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SENATE
S. B. No. 2645

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Introduced by Senator **TEOFISTO "TG" GUINGONA III**

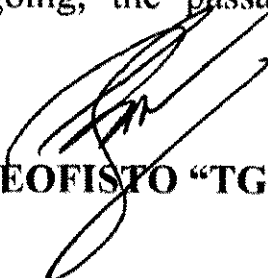
**AN ACT
REVISING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BAGUIO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The century-old charter of Baguio City is ripe for change, considering the series of developments that have transformed this City, since the enactment of the original charter. This bill aims to revise this charter with the following objectives: 1) settle the boundary dispute of the city with the adjoining municipality of Tuba; 2) effectively implement the city government's land use development plan; and 3) address the issue over the disposition of alienable and disposable public lands within the Baguio townsite reservation.

With the passage of this bill, Baguio City will continue to flourish as one the most progressive and competitive cities in the Philippines.

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



TEOFISTO "TG" GUINGONA III
Senator

SENATE

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Senate Bill No. 2645

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Introduced by **SENATOR TEOFISTO "TG" GUINGONA III**

**AN ACT
REVISING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BAGUIO**

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

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Revised
2 Charter of the City of Baguio”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Objectives and Core Values.* – The objectives of
4 the City of Baguio are herein established, as follows:

5 (a) To make the City of Baguio a home of diverse and dynamic
6 cultures, a center of education, trade and tourism in harmony with nature,
7 managed by God-loving, steadfast leaders in partnership with responsible and
8 peace-loving citizens;

9 (b) To utilize an integrated life cycle approach to environmental
10 management; promote eco-cultural tourism and tourism-related
11 microenterprises; ensure the sustenance of the City of Baguio as an
12 educational center of Northern Luzon; develop and implement an investment
13 portfolio and an aggressive marketing strategy;

1 (c) To achieve effectiveness and efficiency in local governance for the
2 promotion of the general welfare and the delivery of basic services; and

3 (d) To maximize the exercise of the City's proprietary functions for the
4 general welfare, the provision of basic services and facilities, the management of
5 its economic enterprises and the power to generate and apply resources, subject to
6 such limitations as provided for under this Act and other laws.

7 In the pursuit of these objectives, the City of Baguio shall be guided by
8 the following core values, namely: service, honesty, transparency,
9 accountability, resourcefulness and creativity.

10 SEC. 3. *The City of Baguio: Territorial Boundaries.* – The City of
11 Baguio, a highly-urbanized city also popularly known as the “Summer Capital
12 of the Philippines”, shall comprise the present territory of the City of Baguio.

13 The territorial boundaries of the City of Baguio as described in the
14 foregoing paragraph shall be without prejudice to the resolution by the
15 appropriate agency or forum of any boundary dispute or case involving
16 questions of territorial jurisdiction as well as agreements or exchange of
17 portions of territories between the City of Baguio and the adjoining local
18 government units. Any such resolution or agreement shall be appended hereto.

19 SEC. 4. *Political and Corporate Nature.* – The City of Baguio is a body
20 politic and corporate entity endowed with powers to be exercised by it in
21 conformity with law. As such, it shall exercise powers as a political
22 subdivision of the national government and as a corporate entity representing
23 the inhabitants of its territory.

24 As a political subdivision, the City of Baguio shall exercise the
25 following governmental powers:

26 (a) To create, merge, divide or abolish barangay units in accordance
27 with the criteria set forth by law: *Provided*, That existing barangay units that
28 do not meet the criteria shall be merged in accordance with law;

1 (b) To establish government centers for offices, agencies or branches
2 of the national government, local government units or government-owned and
3 -controlled corporations;

4 (c) To change the names of barangay units, streets, roads, structures
5 and public places in coordination with the National Historical Institute;

6 (d) To promote the general welfare;

7 (e) To provide basic services and facilities;

8 (f) To give priority to basic and higher education to ensure its
9 sustenance as an educational center;

10 (g) To generate and apply resources;

11 (h) To exercise the power of eminent domain;

12 (i) To reclassify lands subject to national law; and

13 (j) To close or open roads, alleys, parks or squares within its
14 jurisdiction.

15 As a corporate entity, the City of Baguio shall exercise the following
16 powers:

17 (1) To have continuous succession in its corporate name;

18 (2) To sue and be sued;

19 (3) To have and use a corporate seal;

20 (4) To acquire and convey real and personal property;

21 (5) To enter into contracts; and

22 (6) To exercise such other powers as are granted to corporations,
23 subject to the limitations provided for under this Act and other laws.

ARTICLE II

CITY OFFICIALS

24 SEC. 5. *Officials of the City of Baguio.* – (a) There shall be in the City of
25 Baguio: a City Mayor, a City Vice Mayor, *Sangguniang Panlungsod* members,
26 a secretary to the *Sangguniang Panlungsod*, a city treasurer, a city

1 assessor, a city engineer, a city buildings and architecture officer, a city health
2 officer, a city civil registrar, a city accountant, a city social welfare and
3 development officer, a city budget officer, a city planning and development
4 officer, a city administrator, a city legal officer, a city general services officer,
5 a city veterinarian, a city human resource management officer, a city
6 environment and parks management officer, a city tourism officer, a city
7 public information officer, and a city librarian. In addition thereto, the City
8 Mayor may appoint a city agriculturist, a city population officer, a city natural
9 resources officer, and a city cooperatives officer.

