


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session

7 NOV 22 11 48 AM

RECEIVED BY: **SENATE**Senate Bill No. 1896

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**INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Living in Metro Manila means knowledge that clean air is considered a rare commodity. It may be an understatement to say that we may have one polluted environment that we wonder how much toxins enter our bodies. True enough, the scope and complexities of environmental pollution have grown to an unimaginable proportion that a comprehensive environmental surveillance and protection must be arrived at, to solve this physical barrier.

One of these areas that should be considered in providing remedial solution to environmental pollution is the training and education of our citizens. To this end, the professional sector known as the Sanitary Engineers, Environmental Engineers and Sanitarians should be the first to be considered, as they will be practitioners who will espouse the ideals of modern living and disseminate the goodness of clean environment.

With the fast-changing signs of the times and the advent of modern technology, the existing Sanitary Engineering Law that aims to protect the public health and the environment has become outdated. Hence, it is the aim of this legislation to enact a measure that will enable the professionals to be more effective in dealing with today's environmental and public health problems.


With this legislation, a code entitled: "The New Sanitary and Environmental Engineering Law" is ordained with a more definitive and responsive environmental and public health engineering law that adapts with the globalization approach.

Premises stated, this legislation is recommended for early cognizance.

  
**MANNY VILLAR**

7 NOV 22 A. M. 0

SENATE

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**AN ACT ORDAINING A NEW SANITARY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING LAW OF THE PHILIPPINES**

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

**ARTICLE I**

**TITLE AND DEFINITIONS OF TERMS**

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as "The New Sanitary and  
Environmental Engineering Law of 2007."

SEC. 2. Definition of Terms -As used in this Act, the following terms shall  
mean:

2.1 "Practice of Sanitary and Environment Engineering a person is  
deemed to be in the practice of sanitary and environmental  
engineering when he renders or offers to render professional  
engineering services in the form of, but not limited to the following:

2.1.1 Consultancy, investigation valuation, planning, monitoring,  
construction, installation, manufacturing, research and management  
of services requiring sanitary and environmental engineering  
knowledge.

2.1.2 Human resources development on environmental protection  
and sanitation, in consonance with the other engineering disciplines  
*and with the other paramedical and medical sciences.*

2.1.3 Description of works under Sanitary and Environmental  
Engineering are, but not limited to the following:

2.1.2.1 Public Health - a field wherein services as  
nosocomial engineering for the health administrative authority are  
rendered in, but not limited to sanitation, disease prevention and

control, and other public health concerns using engineering methods and paramedical measures;

2.1.3.2 Water usage, conservation and protection - shall include all aspects in the protection and conservation of water resources, classification of waters, protection of watershed and use of water;

2.1.3.3 Water supply, storage, treatment, distribution, re-use and disinfection - involves engineering works including, but not limited to water source, water storage, horizontal and building water distribution systems, equipment and control devices, flow and pressure, control and water conservation devices, water purification, water reservoirs and water pumping facilities and shall include water collection, conveyance, treatment and distribution;

2.1.3.4 Storm drainage and waste water management- Waste water management shall include, but not limited to waste minimization, sanitary sewers systems, industrial wastewater conveyance and disposal, wastewater treatment plants, sewage treatment plants and effluent disposal, sewer appurtenances, sewage lifting stations, leachate treatment, sludge and septage disposal and storm drainage management shall include, but limited to run- collection, storm water conveyance and disposal, including storm sewer appurtenances;

2.1.3.5 Solid waste Refuse management shall include, but not limited to waste minimization, storage, segregation, collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal, including necessary appurtenances;

2.1.3.6 Toxic and hazardous substances and radiation- Toxic and Hazardous substances shall involve engineering works in, but not limited to manufacturing, processing, storage, conveyance, use, treatment and disposal of the products and by products such as heavy metals, persistent organic pollutant, priority pollutants, polychlorinated biphenyls, poisons radioactive and nuclear wastes, hospital and institutional wastes and agricultural wastes and Radiation shall include, but not limited nonionic and ionic radiation effects, protection and control;

