

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

SENATE
S. No. 1490

20 MAY -4 P 3:38

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

RECEIVED

**AN ACT
CREATING THE PHILIPPINE AIRPORTS AUTHORITY, DEFINING ITS
POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Explanatory Note

The Philippines has 85 airports nationwide, eleven (11) of which are classified as international airports under the new system of classification instituted by the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP).¹ Only airports owned by the national government are classified by the CAAP; the vast majority of minor aerodromes around the country are not owned by the national government and remain unclassified under the new scheme. Under the scheme, all domestic airports in the country are under the operational and supervisory control of CAAP pursuant to Republic Act No. 9497, while the international airports are governed by specific authorities and/or corporation created by law for the purpose.

Among others, the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) was originally created pursuant to Executive Order No. 778, as amended, and exercises jurisdiction over the Ninoy Aquino International Airport. The Clark International Airport is operated and managed by the Clark International Airport Corporation created by virtue of Executive Order 193. On the other hand, the Mactan-Cebu International Airport is under the operational and supervisory control of the Mactan-Cebu International Airport Authority in accordance with Republic Act No. 6958.

¹ Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines. Retrieved from https://www.caap.gov.ph/?page_id=2184

Currently, there is a need to upgrade existing international and domestic airports, and air navigation facilities in the country to comply with international standards of airport accommodation and services, and to meet the present and future air traffic and aviation services demands in the country. Studies have indicated that the objectives of providing high standards of accommodation and service within the context of a financially viable operation will best be achieved by a separate and autonomous regulatory body.

This bill seeks to ensure an integrated manner of operating international and domestic airport terminals in the country, and to avoid conflicting policies and programs on airport maintenance, operation and development, as well as flight operations, through the creation of a Philippine Airports Authority to handle the operations of all international and domestic airports in the country.

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


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

- 1 Section 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Airports Authority
2 Act".
- 3 Sec. 2. *Definition of Terms.* - For purposes of this Act, the following shall
4 mean:
- 5 a) *Authority* - shall refer to the Philippine Airports Authority.
 - 6 b) *Aircraft* - any machine that can derive support in the atmosphere from the
7 reactions of the air other than the reactions of the air against the earth's
8 surface. The term, when used in this Act, shall refer to a civil aircraft only and
9 will not include State or public aircraft.
 - 10 c) *Airport* - shall refer to a defined area on land or water, including any building,
11 installation, facilities and equipment, intended to be used either wholly or in
12 part for the arrival, departure and surface movement of an aircraft. The term,
13 when used in this Act, shall include all domestic and international airports in
14 the country.
 - 15 d) *Board* - shall refer to the Board of Directors of the Authority.
- 16 Sec. 3. *Creation of the Philippine Airports Authority.* - There is hereby
17 established a body corporate to be known as the Philippine Airports Authority,
18 hereinafter referred to as the Authority, which shall be attached to the Department

1 of Transportation (DOTr) and shall be headed by a General Manager as Chief
2 Executive Officer of the Authority. The Authority may establish such offices,
3 branches, agencies or subsidiaries as it may deem proper and necessary to
4 administer and operate all domestic and international airport terminals in the
5 country: Provided, That the establishment of a subsidiary shall have the prior
6 approval of the President of the Philippines.

7 *Sec. 4. Purposes and Objectives.* - The Authority shall have the following
8 purposes and objectives:

- 9 a) To help encourage and promote domestic and international air traffic in the
10 Philippines as a means of accelerating the development of aviation, as a
11 means of transportation in the country, as well as making the Philippines a
12 center of international trade and tourism;
- 13 b) To formulate and adopt, for application in all domestic and international
14 airport terminals in the country, internationally acceptable standards of airport
15 accommodation and service; and
- 16 c) To upgrade and provide safe, efficient, and reliable airport facilities for
17 domestic and international air travel.

