

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



'19 JAN 16 P5:43

SENATE

S.B. No. 2154

RECEIVED

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT IN THE AREA ENCOMPASSING THE BARANGAYS OF DUMABEL, SAN LEONARDO, PINARIPAD NORTE, PALACIAN, LIGAYA, VILLA VENTURA, DIODOL AND PINARIPAD SUR, ALL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AGLIPAY, PROVINCE OF QUIRINO, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE AUTHORITY OF THE FREEPORT AREA OF QUIRINO (AFAQ), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Located in the Cagayan Valley Region in the island of Luzon, Quirino is a first class province which is known for tourism and renewable energy. This verdant province boasts of high-value agriculture products such as rice, corn, ginger, banana, mango, pineapples, coffee, coconut, papaya, lanzones, and rambutan that are of very good quality suitable for export.

This bill aims to establish a freeport area and special economic zone in the Municipality of Aglipay, Quirino to be known as the Freeport Area of Quirino or FAQ which is envisioned to be developed and operated as an industrial, commercial/trading, agro-industrial, tourist, banking, financial and investment center.

This measure promises to usher in more employment opportunities, generate linkage industries, and attract productive investments to benefit the people of Quirino and its neighboring areas, which in turn is expected to contribute in the country's overall economy.

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

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

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

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CHAPTER 1
GENERAL PROVISIONS

3 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Freeport Area of
4 Quirino (FAQ) Act."

5 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is declared the policy of the State to
6 encourage, promote, and accelerate the sound and balanced industrial, economic, and
7 social development of the country. The establishment of special economic zones shall
8 attract legitimate and productive foreign investments in strategic locations in the country.
9 It shall generate employment and increase productivity and individual as well as family
10 incomes, thereby enhancing the quality of life of the Filipino people.

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CHAPTER II
CREATION OF THE ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT

13 **SEC. 3. Creation of the Freeport Area of Quirino.** - In accordance with the
14 foregoing declared policy and subject to the concurrence of the concerned local
15 government units of Quirino affected by the zone, there is hereby established a special
16 economic zone and freeport, hereinafter referred to as the Freeport Area of Quirino
17 (FAQ). The FAQ shall cover, so much as necessary, areas in the Barangays of Dumabel,
18 San Leonardo, Pinaripad Norte, Palacian, Ligaya, Villa Ventura, Diodol, and Pinaripad Sur,
19 all located in the Municipality of Aglipay, Province of Quirino. The specific metes and

1 bounds of the FAQ shall be more particularly defined in a presidential proclamation that
2 shall be issued for this purpose: *Provided*, That the lands embraced therein shall be public
3 lands and contiguous to one another.

4 **SEC. 4. Creation of the Authority of the Freeport Area of Quirino (AFAQ).** -

5 There is hereby created a body corporate to be known as the "Authority of the Freeport
6 Area of Quirino", hereinafter referred to as the AFAQ, which shall manage and operate
7 the FAQ, in accordance with the provisions of this Act. This corporate franchise shall
8 expire in fifty (50) years counted from the first year after the effectivity of this Act, unless
9 otherwise extended by Congress. It shall be organized within one hundred eighty (180)
10 days after the effectivity of this Act.

11 **SEC. 5. Governing Principles.** - The FAQ shall be managed and operated by

12 the AFAQ, created under Section 4 of this Act, under the following principles:

- 13 a) Within the framework and limitations of the Constitution and applicable provisions of
14 the Local Government Code, the FAQ shall be developed into and operated as a
15 decentralized, self-reliant and self-sustaining industrial, commercial/trading, agro-
16 industrial, tourist, banking, financial and investment center with suitable residential
17 areas;
- 18 b) The FAQ shall be equipped with transportation, telecommunications, and other
19 facilities needed to attract legitimate and productive investments, generate linkage
20 industries and employment opportunities for the people of Quirino and its
21 neighboring towns and cities;
- 22 c) The FAQ may establish mutually beneficial economic relations with other entities or
23 enterprises within the country or, subject to the administrative guidance of the
24 Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA),
25 and/or the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), with foreign entities or
26 enterprises;
- 27 d) Foreign citizens and companies owned by non-Filipinos in whatever proportion may
28 set up enterprises in the FAQ, either by themselves or in a joint venture with Filipinos
29 in any sector of industry, international trade and commerce within the FAQ;
- 30 e) The FAQ shall be managed and operated as a separate customs territory thereby
31 ensuring the free flow or movement of goods and capital within, into and out of its