10 (b) The City, through the *Sangguniang Panlungsod*, may maintain
11 existing offices not mentioned in subsection (a) hereof, create such other
12 offices as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of the City, and
13 consolidate the functions of any office with those of another in the interest of
14 efficiency and economy.

15 (c) Unless otherwise provided herein, heads of departments and offices
16 shall be appointed by the City Mayor with the concurrence of the majority of
17 all the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* members, subject to civil service law, rules
18 and regulations. The *Sangguniang Panlungsod* shall act on the appointment
19 within fifteen (15) days from the date of its submission, otherwise the same
20 shall be deemed confirmed.

21 (d) Elective and appointive city officials shall receive such
22 compensation, allowances, and other emoluments as may be determined by
23 law or ordinance, subject to the budgetary limitations on personal services
24 prescribed under Title Five, Book II of Republic Act No. 7160, as amended,
25 otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991": *Provided*, That no
26 increase in compensation of the City Mayor, City Vice Mayor and
27 *Sangguniang Panlungsod* members shall take effect until after the expiration
28 of the full term of the said local officials approving such increase.

ARTICLE III

THE CITY MAYOR

1 SEC. 6. *The City Mayor.* – (a) The City Mayor, as the Chief Executive
2 of the City Government, shall exercise such powers and perform such duties
3 and functions as provided for under this Act and other laws.

4 (b) For efficient, effective and economical governance, the purpose of
5 which is the general welfare of the City and its inhabitants, the City Mayor
6 shall:

7 (1) Exercise general supervision and control over all programs,
8 projects, services, and activities of the city government, and in this connection,
9 shall:

10 (i) Determine the guidelines of city policies and be responsible to the
11 *Sangguniang Panlungsod* for the program of government;

12 (ii) Direct the formulation of the city development plan, with the
13 assistance of the city development council and, upon approval thereof by the
14 *Sangguniang Panlungsod*, implement the same;

15 (iii) Present the program of government and propose policies and
16 projects for the consideration of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* at the opening
17 of the regular session of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* every calendar year and
18 as often as may be deemed necessary as the general welfare of the inhabitants
19 and the needs of the city government may require;

20 (iv) Initiate and propose legislative measures to the *Sangguniang*
21 *Panlungsod* and, as often as may be deemed necessary, provide such
22 information and data needed or requested by said *Sanggunian* in the
23 performance of its legislative functions;

24 (v) Appoint all officials and employees whose appointments are not
25 otherwise provided for under this Act, as well as those he or she may be
26 authorized by law to appoint;

1 (vi) Represent the City in all its business transactions and sign on its
2 behalf all bonds, contracts and obligations, and such other documents upon the
3 authority of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* or pursuant to law or ordinance;

4 (vii) Carry out such emergency measures as may be necessary during
5 and in the aftermath of man-made and natural disasters and calamities;

6 (viii) Determine the time, manner and place of payment of salaries or
7 wages of the officials and employees of the City, in accordance with law or
8 ordinance;

9 (ix) Allocate and assign office space to the City and other officials and
10 employees who, by law or ordinance, are entitled to such space in the office
11 and other buildings owned or leased by the city government;

12 (x) Ensure that all executive officials and employees of the City
13 faithfully discharge their duties and functions as provided for by law and the
14 Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, and cause to be instituted
15 administrative or judicial proceedings against any official or employee of the
16 City who may have committed an offense in the performance of his or her
17 official duties;

18 (xi) Examine the books, records and other documents of all offices,
19 officials, agents or employees of the City and, in aid of executive powers and
20 authority, require all national officials and employees stationed in or assigned
21 to the City to make available such books, records and other documents in their
22 custody, except those classified by law as confidential;

23 (xii) Furnish copies of executive orders issued by him or her to the
24 Provincial Governor within seventy-two (72) hours after their issuance;

25 (xiii) Visit component barangays of the City at least once every six (6)
26 months to deepen understanding of the problems and conditions, listen and
27 give appropriate counsel to local officials and inhabitants, inform the
28 component barangay officials and inhabitants of general laws and ordinances

1 which especially concern them, and otherwise conduct visits and inspections
2 to ensure that the governance of the City will improve the quality of life of the
3 inhabitants;

4 (xiv) Act on leave applications of officials and employees appointed
5 and on the commutation of the monetary value of their leave credits in
6 accordance with law;

7 (xv) Authorize official trips of city officials and employees outside of
8 the City for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days: *Provided*, That the trips
9 abroad or for a longer period may be authorized in accordance with the Local
10 Government Code of 1991, as amended;

11 (xvi) Call upon any national official or employee stationed in or assigned
12 to the City for advise on matters affecting the City and to make recommendations
13 thereon; coordinate with the said officials and employees in the formulation and
14 the implementation of plans, programs and projects; and, when appropriate,
15 initiate any administrative or judicial action against a national government official
16 or employee who may have committed an offense in the performance of official
17 duties while stationed in or assigned to the City;