2.1.3.7 Pollution prevention and control- shall involve all aspects in prevention and control of noise, air, water and land pollution;

2.1.3.8 Life and safety - shall involve the preservation of life and protection of property against hazards and injurious condition in, but not limited in buildings horizontal development, air crafts sea vessels, lands crafts, industrial areas, public places and areas, underground structures for public land private use, recreational places and areas; it shall include construction safety management, management operation safety, and mitigating measures;

2.1.3.9 Environmental engineering and planning- Engineering in Environmental protection shall include, but not limited Hydrology, Ecology, Environmental Impact Assessment.

- 2.2 "Biosolids"- similar to sludge
- 2.3 "Fixture unit"- a quality in terms of which the load producing effects on the plumbing system of different kinds of plumbing fixtures are expressed on some arbitrarily chosen scale.
- 2.4 "Garbage" is used to designate those putrescible wastes resulting from the growing, handling, preparation, cooking, and consumption of food.
- 2.5 "Gray water"- is untreated household waste water which has not come in contact with toilet waste and includes used water from bathtubs, showers bathroom was basin, and clothes washing machine and laundry tubs; it shall not include waste water from kitchen sinks or dishwashers.
- 2.6 "Hazardous waste"- shall refer to by-products, side products, process residues, spent reaction media, contaminated plant or equipment or other substances from manufacturing operations and as consumer discards of manufactured product which present unreasonable risk/injury to health and safety and to the environment.
- 2.7 "Ionizing radiation"- is the energy that is propagated through space or a material medium in the form of waves or particles and is capable of either directly or indirectly removing electrons from atoms, thereby creating ions, which are electrically charged atoms.
- 2.8 "Master plumber" - As used in this act shall mean a person duly registered with the Special Board on Master Plumbers under Board of Examiners of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering in the manner as hereinafter provided
- 2.9 "Non-ionizing radiation"- includes ultraviolet radiation ,visible light, microwaves, electro -magnetic radiation used in television, AM and FM radio communications and electro-magnetic fields around electric power lines and appliances
- 2.10 "Plumber "- as one who fits and repairs water drainage pipes
- 2.11 "Plumbing Design" - shall mean the design of water distribution system and sanitary drainage system within the building in compliance to the National Plumbing Code.
- 2.12 "Plumbing"- shall plumber's trade or work; the art of assemblage of pipes and fixtures used to convey water and waste.
- 2.13 "Radiation"-the process in which energy in the form of rays of light, heat, or waves is sent out trough space from atoms, and molecules as they undergo internal change.
- 2.14 "Reclaimed Water"- is water which, as a result of a tertiary treatment of domestic wastewater, is suitable for direct beneficial use; especially excluded from this definition is "gray water".

- 2.15 "Refuse"- are the materials that are collected and disposed of which includes garbage, rubbish, ashes, street sweepings, and dead animals, and solid market and industrial waste.
- 2.16 "Re-use water"- gray water and/ or reclaimed water put into beneficial use.
- 2.17 "Rubbish"- denotes all non-putrescible waste except ashes.
- 2.18 "Sanitarian"- as one who reviews or examines critically establishment in compliance to the Sanitation Code and its implementing rules and regulations.
- 2.19 "Sanitary and environmental Engineer" - as used in this Act shall mean a person duly registered with the board of Examiners for Sanitary and Environmental Engineering in the manner as hereinafter provided.
- 2.20 Sanitary Engineer"- as used in this Act shall mean a person duly registered with Board of Examiners for Sanitary Engineering, under Republic Act 1364, that shall be a "Sanitary and Environmental Engineer" upon enactment of this law.
- 2.21 "Solid waste"- synonymous to refuse.
- 2.22 "Toxic materials"- any material that may have a poisonous effect on man or organism.
- 2.23 "Trash"- similar to rubbish, dry solid wastes similar to wastes generated in office buildings.
- 2.24 "Treated water"- water that had undergone mechanical, physical, and/or chemical process for the purpose of purification.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING**