1 territory, and shall likewise provide incentives such as tax and duty-free importations
2 of raw materials, capital and equipment to registered enterprises located therein.
3 However, exportation or removal of goods from the territory of the FAQ to the other
4 parts of the Philippine territory shall be subject to customs duties and taxes under
5 the Customs and Tariff Code and other relevant tax laws of the Philippines;

6 f) The areas comprising the FAQ may be expanded or reduced when necessary. For
7 this purpose, the FAQ, in consultation with the LGUs, shall have the power to acquire
8 either by purchase, negotiation or condemnation proceedings, any private land within
9 or adjacent to the FAQ for the following purposes: (1) consolidation of lands for zone
10 development; (2) acquisition of right of way to the FAQ; and (3) the protection of
11 watershed areas and natural assets valuable to the prosperity of the FAQ;

12 g) Goods manufactured by a FAQ enterprise shall be made available for immediate retail
13 sale in the domestic market, subject to the payment of corresponding taxes on raw
14 materials and other regulations that may be formulated by the AFAQ together with
15 the PEZA, the Bureau of Customs (BOC) and the DTI. However, in order to protect
16 domestic industries, a Negative List of industries shall be drawn up and regularly
17 updated by PEZA. Enterprises engaged in industries included in such Negative List
18 shall not be allowed to sell their products locally;

19 h) The defense of the FAQ and the security of its perimeter fence shall be the
20 responsibility of the national government in coordination with the AFAQ and the
21 LGUs.

22 **SEC. 6. Capitalization.** - The AFAQ shall have an authorized capital stock of Two
23 billion (2,000,000,000) no par shares with a minimum issue of Ten pesos (₱10.00) each,
24 the majority shares of which shall be subscribed and paid for by the National Government
25 and the local government units (LGUs) embracing the FAQ. The Board of Directors of the
26 AFAQ may, with the written concurrence of the Secretary of Finance, sell shares,
27 representing not more than forty *per centum* (40%) of the capital stock of the AFAQ to
28 the general public under such policy as the Board and the Secretary of Finance may
29 determine. The National Government and the LGUs shall in no case own less than sixty
30 *per centum* (60%) of the total issued and outstanding capital of the AFAQ.

31 The amount necessary to subscribe and pay for the shares of the National
32 Government to the capital stock of the AFAQ shall be included in the annual General

1 Appropriations Act. For LGUs, the funds shall be taken from their internal revenue
2 allotment and other local funds.

3 **SEC. 7. *Principal Office of the AFAQ.*** - The AFAQ shall maintain its principal
4 office in the Municipality of Aglipay, Province of Quirino, but it may establish branches
5 within the Philippines as may be necessary for the proper conduct of its business.

6 **SEC. 8. *Powers and Functions of the AFAQ.*** - The AFAQ shall have the following
7 powers and functions:

- 8 a) To operate, administer, manage and develop the FAQ according to the principles
9 and provisions set forth in this Act,
- 10 b) To register, regulate and supervise the enterprises in the FAQ in an efficient and
11 decentralized manner, subject to existing laws;
- 12 c) To coordinate with LGUs and exercise general supervision over the development
13 plans, activities and operations of the FAQ;
- 14 d) To regulate and undertake the establishment, construction, operation and
15 maintenance of public utilities, other services, and infrastructure in the FAQ such as
16 light and power, shipping, barging, stevedoring, cargo handling, hauling,
17 warehousing, storage of cargo, port services or concessions, piers, wharves,
18 bulkheads, bulk terminals, mooring areas, storage areas, roads,
19 telecommunications, transport, bridges, terminals, conveyors, water supply and
20 storage, sewerage, drainage, airport operations in coordination with the Civil
21 Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), and such other services or concessions
22 or infrastructure necessary or incidental to the accomplishment of the objectives of
23 this Act;
- 24 e) To construct, acquire, own, lease, operate and maintain on its own or through
25 contracts, franchise, licenses, joint venture, bulk purchase from the private sector
26 or permits under any of the schemes allowed in Republic Act No. 6957 (the Build-
27 Operate-Transfer Law, as amended), adequate facilities and infrastructure required
28 or needed for the operation and development of the FAQ, in coordination with
29 appropriate national and local government authorities and in conformity with
30 applicable laws thereon;
- 31 f) To approve plans, programs and projects of the FAQ to be submitted to the Regional