18 *Sec. 5. Functions, Powers and Duties of the Authority.* - The Authority shall
19 have the following functions, powers and duties:

- 20 a) To formulate, in coordination with the Civil Aviation Authority of the
21 Philippines (CAAP), independent airport authorities and other appropriate
22 government agencies, a comprehensive and integrated policy and program
23 for all domestic and international airport terminals in the country, and to
24 implement, review and update such policy and program periodically;
- 25 b) To control, supervise, construct, maintain, operate and provide such facilities
26 and services as shall be necessary for the safe and efficient functioning of all
27 domestic and international airport terminals in the country;
- 28 c) To promulgate rules and regulations governing the planning, development,
29 maintenance, operation and improvement of domestic and international
30 airport terminals in the country, and to control and/or supervise, as may be
31 necessary, the construction of any structure or the rendition of any service
32 within all domestic and international airport terminals;

- 1 d) To sue and be sued in its corporate name;
- 2 e) To adopt and use a corporate seal;
- 3 f) To succeed by its corporate name;
- 4 g) To adopt its by-laws, and to amend or repeal the same from time to time;
- 5 h) To execute or enter into contracts of any kind or nature;
- 6 i) To acquire, purchase, own, administer, lease, mortgage, sell or otherwise
- 7 dispose of any land, building, airport facility, or property of whatever kind and
- 8 nature, whether movable or immovable, or any interest therein;
- 9 j) To exercise the power of eminent domain in the pursuit of its purposes and
- 10 objectives;
- 11 k) To levy, and collect dues, charges, fees or assessments for the use of the
- 12 airport premises, works, appliances, facilities or concessions or for any service
- 13 provided by the Authority, subject to the approval of the Secretary of
- 14 Transportation in consultation with the Secretary of Finance;
- 15 l) To invest its idle funds, as it may deem proper, in government securities and
- 16 other evidences of indebtedness of the government;
- 17 m) To provide services, whether on its own or otherwise, within the airports and
- 18 the approaches thereof, which shall include but not be limited to, the
- 19 following:
- 20 1. Aircraft movement and allocation of parking areas of aircraft on the
- 21 ground;
- 22 2. Loading or unloading of aircraft;
- 23 3. Passenger handling and other services directed towards the care,
- 24 convenience and security of passengers, visitors and other airport
- 25 users; and
- 26 4. Sorting, weighing, measuring, warehousing or handling of baggage
- 27 and goods.
- 28 n) To prescribe and revise, from time to time as necessary, minimum safety
- 29 standards for the operation of airport facilities in the Philippines;
- 30 o) To perform such other acts and transact such other business, directly or
- 31 indirectly as may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of

1 the purposes and objectives of the Authority, including the adoption of
2 necessary measures to remedy congestion in the airports; and

3 p) To exercise all the powers of a corporation under the Corporation Law, insofar
4 as these powers are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

5 *Sec. 6. Police Authority.* - The Authority shall have the power to exercise such
6 police authority, as may be necessary within its premises, to carry out its functions
7 and attain its purposes and objectives. The grant of such powers shall be without
8 prejudice to the exercise of functions within the same premises by other concerned
9 government agencies as provided for by law: Provided, That the Authority may
10 request the assistance of law enforcement agencies, including request for
11 deputization as may be required. Such police authority shall be exercised in
12 connection with the following, among others:

13 a) Maintenance of security to passengers, cargoes, aircraft, airport equipment,
14 structures, facilities, personnel, funds and documents;

15 b) Regulating the entry to, exit from and movement within the airports;

16 c) Maintenance of peace and order, within the premises of the airports in
17 coordination with local police authorities and other authorized peace-keeping
18 entities within the airports;

19 d) Regulation and supervision of private security agencies operating within the
20 airports; and

21 e) Enforcement of rules and regulations promulgated by the Authority pursuant
22 to law.

23 *Sec. 7. Airport Operation Certification.* - Any person desiring to operate a
24 private airport or air navigation facilities may file with the Authority an application for
25 an operating certificate. If the Authority finds, after investigation, that such person is
26 properly and adequately equipped and able to conduct a safe operation in
27 accordance with the requirements of this Act and the rules and regulations, and
28 standards prescribed therein, the Authority shall issue an airport operating certificate
29 to such person. Each airport operating certificate shall prescribe such terms,
30 conditions and limitations as are reasonably necessary to assure safety in air
31 transport. Unless the Authority determines that it would be contrary to public

1 interest, such terms, conditions and limitations, shall include, but not limited to,
2 terms and conditions relating to:

- 3 a) The operation and maintenance of adequate safety equipment, including
4 firefighting and rescue equipment capable of rapid access to any portion of
5 the airport used for landing, take off, or surface maneuvering of aircraft; and
- 6 b) The condition and maintenance of primary and secondary runways.