SEC.3. Composition of the Board - Within the thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, there shall be created a Board for Sanitary and Environmental Engineering hereinafter referred to as the Board, to be composed of one (1) chairman, two (2) members, one (1) Master plumber Specialty Board Chairman, two (2) Sanitarian Specialty Board Members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the Professional Regulation Commission of Civil Service from among such persons of recognized standing in their profession as nominated by the Accredited Professional Organization as having practiced at least ten (10) years, and academically, for baccalaureate degree holders, and morally fully qualified by their respective bona fide associations. The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three (3) years after appointment or until their successors shall have been appointed and shall have duly qualified. For the board and the specialty boards, the first members of the Boards under this Act shall hold office for the following terms: one member for one (1) year, one member for two (2) years; one member of three (3) years while the successors shall serve a full term of three (3) years.

Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath of office before entering upon the performance of his duties. Any member of the Board may be immoral, or dishonorable in conduct, after having been given opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation: Provided, that during the process of investigation, the President shall have the power to suspend such member under investigation and shall appoint a temporary member in his place. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled for the unexpired term.

SEC. 4. Description of the Board Hierarchy. The Specialty Boards shall work under the direction, supervision and responsibility of the chairman of the Sanitary and Environmental Engineering Board. The specialty board chairmen shall be sanitary and environmental engineers and members of the specialty board shall preferably be practitioners of the trades.

SEC. 5. Powers and Duties of the Board. - The Board shall exercise executive/administrative or quasi-legislative or rule-making or quasi-judicial investigative powers in carrying out the specific powers, functions, duties and responsibilities.

- 5.1 Supervise and regulate the practice of Sanitary and Environmental Engineers, Sanitarians and Master Plumbers in the Philippines;
- 5.2 Determine and evaluate the qualifications of the applicants for registration for special permits;
- 5.3 Prepare the examination questions in accordance with Section 20 hereof or modifications thereof prescribe the syllabi of the subjects and their relative weights for the licensure examinations; formulate or adopt test questions and deposit them in a test question bank; draw the test questions at random through process of computerization; and submit the examination results to the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC) within the period provided for by the rule of the Commission;
- 5.4 Prescribe, amend or revise the requirement for Sanitary and Environmental Engineers, Sanitarians and Master Plumbers and subject in the licensure examination for professional Sanitary and Environmental Engineers, Registered Sanitarians and Registered Master Plumbers and their relative weights, subject to the approval of the Commission;
- 5.5 Register successful applicants who have passed the licensure examination for Sanitary and Environmental Engineers, Sanitarians and Master Plumbers and issue corresponding certificate of registration and professional licenses;
- 5.6 Issue special permits to individual foreign Sanitary Engineer, Environmental Engineers, Sanitarians and Master Plumbers for specific Projects and for a specific duration of time;
- 5.7 Look into the conditions affecting the practice of the Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, Sanitarian and Master Plumber professions and adopt measures for the enhancement of the professions and the maintenance of high professional, technical, and ethical standards and conduct ocular inspection of the places where registrants practice their professions to determine and enforce

compliance with this Act. The Board shall authorize the duly integrated and accredited sanitary and environmental engineering, integrated Sanitarian and Master Plumbing associations to render assistance in this function;