- 1 Development Council for inclusion and inputs to the overall regional development
2 plan;
- 3 g) To operate on its own, either directly or through licenses to others, tourism-related
4 activities, including games, amusements, recreational and sports facilities, subject
5 to the approval and supervision of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming
6 Corporation (PAGCOR);
- 7 h) To issue a license for, set fees, regulate and undertake the establishment, operation
8 and maintenance of foreign and virtual currency exchanges, subject to the approval
9 and supervision of the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP): *Provided*, That a "Letter
10 of No Objection" shall be required on similar or related activities that are not within
11 the jurisdiction of the BSP or the Department of Finance (DOF);
- 12 i) To issue a license for, set fees, and regulate fund-raising activities through the
13 issuance of initial coin offerings or similar activities, subject to the direction and
14 supervision of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC): *Provided*, That a
15 "Letter of No Objection" shall be required on similar or related activities that are not
16 within the jurisdiction of the BSP or the DOF;
- 17 j) To raise or borrow, within the limitation provided by law, and subject to the approval
18 or opinion of the Monetary Board of the BSP, as the case may be, adequate and
19 necessary funds from local or foreign sources, to finance its projects and programs
20 under this Act and for this purpose, to issue bonds, promissory notes and other
21 forms of securities, and to secure the same by a guarantee, pledge, mortgage, deed
22 of trust or an assignment of all or part of its property or assets;
- 23 k) To protect, preserve, maintain and develop the forests, beaches, coral and coral
24 reefs, and maintain ecological balance within the FAQ. Notwithstanding the power
25 of the AFAQ to create rules for such purpose, the rules and regulations of the
26 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and other government
27 agencies involved in the above functions shall be implemented by the AFAQ;
- 28 l) To create, operate and/or contract to operate such functional units or offices of the
29 AFAQ as it may deem necessary;
- 30 m) To adopt, alter and use a corporate seal; contract, lease, buy, acquire, own or
31 otherwise dispose of personal and/or real property of whatever nature; sue and be
32 sued; and otherwise carry out its functions and duties as provided for in this Act;

- 1 n) To issue certificates of origin for products manufactured or processed in the FAQ in
2 accordance with prevailing rules of origin and the pertinent regulations of the PEZA,
3 the DTI and/or the DOF;
- 4 o) To establish one-stop shops for the issuance of all necessary permits, clearances,
5 licenses, and other similar certifications to conduct such activities intended to
6 improve the ease of doing business within the FAQ, in coordination with government
7 agencies having jurisdiction over activities therein: *Provided*, That all government
8 agencies are directed to provide and extend utmost and full cooperation to the AFAQ
9 in the establishment of such one-stop shops;
- 10 p) To provide internal security to the FAQ in coordination with the National Government
11 and affected LGU. For this purpose, the AFAQ shall provide and establish its own
12 internal security and firefighting forces or hire others to provide the same. Military
13 forces to be assigned by the National Government for national defense purposes
14 shall not interfere in the internal affairs of the FAQ and expenditures for these
15 military forces shall be borne by the National Government;
- 16 q) To exercise such powers as may be essential, necessary or incidental to the powers
17 granted to it hereunder, as well as those that shall enable it to carry out, implement
18 and accomplish the purposes, objectives and policies of this Act; and
- 19 r) To issue rules and regulations consistent with the provisions of this Act as may be
20 necessary to accomplish and implement the purposes, objectives and policies
21 provided herein.