18 (xvii) Authorize payment for medical care, necessary transportation,
19 subsistence, hospital or medical fees of city officials and employees who are
20 injured while in the performance of their official duties and functions, subject
21 to the availability of funds;

22 (xviii) Solemnize marriages, any provision of law to the contrary
23 notwithstanding;

24 (xix) Conduct an annual palarong panlungsod which shall feature
25 traditional sports and disciplines included in national and international games,
26 in coordination with the Department of Education (DepED); and

27 (xx) Submit to the provincial governor the following reports: an annual
28 report containing a summary of all matters pertinent to the management,
29 administration and development of the City and all information and data

1 relative to its political, social and economic conditions; and supplemental
2 reports when unexpected events and situations arise at any time during the
3 year, particularly when man-made and natural disasters or calamities affect the
4 general welfare of the City;

5 (2) Enforce all laws and ordinances relative to the governance of the
6 City and in the exercise of its appropriate corporate powers, as well as
7 implement all approved policies, programs, projects, services and activities of
8 the City; and, in addition, shall:

9 (i) Ensure that the acts of the City's component barangays and of its
10 officials and employees are within the scope of their prescribed powers, duties
11 and functions;

12 (ii) Call conventions, conferences, seminars or meetings of elective
13 and appointive officials of the City, including national officials and employees
14 stationed in or assigned to the City, at such time and place and on such subject
15 as may be deemed important for the promotion of the general welfare of the
16 LGU and its inhabitants;

17 (iii) Issue such executive orders for the faithful and appropriate
18 enforcement and execution of laws and ordinances;

19 (iv) Be entitled to carry the necessary firearms within the territorial
20 jurisdiction;

21 (v) Act as the deputized representative of the National Police
22 Commission, formulate the peace and order plan of the City and, upon its
23 approval, implement the same, and as such, exercise general and operational
24 control and supervision over police forces in the City in accordance with
25 Republic Act No. 6975, otherwise known as the "Department of the Interior
26 and Local Government Act of 1990"; and

27 (vi) Call upon the law enforcement agencies to suppress disorder, riot,
28 lawless violence, rebellion, sedition, or apprehend violators of the law when

1 public interest so requires and the city police forces are inadequate to cope
2 with the situation or the violators;

3 (3) Initiate and maximize the generation of resources and revenues, and
4 apply the same to the implementation of development plans, program
5 objectives and priorities, particularly those resources and revenues
6 programmed for agro-industrial development and countryside growth and
7 progress and, relative thereto, shall:

8 (i) Require each head of an office or department to prepare and submit
9 an estimate of appropriations for the ensuing calendar year, in accordance with
10 the budget preparation process enshrined under the Local Government Code
11 of 1991, as amended;

12 (ii) Prepare and submit to the *Sanggunian* for approval the executive
13 and supplemental budgets of the City for the ensuing calendar year in the
14 manner provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended;

15 (iii) Ensure that all taxes and other revenues of the City are collected,
16 and that city funds are applied to the payment of expenses and the settlement
17 of obligations of the City, in accordance with law or ordinance;

18 (iv) Issue licenses and permits and suspend or revoke the same for any
19 violation of the conditions upon which said licenses or permits had been
20 issued, pursuant to law or ordinance;

21 (v) Issue permits, without need of approval therefor from any national
22 agency, for the holding of activities for any charitable or welfare purpose,
23 excluding prohibited games of chance or shows contrary to law, public policy
24 and public morals;

25 (vi) Require owners of illegally constructed houses, buildings or other
26 structures to obtain the necessary permits, subject to such fines and penalties
27 as may be imposed by law or ordinance, or to make necessary changes in the
28 construction of the same when said construction violates any law or ordinance,

1 or to order the demolition or removal of said house, building or structure
2 within the period prescribed by law or ordinance;

3 (vii) Adopt adequate measures to safeguard and conserve land,
4 mineral, marine, forest and other resources of the City;

5 (viii) Provide efficient and effective property and supply management
6 in the City and protect the funds, credits, rights and other properties of the
7 City; and

8 (ix) Institute or cause to be instituted administrative or judicial
9 proceedings for violation of ordinances in the collection of taxes, fees,
10 charges, and for the recovery of funds and property; and cause the City to be
11 defended against all suits to ensure that its interests, resources and rights shall
12 be adequately protected;

13 (4) Ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate
14 facilities and, in addition thereto, shall:

15 (i) Ensure that the construction and repair of roads and highways
16 funded by the national government shall be, as far as practicable, carried out in
17 a spatially contiguous manner and in coordination with the construction and
18 repair of the roads and bridges of the City; and

19 (ii) Coordinate the implementation of technical services, including
20 public works and infrastructure programs, rendered by national offices;

21 (5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other
22 powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, as
23 amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

24 (c) During the incumbency, the City Mayor shall hold office in the city
25 hall.

26 (d) The City Mayor shall be elected at large by the qualified voters of
27 the City. No person shall be eligible for the position of City Mayor unless, at
28 the time of the election, that person is a citizen of the Philippines, at least
29 twenty-one (21) years of age, a resident of the City for at least one (1) year

1 prior to election and a qualified voter therein and able to read and write
2 Filipino or any other local language or dialect. The City Mayor, who shall
3 hold office for three (3) years, unless sooner removed, shall serve for not more
4 than three (3) consecutive terms in the same position.

