



SENATE

S. No. 2124

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS EJERCITO, ZUBIRI, VILLANUEVA AND
GATCHALIAN

AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBERED
1341, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CHARTER OF THE
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of PD 1341 is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3 “Section 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – The
4 Polytechnic University of the Philippines is
5 hereby strengthened into the Country’s
6 National Polytechnic University. In order to
7 execute its mandate, it is hereby declared that
8 as the country’s first national polytechnic
9 university. Along with its elevated status as
10 the country’s first national polytechnic

1 university, the University will aid and support
2 other polytechnic state universities and
3 colleges TO raise the bar [by having the former
4 serve as the latter's guide in developing] IN
5 THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF
6 professional and technical programs.

7 "The University shall enjoy [institutional
8 autonomy and] fiscal autonomy. [It shall be
9 treated in a manner consistent with its
10 institutional requirements by the service-wide
11 agencies in the exercise of their respective
12 jurisdiction.] Taking into account national
13 goals and priorities, it shall [exclusively]
14 determine its teaching research and extension
15 thrusts, plans, policies, programs [and
16 standards], CONSISTENT WITH THE
17 POLICIES STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES,
18 PROMULGATED BY THE COMMISSION ON
19 HIGHER EDUCATION. On the basis of such
20 determination, the national polytechnic

1 university shall recommend its annual budget
2 to the President of the Republic of the
3 Philippines and Congress. Appropriations for
4 the university shall not be reduced by the
5 legislature below the amount appropriated for
6 the previous year and after approval shall be
7 automatically and regularly released."

8 SEC 2. Section 2 of PD 1341 is hereby amended to
9 read as follows:

10 "Section 2. *Primary Purpose.* – The
11 University shall primarily provide higher
12 occupational, technical and professional
13 instruction and training in the fields of
14 engineering and architecture, applied sciences,
15 accountancy, law, education, business and
16 management, and shall be strengthened as the
17 country's National Polytechnic University. It
18 shall also promote applied research, advance
19 studies, and progressive leadership in the
20 stated fields. As a national polytechnic

1 university, PUP is committed in implementing
2 programs designed to [ameliorate] ADDRESS
3 the pressing social [need] AND ECONOMIC
4 NEEDS by rendering services to individuals
5 and communities and empowering citizenry for
6 sustainable development."

7 SEC 3. Section 3 of PD 1341 is hereby amended to
8 read as follows:

9 "Section 3. *Secondary Purpose.* – The
10 University shall offer undergraduate and
11 graduate programs in the field of accountancy,
12 engineering and architecture, applied sciences,
13 law, education, business and management. In
14 addition, the University shall offer other
15 programs in the polytechnic areas in light of its
16 purpose as a national polytechnic university."

17 SEC 4. Section 4 of PD 1341 is hereby amended to
18 read as follows:

19 "Section 4. *The University Administration.*
20 – The administration of the university shall be

1 vested in the President of the university who
2 shall render full-time service. He shall be
3 appointed by the Board of Regents, upon the
4 recommendation of a duly constituted search
5 committee. He shall have a term of six (6) years
6 without an eligibility for reappointment for
7 another term: *Provided*, [That this provision
8 shall not adversely affect the terms of the
9 incumbents] THAT THE INCUMBENT
10 PRESIDENT SHALL BECOME THE FIRST
11 PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY UPON
12 EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT; *Provided*
13 further that in cases WHERE no appointment
14 was made, THEREAFTER the incumbent
15 President shall continue to hold the office in a
16 hold-over capacity, such period shall in no case
17 be more than 90 days.

18 "The president shall be assisted by a vice
19 president for academic affairs who shall be
20 appointed by the Board upon the former's

1 recommendation without prejudice to the
2 appointment of more than one vice president
3 when so warranted.

4 "In case of vacancy by reason of death,
5 resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of
6 the president to perform the functions of his
7 office, the Board of Regent shall have the
8 authority to designate an officer-in-charge
9 pending the appointment of a new president.

10 "In case of vacancy in the office of the
11 president as mentioned in the immediately
12 preceding paragraph, his successors shall hold
13 office for the unexpired term."