- 5.8 Promulgate rules and regulations including a code of ethics, administrative policies, orders and issuance to carry out the provisions of this Act;
- 5.9 Investigate violations of the Act and the rules and regulations, code of ethics, administrative policies, orders and issuance promulgated by the Board. The rules on administrative investigation promulgated by the Commission shall govern in such investigation;
- 5.10 Issue subpoena or subpoena duces tecum, to secure the attendance of respondents or witnesses or the production of documents at and relative to the investigation conducted by the Board;
- 5.11 Delegate the investigation of the case to the chairman, a member of the Board of Professional Regulations Commission or PRC attorney. If the case concerns strictly the practice of the profession, the investigation shall be presided by the chairman or member of the Board with the assistance of a PRC attorney;
- 5.12 Render decision, order or resolution on preliminary investigation or inquiry, on undocketed cases and on docketed administrative cases against examinees or registrants which shall become final and executory unless appealed with the Commission within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the copy thereof. The decision of the Commission may be appealed to the Court of Justice in accordance with the procedure provided in the Rules of Court;
- 5.13 After due notice and hearing, cancel examination papers and/or bar the examinee from future examinations; refuse or defer his registration; reprimand the registrant with stern warning; suspend him from the practice of his profession; revoke his certificate of registration; delisting from the roll of professional Sanitary and Environmental Engineers, Registered Sanitarians and Master plumbers for continuous non-payment of annual registration, or delisting from the roll by the Board as provided herein, may be appealed initially to the Commission within fifteen (15) days from receipt thereof. The decision of the Commission may be appealed to the Court in accordance with the procedure provided in the Rules of court;
- 5.14 Administer oaths in connection with the administration, implementations, or reinforcement of this Act;
- 5.15 Submit an annual report on the proceeding and accomplishments during the year and on recommendations of the Boards to the Commission after the close of each fiscal year;
- 5.16 Prosecute or institute criminal action against any violator of the Act and/or the rules and regulations of the Board;
- 5.17 Adopt an official seal;

- 5.18 Coordinate with the Commission on higher Education and the Department of Education (DepEd) in prescribing, amending and/or revising the courses;
- 5.19 Perform such other functions and duties as may be necessary to implement effectively this Act. The policies, resolutions rules and regulations orders or decisions issued or promulgated by the Board shall be subject to the review and approval by the Commission; however, the Board's decisions, resolution or orders which are not interlocutory, rendered in an administrative case, shall be subject to review only if on appeal.

SEC. 6. Qualifications of Board Members. - Each member of the Board must, at the time of this appointment:

- 6.1 Be a natural-born Filipino citizen and resident of the Philippines for at least five (5) consecutive years;
- 6.2 Be at least thirty-five (35) years of age, of proven integrity with high moral values in his personal as well as his professional conduct.
- 6.3 Be a person with no final conviction by the court of an offense involving moral turpitude;
- 6.4 Be a holder of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Sanitary Engineering (BSSE) or Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Sanitary Engineering (BSEnSE), for the members of the Board of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering and chairmen of Specialty Boards, from a university, school, college, academy or institute duly constituted, recognized and accredited by the Philippine government;
- 6.5. Be a registered Professional Sanitary and Environmental Engineer or Sanitarian or Master Plumber with a valid certificate of registration in their respective field of practice and a valid license duly qualified to practice sanitary and environmental engineering or as Sanitarian or master Plumber in the Philippines;
- 6.6. Have practiced sanitary and environmental engineering or as a Sanitarian or Master Plumber for the period of not less than ten (10) years prior to his appointment, with a sworn statement as such; and
- 6.7. Not be an official nor a member of the faculty of, nor have pecuniary interest in, any university, college, school or institution conferring a bachelor's degree in sanitary and environmental engineering for at least three (3) years prior to his appointment, and is not connected with a review center or with any group or association where review classes or lectures in preparation for the licensure examinations are offered or conducted at the time of his appointment.

SEC. 7. Terms of Office - The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three (3) years from the date of appointment or until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. They may, however, be re-appointed for a second term as recommended by their respective accredited professional



organizations. Each member shall qualify by taking oath of office before entering upon the performance of his duties. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled by the President from the list of candidates selected by the Commissioner who were chosen from the list of nominees submitted by the integrated and accredited association from the unexpired term only.

SEC. 8. Removal of Board Members. - Any member of the Board may be removed by the President of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner for neglect of duty, incompetence, malpractice, commission or for unprofessional, unethical, or dishonorable conduct, after having been given the opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation.