5 (e) The City Mayor shall receive a minimum monthly compensation
6 corresponding to Salary Grade Thirty (30) as prescribed under Republic Act
7 No. 6758, otherwise known as the "Compensation and Position Classification
8 Act of 1989" and the implementing guidelines issued pursuant thereto.

ARTICLE IV

THE CITY VICE MAYOR

9 SEC. 7. *The City Vice Mayor.* – (a) The City Vice Mayor shall be
10 elected in the same manner as the City Mayor and shall, at the time of the
11 election, possess the same qualifications as the City Mayor. The City Vice
12 Mayor shall hold office for three (3) years, unless sooner removed.

13 (b) The City Vice Mayor shall:

14 (1) Be the presiding officer of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* and sign
15 all warrants drawn on the city treasury for all expenditures appropriated for the
16 operation of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod*;

17 (2) Subject to civil service law, rules and regulations, appoint all
18 officials and employees of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod*, except those whose
19 manner of appointment is specifically provided for under existing laws;

20 (3) Assume the office of the City Mayor for the unexpired term of the
21 latter in the event of permanent vacancy;

22 (4) Exercise the powers and perform the duties and functions of the
23 City Mayor in case of temporary vacancy; and

24 (5) Perform such other duties and functions and exercise such other
25 powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of 1991, as
26 amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

1 (c) The City Vice Mayor shall receive a monthly compensation
2 corresponding to Salary Grade Twenty-six (26) as prescribed under the
3 “Compensation and Position Classification Act of 1989” and the
4 implementing guidelines issued pursuant thereto.

ARTICLE V

THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

5 SEC. 8. *The Sangguniang Panlungsod.* – (a) *Composition* – The
6 *Sangguniang Panlungsod* shall be composed of the City Vice Mayor as
7 presiding officer, the twelve (12) elected regular *Sangguniang Panlungsod*
8 members, the president of the Liga ng mga Barangay, the president of the
9 Pederasyon ng mga Sangguniang Kabataan, one (1) member representing the
10 women sector, and, as shall be determined by the *Sangguniang Panlungsod*
11 within ninety (90) days prior to the holding of the local elections, one (1)
12 member representing the agricultural or industrial workers sector, and one (1)
13 member from any of the following sectors: urban poor, indigenous cultural
14 communities or persons with disabilities.

15 (b) *Election* – The regular members of the *Sangguniang Panlungsod*
16 and the three (3) sectoral representatives shall be elected in the manner
17 provided by law.

18 SEC. 9. *Powers, Duties and Functions.* – (a) The *Sangguniang*
19 *Panlungsod*, as the legislative body of the City, shall enact ordinances,
20 approve resolutions and appropriate funds for the general welfare of the City
21 and its inhabitants pursuant to Section 16 of the Local Government Code of
22 1991, as amended, and in the proper exercise of the corporate powers of the
23 City as provided for under this Act.

24 (b) It shall exercise such other powers and perform such other duties
25 and functions as may be prescribed by law or ordinance.

ARTICLE VI

QUALIFICATIONS, DISQUALIFICATION AND SUCCESSION
OF ELECTIVE CITY OFFICIALS

1 SEC. 10. *Qualifications and Disqualification of Elective City Officials.*

2 – Elective city officials shall possess the same qualifications as those
3 enumerated in Section 39 of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended,
4 and shall be disqualified from running for any elective position in the City
5 upon any of the grounds provided in Section 40 thereof or upon any other
6 ground provided by law.

7 SEC. 11. *Permanent Vacancy in the Offices of the City Mayor and the*
8 *City Vice Mayor.* – (a) If a permanent vacancy occurs in the office of the City
9 Mayor, the City Vice Mayor concerned shall become the City Mayor. If a
10 permanent vacancy occurs in the office of the City Vice Mayor, the highest
11 ranking *Sangguniang Panlungsod* member or, in case of his or her permanent
12 incapacity, the second highest ranking *Sangguniang Panlungsod* member
13 becomes the City Mayor or the City Vice Mayor, as the case may be.
14 Subsequent vacancies in the said offices shall be filled automatically by the
15 other *Sanggunian* members according to their ranking as defined herein.

16 (b) A tie between or among the highest ranking *Sangguniang*
17 *Panlungsod* members shall be resolved by drawing of lots.

18 (c) The successors as defined herein shall serve only the unexpired
19 terms of their predecessors.

20 (d) For purposes of this Act, a permanent vacancy arises when an
21 elective local official fills in a higher vacant office, refuses to assume office,
22 fails to qualify, dies, is removed from office, voluntarily resigns or is
23 otherwise permanently incapacitated to discharge the functions of the office.

24 (e) For purposes of succession as provided herein, ranking in the
25 *Sanggunian* shall be determined on the basis of the proportion of votes

1 obtained by each winning candidate to the total number of registered voters in
2 the constituency in the immediately preceding local election.