14 Section 5. Section 5 of PD 1341 is hereby amended to
15 read as follows:

16 SEC 5. *Powers and Duties of the President.*

17 – Specifically, the President of the University
18 shall have the following powers and duties in
19 addition to those normally appertaining to the
20 Office of the President of the University:

1 “(a) He shall be the Chief Executive
2 Officer of the University. As such, progressive
3 and dynamic, ethical, and intellectual and
4 administrative leadership in the University is
5 expected of him and vested in him;

6 “(b) He shall be the head of the University
7 Faculties and of any branch thereof;

8 “(c) He shall have general supervision
9 over all academic as well as business and
10 financial operations of the University;

11 “(d) He shall promulgate and enforce
12 general policies affecting any unit of the
13 University and take such actions which in his
14 judgment are necessary for the protection of
15 property and general interest of the University,
16 students and personnel and for the operation of
17 the University as a whole and shall inform the
18 Board on all matters relating to the operation
19 and welfare of the University;

1 “(e) He shall appoint qualified persons to
2 fill all vacancies and new positions subject to
3 the approval of the Board and make such other
4 arrangements to meet emergencies occurring
5 between meetings of the Board so that the
6 work of the University shall not suffer.

7 “(f) He shall institute disciplinary action
8 against any member of the University
9 personnel, faculty or non-faculty as well as any
10 student of the University whose actions
11 adversely affect the general interest of the
12 University;

13 “(g) He shall decide appeals in
14 controversies between ranking officials of the
15 University, his decisions being final and
16 conclusive;

17 “(h) He shall grant or deny sabbatical
18 leaves and leaves of absence without pay
19 and/or extension of such leaves as well as
20 extension of fellowships or any form of

1 scholarship for a period not exceeding one
2 academic year if the budget permits and for
3 reasons he may deem satisfactory;

4 “(i) He shall make ad-interim
5 appointments;

6 “(j) He shall grant or withhold permission
7 to reveal confidential matters affecting the
8 University or any unit thereof, as well as any
9 action taken by the Board of Regents;

10 “(k) He shall grant permission for the use
11 of buildings and premises of the University for
12 academic, professional and scientific
13 conventions, for student and related activities
14 and to fix the fee thereof;

15 “(l) He is authorized to join the execution
16 of all contracts, deeds, and instruments for the
17 proper conduct of the business of the
18 University and to assign the same in behalf of
19 the University;

“(m) He shall prepare an annual report on the work of the past year and needs of the current year including a budget with estimates of income and expenditures; and

“(n) He shall have such other powers as may be specifically authorized by the Board of Regents. He may delegate in writing any of his specific functions to any office.”

SEC 6. Section 6 of PD 1341 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 6. *The Board of Regents.* – The governing body of the University shall be the Board of Regents of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (hereinafter referred to as the “Board”).

(1) The Board shall be composed of :

(a) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education as Chairperson;

(b) The President of the University as [Co-Chairperson] VICE CHAIRPERSON;

1 (c) The Chairperson of the Senate
2 Committee on Education, Arts, and Culture;

3 (d) The Chairperson of the House
4 Committee on Higher and Technical Education;

5 (e) The Director-General of the National
6 Economic Development Authority;

7 (f) The President of the Alumni
8 Association who will serve for a period of two
9 (2) years, provided that he is not in the employ
10 of the University in any capacity whatsoever;

11 (g) One Faculty Regent representing all
12 teaching personnel, elected by the said
13 personnel in accordance with the rules and
14 qualifications set out by the same constituency,
15 who shall serve for a period of two (2) years;

16 (h) One Student Regent, elected by the
17 students in accordance with the rules and
18 qualifications set out by said constituency, who
19 shall serve for a period of one (1) year;

1 (i) One Staff Regent representing all non-
2 teaching personnel, elected in accordance with
3 the rules and regulations set out by said
4 constituency, who shall serve for a period of
5 two (2) years; and

6 (j) Two other Regents who are prominent
7 citizens representing the private sector who
8 shall serve for a period of two (2) year and who
9 shall be appointed by the Board as
10 recommended by the search committee
11 organized for the purpose.

12 (2) Compensation. – The members shall
13 serve without compensation, but they shall be
14 reimbursed for necessary expense incurred in
15 their attendance of meetings of the Board or in
16 connection with their official business
17 authorities by resolution of the Board.