7 For this purpose, the Authority shall inspect, classify, and rate any air
8 navigation facilities and airports available for the aircraft as to its suitability for such
9 use.

10 *Sec. 8. Board of Directors.* - The corporate powers of the Authority shall be
11 exercised by and vested in a Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board.
12 It shall be composed of eleven (11) members, as follows:

- 13 1) Secretary of the DOTr or his representative - Chairperson;
- 14 2) General Manager of the Authority - Vice-Chairperson;
- 15 3) Representative from the Office of the President;
- 16 4) Representative from the Department of Finance;
- 17 5) Representative from the Department of Tourism;
- 18 6) Representative from the Department of Justice;
- 19 7) Representative from the CAAP; and,
- 20 8) Four (4) representatives from the private sector to be appointed by the
21 President of the Philippines for a term of three (3) years renewable for
22 another term.

23 The Board shall meet at least once a month and as often as the exigencies of
24 the service demand. The presence of at least five (5) members shall constitute a
25 quorum, and the vote of a majority of the members present, there being a quorum,
26 shall be necessary for the adoption of any rule, regulation, resolution, decision or
27 any other act of the Board.

28 The members of the Board shall receive per diems, for every meeting actually
29 attended: Provided, that such per diem shall conform to existing guidelines of the
30 Commission on Audit. Members of the Board shall be reimbursed by the Authority for
31 actual expenses, including travelling and subsistence expenses, incurred by them in
32 the performance of their duties.

1 No member of the Board shall have financial or pecuniary interest, directly or
2 indirectly, in any business contract or transaction entered into by the Authority or in
3 any privilege granted by it. Neither shall a member have any interest, financial or
4 otherwise, in any undertaking or business with an inherent conflict of interest with
5 the Authority.

6 *Sec. 9. Functions, Powers, and Duties of the Board.* - The Board shall have
7 the following functions, powers and duties:

- 8 a) To define and approve the programs, plans, policies, procedures and
9 guidelines of the Authority for the development and operation of the airports
10 within the context of the overall Government objectives, and to control the
11 management, operation and administration of the Authority;
- 12 b) To recommend to the President of the Philippines, for appointment, a General
13 Manager of the Authority who shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the
14 Authority; and
- 15 c) To approve the Authority's organizational and administrative structure,
16 staffing pattern, operating and capital expenditures, and financial budgets,
17 prepared in accordance with the corporate plan of the Authority, upon
18 recommendation of the General Manager.

19 *Sec. 10. Development of New Airports.* - The Board shall be responsible for
20 the planning, development, construction, operation, maintenance or the expansion
21 of airports. In planning and developing new airports, the Board shall consider:

- 22 a) The suitability of a proposed site in terms of terrain and proximity to
23 population centers;
- 24 b) The projected size of the market to be served by a proposed airport;
- 25 c) The ability of a proposed airport to generate sufficient revenue to cover costs
26 of operation and maintenance;
- 27 d) The availability of funding from both local and foreign sources for the
28 construction of a new airport or expansion of an existing one;
- 29 e) The proximity of other airports to a proposed new airport and the capability of
30 such other airport to handle traffic projected to be handled by the new
31 proposed airport;

- 1 f) The government's public service obligations such as the government's duty to
2 ensure the availability of air transport infrastructure for remote areas far from
3 major population centers and that are not otherwise easily accessible by
4 transportation by land or sea;
- 5 g) International Civil Aviation Organization best practices and recommendations
6 concerning the development of airports; and
- 7 h) Such other considerations as the Board, in the exercise of its reasonable
8 discretion, may consider relevant or important.