3 SEC. 12. *Permanent Vacancies in the Sangguniang Panlungsod.*

4 Permanent vacancies in the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* where automatic
5 succession as provided above does not apply shall be filled by appointments in
6 the following manner:

7 (a) The Provincial Governor shall make the aforesaid appointments;

8 (b) Only the nominee of the political party under which the
9 *Sanggunian* member concerned had been elected and whose elevation to the
10 position next higher in rank created the last vacancy in the *Sanggunian* shall
11 be appointed in the manner hereinabove provided. The appointee shall come
12 from the same political party as that of the *Sanggunian* member who caused
13 the vacancy and shall serve the unexpired term of the vacant office.

14 In the appointment herein mentioned, a nomination and a certificate of
15 membership of the appointee from the highest official of the political party
16 concerned are conditions *sine qua non*, and any appointment without such
17 nomination and certification shall be null and void *ab initio* and shall be a
18 ground for administrative action against the official responsible therefor;

19 (c) In case the permanent vacancy is caused by a *Sanggunian* member
20 who does not belong to any political party, the City Mayor shall, upon the
21 recommendation of the *Sanggunian* concerned, appoint a qualified person to
22 fill the vacancy; and

23 (d) In case of vacancy in the representation of the youth and the
24 barangay in the *Sanggunian*, said vacancy shall be filled automatically by the
25 official next-in-rank of the organization concerned.

ARTICLE VII

COMPENSATION OF CITY OFFICIALS

26 SEC. 13. *Compensation of City Officials.* – Incumbent city officials and
27 employees shall continue to receive their present salaries and benefits in

1 accordance with the salary grades and rates prescribed under Republic Act No.
2 6758, as amended, otherwise known as the “Compensation and Position
3 Classification Act of 1989” and the implementing guidelines issued pursuant
4 thereto.

ARTICLE VIII

APPOINTIVE CITY OFFICIALS AND THEIR QUALIFICATIONS, FUNCTIONS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

5 SEC. 14. *The Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod.* – (a) There
6 shall be a secretary to the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* who shall be a career
7 official with the rank and salary equal to a head of a department or office and
8 who shall be appointed by the City Vice Mayor with the concurrence of the
9 majority of all *Sangguniang Panlungsod* members as provided herein.

10 (b) No person shall be appointed secretary to the *Sangguniang*
11 *Panlungsod* unless that person is a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the
12 City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in law,
13 commerce or public administration obtained from a recognized college or
14 university and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The
15 appointee must have acquired experience in the legislative service for at least
16 five (5) years immediately preceding the date of appointment.

17 (c) The secretary to the *Sanggunian* shall take charge of the office of
18 the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* and shall perform such duties and functions and
19 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
20 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

21 SEC. 15. *The City Treasurer.* – (a) The City Treasurer shall be
22 appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Finance from a list of at least
23 three (3) ranking eligible recommendees of the City Mayor, subject to civil
24 service law, rules and regulations.

25 (b) The City Treasurer shall be under the administrative supervision of
26 the City Mayor, and shall take charge of the City Treasury Office.

1 (c) The City Treasurer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident
2 of the City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in
3 commerce, public administration or law obtained from a recognized college or
4 university and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City
5 Treasurer must have acquired experience in treasury or accounting service for
6 at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

7 (d) The City Treasurer shall perform such duties and functions and
8 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
9 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

10 SEC. 16. *The City Assessor.* – (a) The City Assessor must be a citizen of
11 the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a holder of a
12 college degree preferably in civil or mechanical engineering, commerce or any
13 other related course obtained from a recognized college or university and a
14 first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City Assessor must have
15 acquired experience in real property assessment work or in any related field
16 for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

17 (b) The City Assessor shall perform such duties and functions and
18 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
19 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

20 (c) The City Assessor shall take charge of the City Assessor's Office.

21 SEC. 17. *The City Engineer.* – (a) The City Engineer must be a citizen
22 of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a licensed
23 civil engineer, and must have acquired experience in the practice of civil
24 engineering profession for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the
25 date of the appointment.

26 (b) The City Engineer shall perform such duties and functions and
27 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
28 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

29 (c) The City Engineer shall take charge of the City Engineering Office.

1 SEC. 18. *The City Buildings and Architecture Officer.* – (a) The City
2 Buildings and Architecture Officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a
3 resident of the City, of good moral character, a licensed architect or civil
4 engineer, and must have acquired experience in the practice of architecture or
5 civil engineering profession for at least five (5) years immediately preceding
6 the date of the appointment.

7 (b) The City Buildings and Architecture Officer shall perform such
8 duties and functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local
9 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law
10 or ordinance.

11 (c) The City Buildings and Architecture Officer shall take charge of
12 the City Buildings and Architecture Office.

13 SEC. 19. *The City Health Officer.* – (a) The City Health Officer must be
14 a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a
15 licensed medical doctor, and must have acquired experience in the practice of
16 the medical profession for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the
17 date of the appointment.

18 (b) The City Health Officer shall perform such duties and functions
19 and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code
20 of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

21 (c) The City Health Officer shall take charge of the City Health
22 Services Office.