18 (3) Vacancy. – In case of vacancy in the
19 Board, except for the President of the
20 University, such vacancy shall be filled in the

1 same manner as provided for the predecessor,
2 and such appointee shall hold the office only for
3 the unexpired portion of the term. In case of
4 Regents representing a particular sector, their
5 membership shall cease upon suspension,
6 separation, or recall. No person, however, who
7 has succeeded and served for more than 3 years
8 of the unexpired portion shall be eligible for
9 appointment as president.

10 SEC 7. Section 7 of PD 1341 is hereby amended to
11 read as follows:

12 “Section 7. *Powers and Duties of the*
13 *Governing Board.* – The governing board shall
14 have the following specific powers and duties in
15 addition to its general powers of administration
16 and the exercise of all the powers granted to
17 the board of directors of a corporation under
18 Section 36 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 68
19 otherwise known as the Corporation Code of
20 the Philippines;

1 (a) to enact rules and regulations not
2 contrary to law as may be necessary to carry to
3 carry out the purposes and functions of the
4 university;

5 (b) to receive and appropriate all sums as
6 may be provided, for the support of the
7 university in the manner it may determine, in
8 its discretion, to carry out the purposes and
9 functions of the university;

10 (c) to receive in trust legacies, gifts and
11 donations of real and personal properties of all
12 kinds, to administer and dispose the same
13 when necessary for the benefit of the
14 university, subject to limitations, directions
15 and instructions of the donors, if any. Such
16 donations shall be exempt from all taxes and
17 shall be considered as deductible items from
18 the income tax of the donor;

19 (d) to fix the tuition fees and other
20 necessary school charges, such as but not

1 limited matriculation fees, graduation fees and
2 laboratory fees, as their respective boards may
3 deem proper to impose after due consultations
4 with the involved sectors.

5 Such fees and charges, including
6 government subsidies and other income
7 generated by the university, shall constitute
8 special trust funds and shall be deposited in
9 any authorized government depository bank,
10 and all interests shall accrue therefrom shall
11 part of the same fund for the use of the
12 university.

13 Any provision of existing laws, rules and
14 regulations to the contrary notwithstanding,
15 any income generated by the university from
16 tuition fees and other charges, as well as from
17 the operation of auxiliary services and land
18 grants, shall be retained by the university, and
19 may be disbursed by the Board of Regents for
20 instruction, research, extension, or other

1 programs/projects of the university: *Provided*,
2 That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for
3 the specific purposes for which they are
4 collected.

5 If, for reason of control, the university,
6 shall not be able to pursue any project for
7 which funds have been appropriated and,
8 allocated under its approved program of
9 expenditures, the Board of Regents may
10 authorize the use of said funds for any
11 reasonable purpose which, in its discretion,
12 may be necessary and urgent for the
13 attainment of the objectives and goals of the
14 universities, *Provided further*, That a portion of
15 any amount of fees increased, however, shall
16 inure to the benefit of the College or Institute
17 for the purpose of faculty, physical facilities
18 and equipment development;

19 (e) to authorize the construction or repair
20 of its buildings, machineries, equipment and

1 other facilities and the purchase and
2 acquisition of real and personal properties
3 including necessary supplies, materials and
4 equipment. Purchases and other transactions
5 entered into by the university through the
6 Board of Regents shall be exempt from all
7 taxes and duties;

8 (f) to appoint, upon the recommendation
9 of the president, [and] THE vice presidents of
10 the University;

11 (g) to fix and adjust salaries of faculty
12 members and administrative officials and
13 employees subject to the provisions of the
14 revised compensation and classification system
15 and other pertinent budget and compensation
16 laws governing hours of service, and such other
17 duties and conditions as it may deem proper; to
18 grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence
19 under such regulations as it may promulgate,
20 any provisions of existing law to the contrary

1 notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause
2 in accordance with the requirements of due
3 process of law;

4 (h) to approve the curricula, institutional
5 programs and rules of discipline drawn by the
6 administrative and academic councils as herein
7 provided;

8 (i) to set policies on admission and
9 graduation of students;