SEC. 9. Compensation of Chairman and the Board Members. - The members of the Board shall receive a monthly compensation of no less than Fifteen thousand pesos (P15,000.00): Provided, That the Chairman shall be receive a monthly compensation of ten percent (10%) more: Provided, further, That such compensation shall be increased or modified pursuant to the General Appropriations Act of the year: Provided, furthermore, That they shall receive other benefits that maybe provided for by law.

SEC. 10. Executive Office of the Board. - The Commissioner shall be the executive officer of the Board and shall conduct the examination given by the Board and shall designate any subordinate officer of the Commission to act as secretary and custodian of all records including all examination paper and minutes of the deliberations of the Boards.

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION**

SEC. 11. Examination Required. - All applicant for registration fro the practice of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, Registered Sanitarian or Master Plumber in the Philippines shall be required to pass their respective technical examinations as hereinafter provide, except as otherwise allowed under this Act.

SEC. 12. Registration and License Required. - A valid of registration and a valid professional license from the Commission are required before any person is allowed to practice sanitary and environmental engineering, as Sanitarian or Master Plumber in the Philippines except as otherwise allowed under this Act.

SEC. 13. Examination Fees. - All applicants for written examinations for the Professional Sanitary, Registered Sanitarian and Registered Master Plumber shall be subject to payment of fees prescribed by the Commission: provided, That ninety percent (90%) of the fees is to be treated as a special fund for the programs, projects and activities of the Commission and the remaining ten percent (10%) shall be set aside as a trust fund for the establishment and maintenance of the center for continuing education and research.

SEC. 14. Registration fees, License Fees and Fines. - All applicants for registration and license to practice shall be subject to payment of registration fees, license fees, and fines in case of violation of the pertinent rules and regulations for the amounts prescribed by the Board and approved by the Commission: Provided, That fifty percent (50%) shall be set up in a separate special fund for the supervisory and regulatory functions of the Board.

SEC. 15. Exemption from Examination and Registration. - Registration shall not be required of the following persons:

Foreign sanitary engineers or experts called in the Philippines Government for consultation for specific Sanitary and/or Environmental Engineering services as defined under this Act: Provided, That this practice shall be limited to such work: and Provided, further, that they do not engage in private practice at their own account as Sanitary and Environmental Engineers.

SEC. 16. Holding Examination. - Examination of candidates desiring to practice Sanitary and Environmental Engineering, Sanitarian and Master Plumbing in the Philippines shall be given in the City of Manila or any other regional centers that maybe designated by board, beginning the last Monday of February and August of each year, provided that such days do not fall on official holidays, otherwise the examination shall be held on the day next following.

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SEC. 17. Qualifications of Applicants for Sanitary and Environmental Engineering Examinations. - Any person applying for admission to the Sanitary and Environmental Engineering examination, as herein provided, shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board that, on or before the date of the examination, he possesses the following qualifications:

- 17.1 He is a citizen of the Philippines;
- 17.2 He is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- 17.3 He is of good reputation with good moral values;
- 17.4 He has not been finally convicted by the court of an offense involving moral turpitude; and
- 17.5 He is a holder of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Sanitary Engineering (BSEE) or Bachelor of Science in Sanitary and Environmental Engineering (BSSEnE) from a university, school, college, academy or institute duly constituted, recognized and accredited by the Philippine government.

SEC. 18. Qualification of Applicants for Registered Sanitarian. - Any person applying for admission to the Sanitarian examinations, as herein provided, shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board that, on or before the date of the examination, he possesses the following qualifications:

- 18.1 He is a citizen of the Philippines;
- 18.2 He is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- 18.3 He is of good moral reputation with high moral values;
- 18.4 He has not been finally convicted by the court of an offense involving moral turpitude;
- 18.5 He is in second year Bachelor of Science in Sanitary, Civil, Mechanical, Chemical or Electrical Engineering or second year bachelor of Science in the Natural Sciences;
- 18.6 He has at least two (2) units in basic microbiology, parasitology and environmental sanitation laws; and
- 18.7 He has at least six (6) weeks experience as apprentice Sanitarian under the supervision of Registered Sanitary and Environmental Engineer.