23 SEC. 20. *The City Civil Registrar.* – (a) The City Civil Registrar must be
24 a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a
25 holder of a college degree obtained from a recognized college or university
26 and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City Civil
27 Registrar must have acquired experience in civil registry work for at least five
28 (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

1 (b) The City Civil Registrar shall be responsible for the civil registration
2 program in the City pursuant to the Civil Registry Law, the Civil Code and other
3 pertinent laws, rules and regulations issued to implement them.

4 (c) The City Civil Registrar shall perform such duties and functions
5 and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code
6 of 1991, as amended, including extra-judicial functions under Republic Act
7 No. 9048, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

8 (d) The City Civil Registrar shall take charge of the Office of the City
9 Civil Registry.

10 SEC. 21. *The City Accountant.* – (a) The City Accountant must be a
11 citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a
12 certified public accountant, and must have acquired experience in treasury or
13 accounting service for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of
14 the appointment.

15 (b) The City Accountant shall perform such duties and functions and
16 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
17 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

18 (c) The City Accountant shall take charge of both the City Accounting
19 Office and the City Internal Audit Services Office.

20 SEC. 22. *The City Social Welfare and Development Officer.* – (a) The
21 City Social Welfare and Development Officer must be a citizen of the
22 Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a duly licensed
23 social worker, a holder of a college degree preferably in sociology, social work
24 or any other related course obtained from a recognized college or university
25 and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City Social
26 Welfare and Development Officer must have acquired experience in the
27 practice of social work for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the
28 date of the appointment.

1 (b) The City Social Welfare and Development Officer shall perform
2 such duties and functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the
3 Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by
4 law or ordinance.

5 (c) The City Social Welfare and Development Officer shall take
6 charge of the Office of Social Welfare and Development.

7 SEC. 23. *The City Budget Officer.* – (a) The City Budget Officer must
8 be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character,
9 a holder of a college degree preferably in accounting, economics, public
10 administration or any related course obtained from a recognized college or
11 university, a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent, and must have
12 acquired experience in government budgeting or in any related field for at
13 least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

14 (b) The City Budget Officer shall perform such duties and functions
15 and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code
16 of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

17 (c) The City Budget Officer shall take charge of the City Budget
18 Office.

19 SEC. 24. *The City Planning and Development Officer.* – (a) The City
20 Planning and Development Officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a
21 resident of the City, of good moral character, a holder of a college degree
22 preferably in urban or environmental planning, development studies,
23 economics, public administration or any related course obtained from a
24 recognized college or university, a first grade civil service eligible or its
25 equivalent, and must have acquired experience in development planning or in
26 any related field for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of
27 the appointment.

28 (b) The City Planning and Development Officer shall perform such
29 duties and functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local

1 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law
2 or ordinance.

3 (c) The City Planning and Development Officer shall take charge of
4 the City Planning and Development Coordinating Office.

5 SEC. 25. *The City Administrator.* – (a) The City Administrator must be a
6 citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a
7 holder of a college degree preferably in public administration, law or any other
8 related course obtained from a recognized college or university, a first grade
9 civil service eligible or its equivalent, and must have acquired experience in
10 management and administrative work for at least five (5) years immediately
11 preceding the date of the appointment.

12 (b) The term of the City Administrator is coterminous with that of the
13 appointing authority.

14 (c) The City Administrator shall perform such duties and functions and
15 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
16 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

17 (d) The City Administrator shall take charge of the City
18 Administrator's Office.

19 SEC. 26. *The City Legal Officer.* – (a) The City Legal Officer must be a
20 citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a
21 member of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines, and must have practiced law
22 for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

23 (b) The term of the City Legal Officer shall be coterminous with that
24 of the appointing authority.

25 (c) The City Legal Officer shall perform such duties and functions and
26 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
27 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

28 (d) The City Legal Officer, as the Chief Legal Counsel of the City,
29 shall take charge of the City Legal Services Office.

1 SEC. 27. *The City General Services Officer.* – (a) The City General
2 Services Officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of
3 good moral character, a holder of a college degree in public administration,
4 business administration or management obtained from a recognized college or
5 university, a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent, and must have
6 acquired experience in general services, including the management of supply
7 and property for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the
8 appointment.

9 (b) The City General Services Officer shall perform such duties and
10 functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local
11 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law
12 or ordinance.

13 (c) The City General Services Officer shall take charge of the City
14 General Services Office.

15 SEC. 28. *The City Veterinarian.* – (a) The City Veterinarian must be a
16 citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a
17 licensed Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, and must have practiced veterinary
18 profession for at least three (3) years immediately preceding the date of the
19 appointment.

20 (b) The City Veterinarian shall perform such duties and functions and
21 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
22 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

23 (c) The City Veterinarian shall take charge of the City Veterinary
24 Services Office.

25 SEC. 29. *The City Human Resource Management Officer.* – (a) The City
26 Human Resource Management Officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a
27 resident of the City, of good moral character, a human resource management
28 or development practitioner, a holder of a college degree in management or
29 any other related course obtained from a recognized college or

1 university, a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent, and must have
2 acquired experience in the practice of human resource management or
3 development, the administration, execution, coordination and supervision of
4 activities involving personnel operations, and the implementation of civil
5 service laws, rules and regulations for at least five (5) years immediately
6 preceding the date of the appointment.