10 (j) to award honorary degrees upon
11 persons in recognition of outstanding
12 contribution in the field of education, public
13 service, arts, science and technology or in any
14 field of specialization within the academic
15 competence of the university and to authorize
16 the award of certificates of completion of non-
17 degree and non-traditional courses;

18 (k) to absorb non-chartered tertiary
19 institutions within their respective provinces in
20 coordination with the CHED and in

1 consultation with the Department of Budget
2 and Management, and to offer therein needed
3 programs or courses, to promote and carry out
4 equal access to educational opportunities
5 mandated by the Constitution;

6 (l) to establish research and extension
7 centers of the SUC where such will promote the
8 development of the latter;

9 (m) to establish chairs in the university
10 and to provide fellowships for qualified faculty
11 members and scholarships to deserving
12 students;

13 (n) to delegate any of its powers and
14 duties provided for hereinabove to the
15 president and/or other officials of the
16 university as it may deem appropriate so as to
17 expedite the administration of the affairs of the
18 university;

19 (o) to authorize an external management
20 audit of the institution and to institute

1 reforms, including academic and structural
2 changes, on the basis of the audit results and
3 recommendations;

4 (p) to collaborate with other governing
5 boards of SUCs within the province or the
6 region, in coordination with the CHED and the
7 Department of Budget and Management, the
8 restructuring of said colleges and universities
9 to become more efficient, relevant, productive,
10 and competitive;

11 (q) to enter into joint ventures with
12 business and industry for the profitable
13 development and management of the economic
14 assets of the college or institution, the proceeds
15 from which to be used for the development and
16 strengthening of the university;

17 (r) to develop consortia and other forms of
18 linkages with local government units,
19 institutions and agencies, both public and

1 private, local and foreign, in furtherance of the
2 purposes and objectives of the institution;

3 (s) to develop academic arrangements for
4 institution capability building with appropriate
5 institutions and agencies, public or private,
6 local or foreign, and to appoint
7 experts/specialists as consultants, or visiting or
8 exchange professors, scholars, researchers, as
9 the case may be;

10 (t) to set up the adoption of modern and
11 innovative modes of transmitting knowledge
12 such as the use of information technology, the
13 dual system, open learning, community
14 laboratory, etc., for the promotion of greater
15 access to higher education;

16 (u) to establish policy guidelines and
17 procedures for participative decision-making
18 and transparency within the institution;

19 (v) To create, organize, reorganize, merge
20 or abolish colleges, institutes, and other

1 academic and administrative units of the
2 University; and

3 (w) to privatize, where most
4 advantageous to the institution, management
5 and non-academic services such as health, food,
6 building or grounds or property maintenance
7 and similar such other objectives.

8 SEC 8. Section 8 of PD 1341 is hereby amended
9 insofar as a section title was inserted, and to read as
10 follows:

11 "Section 8. *Quorum and Service of*
12 *Processes.* – A quorum of the Board of Regents
13 shall consist of a majority of all members. All
14 processes against the Board of Regents shall be
15 served on the President or Secretary thereof."

16 SEC 9. Section 9 of PD 1341 is hereby amended
17 insofar as a section title was inserted, and to read as
18 follows:

19 "Section 9. *Meetings.* – Regular meetings
20 of the Board of Regents shall be held [every

1 third Tuesday of the month] AT LEAST ONCE
2 EVERY QUARTER. Special meetings of the
3 Board may be called upon by the Chairman [or
4 on request of the four (4) members of the
5 Board] WHENEVER NECESSARY. In both
6 cases, notice of such meetings shall be issued at
7 least three (3) days prior to the meeting.”

8 SEC 10. Section 10 of PD 1341 is hereby amended and
9 to read as follows:

10 “Section 10. *University Officials.* – The
11 officers of the administration of the University
12 shall be University President, the Executive
13 Vice-President, the Vice-President for
14 Administration, the Vice-President for
15 Academic Affairs, the Vice-President for
16 Student Affairs, the Vice-President for
17 Research and Extension, the Vice-President for
18 Finance, the Vice-President for Branches and
19 Campuses, the Vice-President for Legal Affairs,
20 the Secretary of the University and such other

1 academic and administrative officials whose
2 positions and functions are deemed necessary
3 to assist in the effective and efficient
4 administration of the University as may be
5 determined by the Board of Regents.”