9 Sec. 11. *Injunctions, Powers and Duties of the General Manager.* - The
10 General Manager shall be directly responsible to the Board, and shall have the
11 following functions, powers and duties;

- 12 a) To direct and supervise the management, operation and administration of the
13 Authority, and its integral units including its buildings, runways, facilities and
14 equipment, so as to provide international standards of service to airport
15 users, and to ensure its financial stability in accordance with the programs,
16 plans, policies, procedures and guidelines of the Board;
- 17 b) To provide general supervision and overall coordination of all government
18 agencies operating in the airports with respect to the allocation and use of
19 building space and airport premises;
- 20 c) To undertake researches, studies, investigations, and other activities related
21 to the present operations and future development requirements of the
22 airports, on his own initiative or upon instructions of the Board, and to submit
23 comprehensive reports, and appropriate recommendations to the Board for its
24 information and action;
- 25 d) To appoint, transfer, suspend, remove or otherwise discipline any subordinate
26 officer or employee of the Authority, subject to the approval of the Board and
27 to engage, either on contractual basis or other suitable arrangements, the
28 services of highly qualified professionals, experts, technical advisers or
29 consulting firms and to determine their compensation or fees including other
30 terms and conditions of employment as may be authorized by the Board; To
31 enter into a memorandum of agreement/understanding, contracts or such
32 other arrangements as may be feasible with such government agencies or

1 private entities operating or providing services to the Authority to ensure
2 proper coordination and integration of all activities in the Authority, subject to
3 the approval of the Board or such laws, rules and regulations as are
4 applicable in the exercise of such authority;

5 e) To establish and maintain a system, in coordination with the appropriate
6 government offices and agencies, for the regular and prompt dissemination of
7 financial, statistical and other relevant data within the Authority and to the
8 Board;

9 f) Within the limits of the authority delegated to him by the Board, to execute
10 contracts, incur obligations, acquire and dispose of assets, and deliver
11 documents, on behalf of the Authority;

12 g) To implement and enforce decisions, orders, rules and regulations issued,
13 prescribed or adopted by the Board; and

14 h) To perform such other duties as the Board may delegate or assign, and such
15 acts as may be necessary and proper to implement this Act.

16 Sec. 12. *Capital.* - The Authority shall have a capital of Fifty Billion Pesos (Php
17 50,000,000,000.00) which shall be contributed by the National Government and to
18 consist of:

19 a) The value of fixed assets (including airport facilities, runways and equipment)
20 and such other properties, movable and immovable, which may be
21 contributed by the National Government or transferred by it from any of its
22 agencies, the valuation of which shall be determined jointly with the
23 Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the Commission on Audit
24 (COA) on the date of such contribution or transfer after making due
25 allowances for depreciation and other deductions taking into account the
26 loans and other liabilities of the Authority at the time of the takeover of the
27 assets and other properties;

28 b) The unexpended balances of appropriations in the current General
29 Appropriations Act, and other laws in force upon approval hereof, pertaining
30 to, held or used by, or available to the entities abolished and/ or whose
31 powers, duties and responsibilities have been transferred to the Authority
32 under this Act, including concerned government agencies;

1 c) Any surplus income that may be derived from or shall accrue to the Authority
2 upon its organization and its assumption of the assets and liabilities of the
3 entities abolished and/ or whose powers, duties and responsibilities have
4 been transferred to the Authority under this Act, including concerned
5 government agencies; and

6 d) Such amount as may be appropriated from time to time from the funds of the
7 National Treasury not otherwise appropriated including any outlay from the
8 infrastructure program of the National Government and as may be provided in
9 the annual General Appropriations Act.

10 Sec. 13. *Contribution to the General Fund for the Maintenance and Operation*
11 *of Airports.* - Within thirty (30) days after the close of each quarter, twenty per
12 centum (20%) of the gross operating income, excluding payments for utilities of
13 tenants and concessionaires and terminal fee, collections, shall be remitted to the
14 General Fund in' the National Treasury to be used for the maintenance and
15 operation of international and domestic airports in the country. Adjustments in the
16 amount paid by the Authority to the National Treasury under this Section shall be
17 made at the end of each year based on the audited financial statements of the
18 Authority.

19 Sec. 14. *Auditor.* - The Chairman of the COA shall be the ex-officio Auditor of
20 the Authority. For this purpose, he may appoint a representative who shall be the
21 auditor of the Authority, together with the necessary personnel to assist said
22 representative in the performance of his duties. The salary of the auditor and the
23 number and salaries of said personnel shall be determined by the Chairman of the
24 Commission on Audit subject to the rules and regulations of the Commission on
25 Audit. Said salaries and all other expenses of maintaining the Auditor's Office shall
26 be paid by the Authority.