7 (b) The City Human Resource Management Officer shall perform such
8 duties and functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local
9 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law
10 or ordinance or civil service rules and issuances.

11 (c) The City Human Resource Management Officer shall take charge
12 of the City Human Resource Management Office.

13 SEC. 30. *The City Environment and Parks Management Officer.* –

14 (a) The City Environment and Parks Management Officer must be a citizen of
15 the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a duly licensed
16 sanitary engineer or a holder of a college degree in forestry, watershed and
17 parks management or any other related course obtained from a recognized
18 college or university and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent.
19 The City Environment and Parks Management Officer must have acquired
20 experience in solid and liquid waste management, general sanitation, forestry,
21 watershed and parks management for at least five (5) years immediately
22 preceding the date of the appointment.

23 (b) The City Environment and Parks Management Officer shall
24 perform such duties and functions and exercise such powers as provided for
25 under the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are
26 prescribed by law or ordinance.

27 (c) The City Environment and Parks Management Officer shall take
28 charge of the City Environment and Parks Management Office.

1 SEC. 31. *The City Tourism Officer.* – (a) The City Tourism Officer must
2 be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character,
3 a holder of a college degree preferably with specialized training in tourism
4 development obtained from a recognized college or university and a first grade
5 civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City Tourism Officer must have
6 acquired experience in the implementation of programs on tourism
7 development for at least five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the
8 appointment.

9 (b) The City Tourism Officer shall assist the City Mayor and the local
10 tourism council in developing and implementing tourism-related programs and
11 perform such duties and functions and exercise such powers as provided for
12 under the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are
13 prescribed by law or ordinance.

14 (c) The City Tourism Officer shall take charge of the City Tourism
15 Office.

16 SEC. 32. *The City Public Information Officer.* – (a) The City Public
17 Information Officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of
18 good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in journalism, mass
19 communications or any related course obtained from a recognized college or
20 university and a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City Public
21 Information Officer must have acquired experience in writing articles and research
22 papers or in writing for print, television or broadcast media for at least five (5)
23 years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

24 (b) The City Public Information Officer shall perform such duties and
25 functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local
26 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law
27 or ordinance.

28 (c) The City Public Information Officer shall take charge of the City
29 Public Information Office.

1 SEC. 33. *The City Librarian.* – (a) The City Librarian must be a citizen
2 of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a holder of a
3 college degree preferably in library science or any related course obtained
4 from a recognized college or university, a licensed librarian and a first grade
5 civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City Librarian must have acquired
6 experience in library administration for at least five (5) years immediately
7 preceding the date of the appointment.

8 (b) The City Librarian shall perform such duties and functions and
9 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
10 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

11 (c) The City Librarian shall take charge of the City Library.

12 SEC. 34. *The City Agriculturist.* – (a) The City Agriculturist must be a
13 citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral character, a
14 holder of a college degree preferably in agriculture or any other related course
15 obtained from a recognized college or university and a first grade civil service
16 eligible or its equivalent. The City Agriculturist must have practiced his or her
17 profession in agriculture or acquired the experience for at least five (5) years
18 immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

19 (b) The City Agriculturist shall perform such duties and functions and
20 exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
21 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

22 (c) The City Agriculturist shall take charge of the City Agricultural
23 Services Office.

24 SEC. 35. *The City Population Officer.* – (a) The City Population Officer
25 must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good moral
26 character, a holder of a college degree preferably with specialized training in
27 population development obtained from a recognized college or university and
28 a first grade civil service eligible or its equivalent. The City Population Officer
29 must have acquired experience in the implementation of

1 programs on population development or responsible parenthood for at least
2 five (5) years immediately preceding the date of the appointment.

3 (b) The City Population Officer shall perform such duties and functions
4 and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local Government Code of
5 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law or ordinance.

6 (c) The City Population Officer shall take charge of the City
7 Population Development Office.

8 SEC. 36. *The City Natural Resources Officer.* – (a) The City Natural
9 Resources Officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City,
10 of good moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in
11 environment, forestry, agriculture or any other related course obtained from a
12 recognized college or university and a first grade civil service eligible or its
13 equivalent. The City Natural Resources Officer must have acquired experience
14 in environmental protection and ecology, and natural resources management,
15 conservation and utilization work for at least five (5) years immediately
16 preceding the date of the appointment.

17 (b) The City Natural Resources Officer shall perform such duties and
18 functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local
19 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law
20 or ordinance.

21 (c) The City Natural Resources Officer shall take charge of the City
22 Natural Resources Office.

23 SEC. 37. *The City Cooperatives Officer.* – (a) The City Cooperatives
24 Officer must be a citizen of the Philippines, a resident of the City, of good
25 moral character, a holder of a college degree preferably in business
26 administration with special training on cooperatives or any related course
27 obtained from a recognized college or university and a first grade civil service
28 eligible or its equivalent. The City Cooperatives Officer must have acquired

1 experience in cooperatives development for at least five (5) years immediately
2 preceding the date of the appointment.

3 (b) The City Cooperatives Officer shall perform such duties and
4 functions and exercise such powers as provided for under the Local
5 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and those that are prescribed by law
6 or ordinance.