6 SEC 11. A new Section 11 is hereby inserted and to
7 read as follows:

8 “Section 11. *The Faculty*. – The teaching
9 staff of each college shall constitute its faculty.
10 The College Faculty shall be presided over by a
11 Dean. The Dean shall be [chosen by the]
12 APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS
13 UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE
14 President selected from a shortlist of three
15 nominees submitted by a special selection
16 committee established for the purpose. If a
17 Dean fails to complete his/her term, the
18 President shall appoint an acting Dean while a
19 search process is in progress. In no case shall
20 the search and election of the next Dean be

1 longer than sixty (60) calendar days from the
2 date when the vacancy occurs.”

3 SEC 12. A new Section 12-A is hereby inserted,
4 amending PD 1341 to read as follows:

5 “Section 12-A. Land Grants and Other
6 Real Properties of the University. –

7 (a) The State shall support the
8 Polytechnic University of the Philippines as the
9 national polytechnic university in the form of
10 lump sum amount, through general
11 appropriations and other financial benefits,
12 and in kind, through land grants and donations
13 and use of other real properties. To carry out
14 the intent of these grants, income derived from
15 the development of all land grants and real
16 properties shall be used to further the end of
17 the national polytechnic university, as may be
18 decided by the board;

19 (b) Such parcels of land ceded by law,
20 decree or presidential issuance to the

1 Polytechnic University of the Philippines are
2 hereby declared to be reserved for the purposes
3 intended. The absolute ownership of the
4 national polytechnic university over these
5 landholdings, including those covered by
6 original and transfer certificates of title in the
7 name of the Polytechnic University of the
8 Philippines and their future derivatives, is
9 hereby confirmed. Where the issuance of
10 proper certificates of title is yet pending for
11 these landholdings, the appropriate
12 government office shall expedite the issuance
13 thereof within six (6) months from the date of
14 effectivity of this Act: *Provided*, That all
15 registration requirements necessary for the
16 issuance of the said titles have been submitted
17 and complied with;

18 (c) The Board may plan, design, approve
19 and/or cause the implementation of land
20 leases: *Provided*, That such mechanisms and

1 arrangements shall sustain and protect the
2 environment in accordance with law, and be
3 exclusive of the academic core zone of the
4 campuses of the Polytechnic University of the
5 Philippines: *Provided, further,* That such
6 mechanisms and arrangements shall not
7 conflict with the academic mission of the
8 national polytechnic university;

9 (d) The Board may allow the use of the
10 income coming from real properties of the
11 national polytechnic university as security for
12 transactions to generate additional revenues
13 when needed for educational purposes;

14 (e) The Board may approve the
15 implementation of joint ventures: *Provided,*
16 That in the event real properties of the
17 national polytechnic university are involved,
18 only the income derived by the University from
19 the use of the real properties shall be the
20 subject of its participation or obligation in the

1 joint ventures: *Provided, further,* That no joint
2 venture shall result in the alienation of the real
3 properties of the national polytechnic
4 university; and

5 (f) Any plan to generate revenues and
6 other sources from land grants and other real
7 properties entrusted to the national polytechnic
8 university shall be consistent with the
9 academic mission and orientation of the
10 national polytechnic university AND ITS
11 LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN as
12 well as protect it from undue influence and
13 control of commercial interests: *Provided, That*
14 such programs, projects or mechanisms shall
15 be approved by the Board subject to a
16 transparent and democratic process of
17 consultation with the constituents of the national
18 polytechnic university: *Provided, further,* That
19 funds generated from such programs, projects or
20 mechanisms shall not be meant to replace, in

1 part or in whole, the annual appropriations
2 provided by the national government to the
3 national polytechnic university.”

4 SEC 13. A new Section 12-B is hereby inserted,
5 amending PD 1341 to read as follows:

6 “Section 12-B. *Safeguards on Assets*
7 *Disposition.* – The preservation of the value of
8 the assets of the national polytechnic
9 university shall be of primordial consideration.

10 The sale of any existing real property of
11 the national polytechnic university shall be
12 prohibited: *Provided*, That the Board may
13 alienate real property donated after the
14 effectivity of this Act if the terms of the
15 donation specifically allow it.