27 The Auditor shall, as soon as practicable, but not later than three (3) months
28 after the accounts have been submitted for audit, send an annual report to the
29 Board. The Auditor may also submit such periodic or special reports as the Board
30 may deem necessary.

31 Sec. 15. *Legal Counsel.* - The Government Corporate Counsel and/or the
32 Solicitor General shall be the Legal Counsel of the Authority: Provided, That the

1 Authority may establish its own legal department to handle the day- to-day legal
2 matters affecting the affairs of the Authority.

3 Sec. 16. *Annual Report.* - The Board shall submit to the President of the
4 Philippines through the DOTr, together with the audit report on the relevant
5 accounts an annual report generally dealing with the activities and operations of the
6 Authority.

7 Sec. 17. *Applicability of Civil Service Laws.* - The Authority and its officials and
8 employees shall be subject to the Civil Service Law and its rules and regulations.

9 Sec. 18. *Borrowing Power.* - The Authority may, after consultation with the
10 Secretary of Finance and with the approval of the President of the Philippines, as
11 recommended by the Secretary of DOTr, raise funds, either from local or
12 international sources, by way of loans, credits or securities, and other borrowing
13 instruments, with the power to create pledges, mortgages and other voluntary liens
14 or encumbrances on any of its assets or properties.

15 All loans contracted by the Authority under this Section, together with all
16 interests and other sums payable in respect thereof, shall constitute a charge upon
17 all the revenues and assets of the Authority and shall rank equally with one another,
18 but shall have priority over any other claim or charge on the revenue and assets of
19 the Authority; Provided, That this provision shall not be construed as a prohibition or
20 restriction on the power of the Authority to create pledges, mortgages and other
21 voluntary liens or encumbrances on any asset or property of the Authority. Except as
22 expressly authorized by the President of the Philippines, the total outstanding
23 indebtedness of the Authority in the principal amount, in local and foreign currency,
24 shall not, at any given time, exceed the net worth of the Authority.

25 The President or his duly authorized representative, after consultation with
26 the
27 Secretary of Finance, may guarantee, in the name and on behalf of the Republic of
28 the Philippines, the payment of the loans or other indebtedness of the Authority up
29 to the amount herein authorized.

30 Sec. 19. *Increase or Decrease of Rates.* - The Authority may increase or
31 decrease the rates of the dues, charges, fees or assessments collectible by the
32 Authority to protect the interest of the Government and provide a satisfactory return

1 on the Authority's assets based on the principle of cost recovery at an aggregate
2 level. The Authority may adjust the schedule of such rates so as to reflect the cost of
3 facilities or services provided, or rendered. The Authority may periodically review all
4 dues, charges, fees, or assessments collectible by the Authority, and shall make such
5 adjustments to the schedule of rates as shall adequately reflect any increase in price
6 levels and (in the case of concession rentals) of volume of traffic through the
7 airports,

8 subject to the provisions of Batas Pambansa Blg. 325, whenever practicable.

9 *Sec. 20. Remedies for Non-Payment.* - If the owner or agent of any aircraft
10 refuses or neglects to pay on demand any rate or charges made in pursuance of
11 Section 19 hereof, the Authority may, after complying with the required legal
12 formalities provided by law, shall have the power to impose lien on such aircraft
13 equipment or furniture belonging to the owner or agent of said aircraft, until the
14 amounts due have been paid.

15 *Sec. 21. Fines and Penalties.* - The Authority shall have the power to exact
16 reasonable administrative fines in such specific amounts and for such specific
17 violations arising out of the use of the airports, as shall be prescribed in rules and
18 regulations which the Authority is hereby authorized to issue for the purpose, which
19 amount of fine shall not be less than One Thousand Pesos (Php 1,000.00) nor more
20 than Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php20,000.00), and shall be subject to review and
21 increase every five (5) years.

22 *Sec. 22. Competitive Tender.* - The General Manager shall, as far as
23 practicable, grant permits or concessions to trade or to engage in business within
24 the areas controlled by the Authority to the highest bidder after a competitive public
25 bidding; Provided, That the bidding requirements may be waived in the case of
26 banks, branches of post office. National Telecommunications Commission, other
27 government agencies in airline operations or where the fees, rates or assessments to
28 be charged have been fixed by the Board.

29 The General Manager shall require such permittees or concessionaires to
30 provide goods or services acceptable under international standards and at such
31 prices similar to goods or services in Metropolitan Manila or airports in other

1 countries: Provided, That such final awards of permits or concessions to successful
2 bidders shall be subject to the approval of the Board.

3 *Sec. 23. Tax Exemptions.* - The Authority shall be exempt from realty taxes
4 imposed by the National Government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies
5 and instrumentalities; Provided, That no tax exemption herein granted shall extend
6 to any subsidiary which may be organized by the Authority.

7 *Sec. 24. Transfer of Power and Assets.* - All powers, duties and rights vested
8 by law and exercised by the CAAP relating to the control, supervision, construction,
9 maintenance, operation, provision of services and facilities and the efficient
10 functioning of all domestic and international airports in the country pursuant to
11 Republic Act No. 9497, are hereby transferred to the Authority. All assets, real and
12 personal properties, contracts, records and documents, funds and revenues owned
13 by or vested in the different offices of CAAP in relation to the powers, duties and
14 rights herein transferred shall also be transferred to the Authority.

15 *Sec. 25. Projects in Progress.* - All ongoing projects relating to the
16 construction of airport facilities shall be continued by the agency or agencies
17 involved until completion. Thereafter, such projects shall be transferred to the
18 Authority, in accordance with agreement among agencies concerned. Any
19 disagreement, relating to such transfer, shall be submitted to the President of the
20 Philippines for final decision.

21 *Sec. 26. Transfer of Liabilities and Debts.* - Upon the transfer to and
22 acceptance by the Authority of the existing physical facilities, intangible assets and
23 completed projects referred to in the preceding sections, all debts, liabilities, and
24 obligations of the of the entities concerned and other government agencies in
25 respect of such physical facilities, tangible assets and completed projects within the
26 airports, shall likewise be assumed by the Authority.

27 *Sec. 27. Prohibited Acts and Penalties.* - The General Manager, after due
28 notice and hearing, is hereby authorized to impose the following fines and penalties
29 for the commission of any of the acts hereunder prohibited:

- 30 a) Any person who destroys or seriously damages the facilities of an airport or
31 disrupts the services of an airport shall be subjected to imprisonment of one
32 (1) year to three (3) years and/or a fine of not less than One hundred

1 thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00) but not more than Five hundred thousand
2 pesos (Php 500,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court;

3 b) An imprisonment of not less than one (1) year but not more than three (3)
4 years and / or a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (Php
5 100.000. 00) but not more than Five hundred thousand pesos (Php 500.000.
6 00), at the discretion of the court, shall be imposed upon any person who
7 shall interfere with air navigation, including but not limited to such acts as:

8 1. Exhibiting within the Philippines any light or signal in such manner or
9 place that it is likely to be mistaken for a true light or signal in
10 connection with an airport or other navigational facility; or

11 2. Knowingly removes, extinguishes, or interferes with the operation of
12 any true light or signal.

13 *Sec. 28. Appropriations.* - To provide for any extraordinary expenses of the
14 Authority upon its organization, the unavailed portion of the excess of actual
15 operating income over the estimated expenses of the entities abolished and/or
16 whose powers, duties and responsibilities have been transferred to the Authority
17 under this Act, if any, at the time of the passage of this Act is hereby appropriated
18 for purposes that the Board may approve. This shall be considered as part of the
19 capital under Section hereof

20 *Sec. 29. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, letters of instructions,
21 rules and regulations, or provisions thereof, which are inconsistent with the
22 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

23 *Sec. 30. Separability Clause.* - The provisions of this Act are hereby declared
24 separable. If any portion thereof shall be held invalid unconstitutional, such invalidity
25 or unconstitutionality shall not affect the other provisions which shall remain in full
26 force and effect.

27 *Sec. 31. Effectivity Clause* - This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) after
28 its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
29 general circulation.

Approved,