7 (c) The City Cooperatives Officer shall take charge of the City Office
8 for the Development of Cooperatives.

ARTICLE IX

BOARDS AND COUNCILS

9 SEC. 38. *Boards and Councils.* – The local boards and councils created
10 pursuant to the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, such as the City
11 School Board, City Health Board, City Development Council, and City Peace
12 and Order Council, shall continue to exist and function as provided for by law.
13 Other local bodies such as the City Tourism Council, the City Convention and
14 Visitors Bureau, the Sister-Cities Committee, the Character City Committee,
15 the City Traffic and Transportation Management Committee, the City Disaster
16 and Risk Reduction Management Council, the City Solid Waste Management
17 Board, the City Market Authority, and the Burnham Park Management
18 Authority shall continue to exist and function as provided for by law or
19 ordinance.

ARTICLE X

BAGUIO TOWNSITE RESERVATION AND WATERSHEDS

20 SEC. 39. *Alienable and Disposable Lands.* – All alienable and
21 disposable lands within the Baguio Townsite Reservation shall be disposed of
22 and awarded by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
23 (DENR) through the grant of residential free patent, townsite sales, or other
24 modes of disposition pursuant to Republic Act No. 10023, otherwise known as
25 the Free Patent Law; Commonwealth Act No. 141, otherwise known as the

1 Public Land Act; and such other laws authorizing the disposition of the lands
2 to qualified actual occupants thereon.

3 The application of Republic Act No. 10023 shall always consider the
4 Zoning Ordinance and the City Land Use Plan. Hence, alienable and
5 disposable public land covered by a townsite sales application filed with the
6 DENR covering areas exceeding two hundred (200) square meters shall not be
7 subdivided for processing under a residential free patent application.

8 Alienable and disposable lands between roads and titled properties and
9 lands along creeks and rivers with an area of two hundred (200) square meters,
10 more or less, and which are not occupied by houses shall form part of the
11 greenbelt areas of the City, and shall not be awarded to private individuals.

12 SEC. 40. *City Watersheds.* – The City shall protect, preserve and
13 develop its watersheds and shall impose penal sanctions on anyone who
14 infringes on the said water sources of the City. The forest reservations and
15 water sources within the Bases Conversion and Development Authority
16 (BCDA) lands shall remain under the jurisdiction of the BCDA.

ARTICLE XI

ANCESTRAL LANDS

17 SEC. 41. *Ancestral Lands.* – Pursuant to Republic Act No. 8371,
18 otherwise known as “The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997”, legitimate
19 ancestral lands are considered private properties or lands and are not part of
20 the Baguio Townsite Reservation.

ARTICLE XII

CAMP JOHN HAY RESERVATION

21 SEC. 42. *The Camp John Hay Reservation.* – The Camp John Hay
22 Reservation covering a total land area of 6,254,105 square meters, which was
23 transferred to the BCDA by virtue of Republic Act No. 7227, as amended,
24 otherwise known as the “Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992” is
25 not part of the Baguio Townsite Reservation.

ARTICLE XIII

TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

1 SEC. 43. *Ordinances Existing at the Time of the Approval of this Act.*

2 – All ordinances and resolutions of the City of Baguio existing at the time of
3 the approval of this Act shall continue to be in force and effect, as long as they
4 are consistent with this Act, and unless and until the *Sangguniang Panlungsod*
5 of the City of Baguio shall declare otherwise.

6 SEC. 44. *Incumbent Representative and other Elective and Appointive*
7 *Officials of the City of Baguio.* – The incumbent Representative of the Lone
8 Legislative District of the City of Baguio and other elective and appointive
9 officials of the City shall continue to exercise their powers and functions
10 during their term or tenure, pursuant to existing laws.

11 SEC. 45. *Representative District.* – Until otherwise provided by law, the
12 City of Baguio shall continue to exist as a lone legislative district.

13 SEC. 46. *Identity of the City.* – The City shall retain its identity as a
14 highly-urbanized city, and shall remain part of the Cordillera Administrative
15 Region. The City may form part of any growth corridor that will be
16 established or of any aggrupation of local government units that shall
17 undertake to consolidate or coordinate their efforts, services, and resources for
18 purposes commonly beneficial to them such as those being undertaken by the
19 City of Baguio, and the Municipalities of La Trinidad, Itogon, Sablan, Tuba,
20 and Tublay, popularly known as the BLISTT concept.

ARTICLE XIV

FINAL PROVISIONS

21 SEC. 47. *Applicability of Laws.* – The provisions of the Local
22 Government Code of 1991, as amended, and such other laws applicable to
23 highly-urbanized cities shall govern the City insofar as they are not
24 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

25 SEC. 48. *Repealing Clause.* – The provisions of the Charter of the City

1 of Baguio as contained in Act No. 2711 otherwise known as the “Revised
2 Administrative Code of 1917”, as amended, is hereby repealed. All other laws,
3 decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions
4 of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

5 SEC. 49. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is
6 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions hereof shall
7 remain valid and effective.

8 SEC. 50. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
9 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a national newspaper of general
10 circulation.

11 Approved,