16 Notwithstanding the provision of this Act
17 or any other law to the contrary, the lease of
18 more than five (5) years of the assets of the
19 national polytechnic university and any
20 transaction referred to in Section 22 shall be

1 subject to the following conditions and
2 procedures:

3 (a) The transactions shall be discussed
4 with the members of the Board, in any of its
5 formally convened regular or special meeting,
6 at least one (1) month before a decision is to be
7 made;

8 (b) The transactions shall be based on a
9 multi-year comprehensive development plan,
10 crafted and developed by qualified urban
11 planning professionals having at least five (5)
12 years experience, with prior consultations with
13 and concurrence of third-party experts and
14 duly approved by a majority vote of all the
15 members of the Board;

16 (c) The transactions shall be subject to
17 competitive and public bidding as provided
18 under Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known
19 as the "Government Procurement Reform Act";
20 and

1 (d) If the contract or transaction involves
2 an amount more than Fifty million pesos
3 (P50,000,000.00), it shall be approved by three-
4 fourths (3/4) of all the members of the
5 Board: *Provided*, That the splitting of
6 contracts, which is by breaking up a contract
7 into smaller quantities or amounts or dividing
8 contract implementation into artificial or
9 arbitrary phases or subcontracts for the
10 purpose of circumventing this provision, shall
11 not be allowed."

12 SEC 14. A new Section 12-C is hereby inserted
13 amending PD 1341 to read as follows:

14 "Section 12-C. *Tax Exemptions.* – The
15 provisions of any general or special law to the
16 contrary notwithstanding:

17 (a) All revenues and assets of the
18 Polytechnic University of the Philippines used
19 for educational purposes or in support thereof
20 shall be exempt from all taxes and duties;

1 (b) Gifts and donations of real and
2 personal properties of all kinds shall be exempt
3 from the donor's tax and the same shall be
4 considered as allowable deductions from the
5 gross income of the donor, in accordance with
6 the provisions of the National Internal
7 Revenue Code of 1997, as amended: *Provided,*
8 That the allowable deductions shall be
9 equivalent to one hundred fifty percent (150%)
10 of the value of such donation. Valuation of
11 assistance other than money shall be based on
12 the acquisition cost of the property. Such
13 valuation shall take into consideration the
14 depreciated value of property in case said
15 property has been used;

16 (c) Importation of economic, technical,
17 vocational, scientific, philosophical, historical,
18 legal and cultural books, supplies and
19 materials duly certified by the Board, including
20 scientific and educational computer and

1 software equipment, shall be exempt from
2 customs duties;

3 (d) The University shall only pay 0%
4 value-added tax for all transactions subject to
5 this tax; and

6 (e) All academic awards shall be exempt
7 from taxes."

8 SEC 15. Sections 11, 12 and 13 of PD 1341 are hereby
9 repealed.

10 SEC [17] 16. Section 14 of PD 1341 is hereby amended
11 to read as follows:

12 "Section 14. *Appropriations.* – In addition
13 to the amount already appropriated for the
14 Polytechnic University of the Philippines for
15 the current fiscal year, there is hereby
16 appropriated an initial sum of Three billion
17 pesos (P3,000,000,000.00) from any amount
18 available in the Treasury of the Philippines for
19 the purpose of carrying out the implementation
20 of this Act. Further, an additional sum of Fifty

1 million pesos (P50,000,000.00) shall be
2 appropriated separate and above the said
3 initial funding for each fiscal year for the first
4 three years of the implementation of this Act.”

5 SEC [18] 17. *Separability Clause.* – Should any
6 provision herein be declared unconstitutional, the same
7 shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this
8 Act.

9 SEC [19] 18. *Repealing Clause.* – [Republic Act No.
10 8292, as amended, and] [a]All laws, decrees, orders, rules,
11 and regulations or other issuances or parts inconsistent
12 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
13 modified accordingly.

14 SEC. 19. *Suppletory Application of Republic Act No.*
15 *8292.* – The provisions of Republic Act No, 8292 in so far
16 as they are applicable shall be suppletory to this Act.

17 SEC 20. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen
18 (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in
19 any newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved.