for a period of not less than one (1) month or more than one (1)
16 year, or a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) or
17 more than One million pesos (P1,000,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the
18 court.

19 *SEC. 40. Reports and Other Legal Documents.* – Any document

20 related to the practice of chemistry shall not be considered as official or
21 admissible for legal purposes unless such document is signed by a registered
22 chemist and the chemist's registration number affixed thereto. A registered
23 chemical analyst who performs a chemical analysis test in conjunction with a
24 test or task performed by a registered chemist shall likewise sign such report or
25 document and affix one's registration number and official seal.

26 *SEC. 41. Coverage of Professional Practice.* – A duly licensed
27 professional chemist cannot be prevented from the practice of chemistry if the
28 work is within the scope of the practice of chemistry or chemical analysis.

1 Likewise, this Act shall not prevent the practice of any legally recognized
2 allied profession: *Provided*, That the activity is within the scope of the allied
3 profession.

4 SEC. 42. *Hazard Pay, Health and Accident Insurance, and Legal*
5 *Assistance.* – Registered chemists and registered chemical analysts who are
6 exposed to chemicals as part of their regular responsibilities are entitled to
7 hazard pay and insurance coverage commensurate to the risk involved.
8 Likewise, registered chemists and registered chemical analysts who face civil
9 or criminal suits arising from chemistry work done in good faith are entitled to
10 legal assistance to be provided by the employer/laboratory for whom the work
11 was performed.

12 ARTICLE V

13 TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

14 SEC. 43. *Term of Office of Incumbent Board.* – The incumbent
15 Chairperson and members of the Board at the time of approval of this Act shall
16 automatically function and hold office for another two (2) years from the date
17 of effectivity of this Act or for the duration of their current term, whichever is
18 longer. The Board shall then promulgate the provisions, rules and regulations
19 for the implementation of this Act.

20 SEC. 44. *Vested Rights: Automatic Registration of Chemists and*
21 *Chemical Analysts.* – All chemists and chemical analysts who are registered
22 under Republic Act No. 754 at the time of effectivity of this Act shall
23 automatically be considered registered and shall hold the same registration
24 number. The validity and period of the existing professional license shall
25 continue in force until its date of expiry.

26 SEC. 45. *Preparation of Seal of Registered Chemist.* – Within three
27 (3) years from the date of effectivity of this Act, all duly registered chemists
28 with a valid professional license shall obtain an official seal prescribed by the

1 Board with the label "Registered Chemist" bearing the chemist's name and
2 registration number. All official documents or reports which require the
3 certification or signature of the registered chemist shall be stamped with the
4 personal seal of the registered chemist.

5 SEC. 46. *Grace Period.* – There shall be a three (3)-year grace period
6 for all individuals and institutions to comply with the provisions of this Act.
7 The same grace period shall be enjoyed by those who, on the date of the
8 effectivity of this Act, are teaching professional chemistry subjects during
9 which time they must fulfill the following requirements:

10 (a) Completion of at least sixty (60) units of Chemistry subjects in an
11 undergraduate degree course which must include all of the professional
12 chemistry subjects. This may include chemistry subjects taken before or after
13 the date of effectivity of this Act;

14 (b) Must have been already teaching these subjects satisfactorily for at
15 least three (3) years on the date of effectivity of this Act;

16 (c) Satisfaction of all other reasonable requirements or criteria that the
17 Board may set to demonstrate one's competence to teach such subjects; and

18 (d) Active participation in CPE for chemistry.

19 After the three (3)-year grace period, such individuals must submit the
20 certified true copies of all of their relevant transcripts for evaluation. Those
21 who are evaluated to have fulfilled the requirements shall be issued a special
22 permit to teach professional chemistry subjects. However, such permission to
23 teach professional chemistry subjects shall not be construed as permission to
24 practice chemistry.

25 ARTICLE VI

26 FINAL PROVISIONS

27 SEC. 47. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – The Board,
28 subject to the approval of the Commission, shall adopt and promulgate the IRR

1 and Code of Ethics for the Practice of Chemistry, and other resolutions
2 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

3 SEC. 48. *Appropriations.* – The Chairperson of the Professional
4 Regulation Commission shall immediately include in the Commission's
5 programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be
6 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

7 SEC. 49. *Separability Clause.* – If any section of this Act shall be
8 declared unconstitutional or invalid, such shall not invalidate any other section
9 of this Act.

10 SEC. 50. *Repealing Clause.* – Republic Act No. 754 and all other
11 laws, parts of laws, orders, ordinances or regulations in conflict with the
12 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

13 SEC. 51. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
14 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general
15 circulation.

Approved,

○