



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

SENATE BILL NO. 1454

(In Substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 101, 645, and 1260)

Prepared by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights and Environment and Natural Resources with Senators Gordon, Aquino IV, and Villar as authors thereof

AN ACT

REMOVING THE RESTRICTIONS IN THE REGISTRATION OF LAND TITLES UNDER SECTIONS 118, 119, AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS AGAINST ENCUMBRANCE OR ALIENATION ON FREE PATENTS ISSUED UNDER SECTION 44 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141 OR THE PUBLIC LAND ACT, AS AMENDED

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 Agricultural Free Patent Re-
2 form Act of 2017.

3 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is the policy of the State to remove the restrictions
4 on free patents to allow the efficient and effective utilization of these lands to contribute to
5 wealth creation, entrepreneurship, and economic development.

6 **Sec. 3. Removal of Restrictions.** - Agricultural public lands alienated or disposed in
7 favor of qualified public land applicants under Section 44 of Commonwealth Act No. 141, as
8 amended, shall not be subject to restrictions regarding encumbrances, conveyances, trans-
9 fers, or dispositions imposed under Sections 118 and 119 thereof. Agricultural free patent
10 shall now be considered as title in fee simple and shall not be subject to any restriction
11 against encumbrance or alienation.

12 **Sec. 4. Retroactive Effect.** - This Act shall have retroactive effect and any restriction
13 regarding encumbrances, conveyances, transfers, or dispositions imposed on agricultural

1 free patents issued under Section 44 of Commonwealth Act No. 141, as amended, before
2 the effectivity of this Act shall be removed and are hereby immediately lifted.

3 **Sec. 5. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or other
4 issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
5 modified accordingly.

6 **Sec. 6. Separability Clause.** - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared uncon-
7 stitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in
8 force and effect.

9 **Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following
10 the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general
11 circulation in the Philippines.

12 Approved,