22 **SEC. 9. Board of Directors of the AFAQ.** - The powers of the AFAQ shall be
23 vested in and exercised by a Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board,
24 which shall be composed of the following:

- 25 a) The Chairperson, who shall at the same time be the administrator of the AFAQ;
- 26 b) Four (4) members consisting of:
- 27 1) The Governor or a representative from the Provincial Government of Quirino;
- 28 2) One of the mayors of the municipalities covered by the freeport area;
- 29 3) One (1) representative from the investor's group; and
- 30 4) One (1) representative from among the workers in the FAQ.

31 The Vice-Chairperson shall be selected from among the members of the Board.

1 The Governor or the representative from the Provincial Government of Quirino
2 and the mayor of the municipality covered by the freeport area shall serve as *ex-officio*
3 members of the Board, whose terms in the Board correspond to their terms as elected
4 officials.

5 The Chairperson-Administrator and the members of the Board, except the ex-
6 officio members, shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines to serve for a term
7 of six (6) years, unless sooner separated from service due to death, voluntary resignation
8 or removal for cause. In case of death, resignation or removal for cause, their
9 replacements shall serve only the unexpired portion of the respective terms.

10 The Chairperson-Administrator must be a Filipino citizen, of good moral character,
11 of proven probity and integrity, and a degree holder in any of the following fields:
12 economics, business, public administration, law, management or their equivalent, and
13 with at least ten (10) years relevant working experience, preferably in the field of
14 management or public administration.

15 The members of the Board, except the ex-officio members, shall each receive per
16 diem at rates to be determined by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) in
17 accordance with existing rules and regulations: *Provided, however,* That the total per
18 diem collected each month shall not exceed the equivalent per diem for four (4) meetings.
19 Unless and until the President of the Philippines has fixed a higher per diem for the
20 members of the Board, such per diem shall not be more than Ten thousand pesos
21 (P10,000.00) for every Board meeting.

22 **SEC. 10. Organization and Personnel.** – The Board of Directors of the AFAQ
23 shall provide for its organization and staff. The Board shall appoint and fix the
24 remuneration and other emoluments of its officers and employees in accordance with
25 existing laws on compensation and position classification. It shall have exclusive and final
26 authority to promote, transfer, assign, reassign, or remove officers of the AFAQ, any
27 provision of existing law to the contrary notwithstanding. The Chairperson-Administrator
28 shall carry out the decisions of the Board.

29 The officers and employees of the AFAQ, including all members of the Board, shall
30 not engage directly or indirectly in partisan activities nor take part in any election, except
31 to vote.

1 No officer or employee of the AFAQ, subject to civil service laws and regulations,
2 shall be removed or suspended except for cause, as provided by law.

3
4 **SEC. 11. Powers and Duties of the Chairperson-Administrator.** – The
5 Chairperson-Administrator shall have the following powers and duties:

6 a) To submit to the Board for its approval, policies, systems, procedures, rules and
7 regulations that are essential to the operation of the FAQ;

8 b) To direct and manage the affairs of the AFAQ in accordance with the policies of the
9 Board;

10 c) To establish the internal organization of the AFAQ under such conditions that the
11 Board may prescribe;

12 d) To submit an annual budget and necessary supplemental budget to the Board for
13 its approval;

14 e) To submit within thirty (30) days after the close of each fiscal year an annual report
15 to the Board and such other reports as may be required;

16 f) To recommend to the Board the remuneration and other emoluments of its officers
17 and employees in accordance with existing laws on compensation and position
18 classification;

19 g) To create a mechanism in coordination with relevant agencies for the promotion of
20 industrial peace, the protection of the environment, and the advancement of the
21 quality of life in the FAQ; and

22 h) To perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board or which are
23 necessary or incidental to his office.

24 **SEC. 12. Legal Counsel.** - The AFAQ shall have its own internal legal counsel
25 under the supervision of the Government Corporate Counsel. When the exigencies of
26 businesses and operations demand it, the AFAQ may engage the services of an outside
27 counsel either on a case to case or on a fixed retainer basis.

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CHAPTER III
INCENTIVES TO ECOZONE ENTERPRISES/INVESTORS

3 **SEC. 13. *Investors Visa.*** - Any foreign national who invests an amount of Two
4 hundred thousand US dollars (US\$200,000.00), either in cash and/or equipment, in a
5 registered enterprise shall be entitled to an investor's visa: *Provided*, That the foreign
6 national has the following qualifications:

- 7 a) Must be at least eighteen (18) years of age;
8 b) Must not have been convicted by final judgment of a crime involving moral turpitude;
9 c) Must not be afflicted with any loathsome, dangerous or contagious disease;
10 d) Must not have been institutionalized for any mental disorder or disability; and
11 e) Must establish by verifiable and credible evidence his financial capability and
12 capacity.

13 As a holder of an investor's visa, a foreign national may reside in the Philippines
14 while the investment subsists. For this purpose, the foreign national should submit an
15 annual report, in the form duly prescribed for the purpose, to prove the maintenance of
16 the investment in the country. Should the investment be withdrawn from the Philippines,
17 then the investor's visa issued to the foreign national shall automatically expire and /or
18 be withdrawn.

19 The authority to issue visas and work permits shall remain with the Bureau of
20 Immigration (BI) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), respectively:
21 *Provided*, That the BI and the DOLE shall implement measures to expedite the processing
22 of such visas and permits for workers in the FAQ and coordinate with the AFAQ for the
23 purpose of improving ease of doing business.

24 **SEC.14. *Fiscal Incentives.*** - Registered enterprises operating within the FAQ
25 may be entitled to the existing pertinent fiscal incentives as provided for under Republic
26 Act No. 7916, as amended by Republic Act No. 8748, also known as the Special Economic
27 Zone Act of 1995, or those provided under Executive Order No. 226, as amended,
28 otherwise known as the Omnibus Investment Code of 1987; and/or those that may be
29 further granted as the need and necessity arises by the appropriate government
30 department, agency or office: *Provided*, That in the administration, implementation and
31 monitoring of incentives, the AFAQ may impose its own conditions not otherwise
32 prohibited by this Act: *Provided, further*, That the AFAQ shall not be limited to the
33 conditions provided under Republic Act No. 7916, Republic Act No. 8748 or any other
34 related issuance, rule or regulation.

1 **SEC. 15. Imposition of a Tax Rate of Five Percent (5%) on Gross Income**

2 **Earned.** - No taxes, local and national, shall be imposed on business establishments
3 operating within the FAQ, including income taxes, withholding taxes, donor's taxes,
4 percentage taxes, and documentary stamp taxes. In lieu thereof, and subject to Section
5 17 of this Act, the business establishments shall pay a five percent (5%) final tax on their
6 gross income earned: *Provided*, That the proceeds from such final tax shall be shared by
7 instrumentalities of the government in accordance with the following percentages:

- 8 a) Three *per centum* (3%) to the National Government;
- 9 b) Two *per centum* (2%) shall be directly remitted by the business establishments to
10 the treasurer's office of the municipality or city where the enterprise is located.

11 The AFAQ shall have the authority to grant an income tax holiday and net operating
12 loss carry over in accordance with Section 17 of this Act and conditions as it may have
13 imposed pursuant to Section 14 of this Act.

14 **SEC. 16. Administration, Implementation and Monitoring of Incentives.** -

15 In the interest of enhancing transparency in the management and accounting of tax
16 incentives in the FAQ, the AFAQ shall comply with the provisions of Republic Act No.
17 10708, otherwise known as "The Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act
18 (TIMTA)" and its implementing rules and regulations for the proper administration,
19 management, enforcement, implementation and monitoring of tax incentives provided
20 under this law.

21 The BOC shall set up and establish a customs controlled area outside the gate of
22 the FAQ to facilitate payment of taxes on goods entering the Philippine customs territory:
23 *Provided*, That notwithstanding the limitations in this Act, the AFAQ and BOC may
24 coordinate and jointly implement measures on border protection.

25 **SEC.17. Duration of Incentives.** - Fiscal incentives under this Act shall be
26 terminated after a cumulative period of twenty (20) years from date of registration or
27 start of commercial operation, whichever is applicable, except that it could be extended
28 with regard to industries deemed indispensable to national development and interest.
29 The industries exempted from this provision shall be determined by the AFAQ, in
30 consultation with other government agencies.

31 **SEC. 18. Sequential Availment of Incentives.** - Registered enterprises may
32 enjoy the income tax holiday (ITH) granted by the AFAQ prior to the availment of the five

1 percent (5%) final tax on gross income earned incentive: *Provided*, That in the event a
2 registered enterprise elects to avail of the final tax incentive, such registered enterprise
3 shall be barred from availing the ITH incentive.

4 Registered enterprises, if eligible, may register for incentives with other investment
5 promotion agencies: *Provided*, That registered enterprises electing to avail of the
6 incentives of other promotion agencies shall not be able to avail of the incentives of the
7 FAQ until the expiration of the incentives with such other investment promotions
8 agencies.

9 **SEC. 19. *Extension of Period of Availment.*** - In the event that a registered
10 enterprise has suffered cessation or suspension of operations due to *force majeure*, which
11 has impaired its viability or profitability, the AFAQ may extend the period of validity of
12 the incentives extended to such registered enterprise.

13 **SEC. 20. *Banking Rules and Regulations.*** – Banks and financial institutions to
14 be established in the FAQ shall be under the supervision of the BSP and subject to existing
15 banking laws, rules and regulations.

16 **SEC. 21. *Remittances.*** - In the case of foreign investments, a duly registered
17 entity or enterprise within the FAQ shall have the right to remit earnings from the
18 investment in the currency in which the investment was originally made and at the
19 exchange rate prevailing at the time of remittance, subject to the provisions of Republic
20 Act No. 7653, otherwise known as "The New Central Bank Act".

21 **CHAPTER IV**
22 **NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER ENTITIES**

23 **SEC. 22. *Supervision and Control.*** - For purposes of policy direction and
24 coordination, the AFAQ shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Office of
25 the President of the Philippines.

26 **SEC. 23. *Development Goals for the FAQ.*** - The AFAQ shall determine the
27 development goals of the FAQ within the framework of national development plans,
28 policies and goals. The Chairperson-Administrator shall, upon approval by the Board,
29 submit the FAQ plans, programs and projects to the Regional Development Council for
30 inclusion and inputs to the overall regional development plan.

31 **SEC. 24. *Relationship with Local Government Units.*** – Except as herein
32 provided, the LGUs comprising the FAQ shall retain their basic autonomy and identity.

1 The Municipality of Aglipay, Province of Quirino, shall operate and function in accordance
2 with the framework of the Constitution, Local Government Code of 1991, and this Act.

3 In case of any conflict between the AFAQ and the LGUs and the National
4 Government on matters affecting the FAQ, other than national defense and security
5 matters, the decision of the AFAQ shall prevail.

6 **SEC. 25. Interpretation/Construction.** - The powers, authorities and functions
7 that are vested in the AFAQ are intended to establish national self-sufficiency and self-
8 reliance in the advancement of and protection of the national integrity, enhancement of
9 national security, decentralization of governmental functions and authority, and
10 promotion of an efficient and effective working relationship among the AFAQ, the National
11 Government and the LGUs. Any interpretation of this Act shall consider such intentions.
12 In the event of conflict of interpretation and provided the intentions cannot be
13 harmonized, the provisions of this Act shall be construed in favor of an interpretation that
14 would tend to protect national security.

15 **SEC. 26. Audit.** - The Commission on Audit shall appoint a full-time auditor in the
16 AFAQ or may assign such number of personnel as may be necessary in the performance
17 of their functions.

18 **CHAPTER V**
19 **MISCELLANEOUS**

20 **SEC. 27. Applicability Clause.** – Insofar as these are consistent with the
21 provisions of this Act, the provisions of Sections 30 to 41 of Republic Act No. 7916,
22 otherwise known as "The Special Economic Zone Act of 1995", as amended, shall likewise
23 apply to the FAQ.

24 **SEC. 28. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The DTI, DOF and the
25 National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) shall formulate the implementing rules
26 and regulations of this Act within ninety (90) days after its approval.

27 **SEC. 29. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act shall be held
28 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full
29 force and effect.

30 **SEC. 30. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, executive orders or issuances or any part
31 thereof, which are inconsistent herewith, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

1 **SEC. 31. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
2 its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

3 Approved,