SEC. 19. Qualification of Applicants for Registered Master Plumbers.-Any person applying for admission to the master plumber examination, as herein provided, shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board that, on or before the date of the examination, he possesses the following qualifications:

- 19.1 He is a citizen of the Philippines.
- 19.2 He is at least twenty-one (21) years of age;
- 19.3 He is good moral reputation with high moral values;
- 19.4 He has not been finally convicted by the court of an offense involving moral turpitude;
- 19.5 He is at least a high school graduate;
- 19.6 He has at least five (5) years experience in actual plumbing work under the supervision of a registered master plumber.

SEC. 20. Scope of Examination. - Applicants for certifies of registration as Sanitary and Environmental Engineer, Sanitarian and Master Plumber.

20.1 Professional Sanitary and Environmental Engineer. - Mathematics, including algebra, plane and spherical trigonometry, analytic, descriptive and solid geometry, differential and integral calculus, rational and applied mechanics; hydraulics, topographic and hydrographic surveying; design and construction of wooden, masonry, reinforced concrete, and steel structures as flumes, water towers and drainage canals; hydrology, ecology, water and sewerage analysis, microbiology and bacteriology, chemistry, public health engineering, environmental impact assessment, pollution prevention and control, design and construction of sewer, storm drains, water purification plants, sewage treatment plants and plumbing engineering: Provided, however, that duly registered civil engineers shall be exempted from taking examinations in the following subjects: (1) Mathematics, including algebra, plane and spherical trigonometry, differential and integral calculus, rational and applied mechanics, (2) hydraulics; (3) topographic surveying; and (4) design and construction of wooden masonry, reinforces concrete and steel structures as flumes, water towers and drainage canals.

20.2 Registered Sanitarian: Arithmetic; Code on Sanitation and its implementing rules and regulations; Microbiology and Parasitology and Practical problems;

20.3 Registered Master Plumber - Plumbing arithmetic; Plumbing Code of the Philippines; Sanitation, Plumbing design and installation; Practical problems; and oral practical problems and experience.

SEC. 21. Report of Ratings. - The Board of Examiners for Sanitary and Environmental Engineering shall, within one hundred and twenty (120) days after the date of completion of the examination, report the ratings obtained by each candidate to the Commission.

SEC. 22. Reexamination. - An applicant who for the third time fails to pass the examination for the same grade shall not be allowed to take another until at least one year has elapsed after his last examination.

SEC. 23. Oath. - All successful candidates in the examination shall be required to take a professional oath before the Board or any government official authorized to administer oaths prior to entering upon the practice of sanitary engineer and master plumber.

SEC. 24. Issuance of Certificates of registration and Professional Licenses.-The registration of sanitary and environmental engineer, registered

sanitarian or registered master plumber commences from the date his name is entered in the roll of registrants or licenses for his profession or trade. Every registrant who has satisfactorily met all the requirements specified in this Act, upon payment of the registration fee, shall be issued a certificate of Sanitary and Environment Engineer, Registered Sanitarian or Registered Master Plumber that shows the full name of the registrant and with serial number, signed by the Commissioner and by the chairman and members of the Board, stamped with the official seal, as evidence that the person named therein is entitled to practice the profession or trade with all the rights and privileges appurtenant thereto. The certificate shall remain in full force and effect until withdrawn, suspended, or revoked in accordance with law. A professional license signed by the Commission and bearing the registration number and date of issuance thereof and the month of expiry or renew-ability shall likewise be issued to every registrant who has paid the annual registration fees for three (3) consecutive years. This license will serve as evidence that the license can lawfully practice his profession until the expiration of its validity.

SEC. 25. Integration of the Professional Organizations. - The sanitary and environmental engineering profession shall be integrated into one national organization which shall be recognized by the Board as the one integrated and accredited Registered Sanitarians' association and one integrated and accredited registered Master Plumbers' association. Every sanitary and environmental engineer, registered sanitarian and registered master plumber upon registration with the Board as such shall ipso facto, become a member of their respective integrated national organization. Those who have registered with the Board but are not members of the said organization at the time of the effectivity of this Act, shall be allowed to register as members of the said integrated organizations with three (3) years after the effectivity of this Act. Membership in the integrated organizations shall not be a bar to membership in other associations. The sanitary and environmental engineer, registered sanitarian and registered master plumber shall receive the benefits and privileges appurtenant to this listed membership in their respective duly integrated and accredited associations only upon payment of the required membership fees and dues.

SEC. 26. Seal and Use of Seal. - All sanitary and Environmental Engineers shall obtain their respective seal of such design as the Board shall authorize and direct: Provided, however, That the serial number of the certificate issued by the Board shall be included in the design of the sealed plans and specifications prepared by, or under the direct supervision of a registered sanitary and environmental engineer shall be stamped with the seal during the life of the registrants' certificate, and it shall be unlawful for any one to stamp or seal any document with said seal after the certificate of the registrant named therein has expired or has been revoked, unless said certificate shall have been renewed or reissued.

SEC. 27. Refusal to Issue Certificate. The Board of Sanitary engineering shall not issue a certificate of registration to any person convicted by the court of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude or to any person of immoral or dishonorable conduct or to any person of unsound mind. In the event of refusal to issue certificates for any reason, the Board shall give the applicant a written statement setting forth the reasons for such action, which statement shall be incorporated in records of the Board.

SEC. 28. Revocation of Certificates of Registration and Suspension from the Practice of Profession. - The Board shall be the power, upon proper notice and hearing, to revoke any certificate of registration of any registrant, to suspend

him from the practice of his profession or to reprimand him for any cause specified in the preceding section, or for the use of perpetration, or for gross negligence or incompetence or for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct; for violation of this Act, the rules and regulations and other policies of the Board and the Code of Professional Ethics. It shall be sufficient ground for the revocation of a certificate issued to a person under this Act, and his suspension from the practice of his profession for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct; if:

28.1 Being a professional Sanitary and Environmental Engineer, he has signed his seal on any plan, design, technical reports, valuation, estimate, specification or other similar document or work not prepared by him or not executed under his immediate supervision; to be in responsible charge of the construction, erection, installation or alteration, or of the performance of sanitary engineering service in connection with the manufacture, sale supply or distribution of any sanitary engineering works, projects or plant (as cited in article one, section two of this Act), either for himself or for others, unless he holds a valid certificate of registration as sanitary and environmental engineer.

28.2 Being Registered Master Plumber, he has installed or constructed works not complying with plans and specifications.

This decision of the Board shall be executory unless it is appealed by the respondent to the Commission within fifteen (15) days from the receipt of such decision. The Board's or Commission's decision is appealable by the respondent to the Court of Justice in accordance with the procedure provided under this Rules of Court.

Any person, firm, association may file charges in accordance with the provisions of this Section against any license, or the Board may, on its own initiative (motu proprio) investigate and/or take cognizance of acts and practices constituting cause for suspension or revocation of the certificate of registration by proper making them and shall be filed with the Board.

The rules and regulations of the Commission on administrative investigation shall govern the procedure and conduct of administrative investigation before the Board. The respondent shall have the right to speedy and public hearing and to confront and cross examine witnesses against him.

SEC. 29. Re-issuance of Revoked Certificates and Replacement of Lost Certificate, - Subject to approval of the Commission, the Board may, after the expiration of one (1) year from the date of revocation of a certificate in the same manner as application for an original one. It may exempt the applicant from the necessity of undergoing an examination. A new certificate of registration to replace any certificate that has been lost, destroyed or mutilated may be issued, subject to the discretion of the Board.

SEC. 30 Continuing Professional Education. - All Professional Sanitary and Environmental Engineers, Registered Sanitarians and Registered Master Plumbers shall be required to attend the Continuing Professional Educational Program of the Accredited Professional Organizations.

SEC. 31. Continuing Professional Education Committee. - Accredited Professional Education Committee which shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, by means of resolution, and shall be represented by one (1) member

the Academe, one (1) member from the practitioners and one (1) member of the board of examiners to evaluate the programs, providers and certificates of the Continuing Professional Education.

**SEC. 32. Continuing Professional Education Certificate.** - The Accredited Professional Organization shall issue Continuing Professional education Certificates, upon completion of activities set to promote and advance the practice. The certificates shall be evaluated by the Continuing Professional Education Committee and shall be a basis of renewal of the Professional license. Non-compliance with this provision shall mean suspension of the member from professional practice and shall only be allowed to practice upon completion of the requirement of the council.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **PROVISIONS RELATIVE TO THE PRACTICE OF SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING**

**SEC. 33. Field of Practice.** - The field of practice for sanitary and environmental engineers, registered sanitarian and registered master plumber shall be as follows:

33.1 A Sanitary and Environmental Engineer's field of practice includes the sole authority to sign and seal sanitary plans, etc., and to practice sanitary and environmental engineering in its full scope as defined in Article I of this Act.

33.2 A registered Sanitarian's field of practice includes inspection of facilities for the purpose of sanitation, and fields of work provided by the Department of Health, Environmental Health Division.

33.3. A registered master plumber's field of practice includes the installation, operation, maintenance and repair of plumbing system, equipment and devices, in residential, commercial and industrial building and the like: Provided, That if the installation of the plumbing fixture exceeds twenty (20) fixture units, the work shall be under the supervision of a professional sanitary engineer.

**SEC. 34. Prohibition in the Practice of Sanitary and Environment Engineering.** -No person shall:

34. 1 Practice or offer to practice sanitary and environmental engineering in the Philippines without having previously obtained a certificate of registration and a professional license from the Board of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering except as provided fro in Section 15 hereof;

34.2 Use, or attempt to use as his own, certificate of registration, professional license or the seal of another;

34.3 Give false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board or to any member thereof in obtaining a certificate of registration or professional license;

34.4 Falsely impersonate any registrant of like or different name;

34.5 attempt to use a revoked or suspended certificate of registration or professional license;

34.6 Use, in connection with his name or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that he is a registered sanitary engineer, or registered master plumber without holding a valid certificate or a valid license; and

34.7 Sign a document involving sanitary design, plan, technical specification, valuation and the like on behalf of a registered engineer.

SEC. 35. *Personnel required.* - Except as otherwise provided in this Act, every industrial plant or factory, commercial establishment, institutional building, or in any other installation where persons and properties require the service of a sanitary and environmental engineer, a duly registered sanitary engineer shall be employed for the purpose of ensuring safe operation and safeguard public welfare.

SEC. 36. *Preparation of Plans, Supervision of Installation, Application of the Philippine Sanitary and Environmental Engineering Code.* - It shall be unlawful for any person to authorize under this Act to prepare plans, designs, valuations or specifications for any sanitary equipment or system; and no installation thereof shall be undertaken unless the plans, designs, valuations and specifications have been prepared by or under the responsible charge of, and signed and sealed by a registered sanitary and environmental engineer; and a construction permit for the execution thereof is first secured; and unless the work is done in accordance with the Philippine Sanitary and Environmental Engineering Code and is executed under the responsible charge or supervision of a registered sanitary and environmental engineer, or registered master plumber as the case may be, and the routinary fiscal and ministerial requirements of the government agency, if any, exercising jurisdiction over the particular installation have been complied with.

SEC. 37. *Practice for Firms and Corporations.* - The practice of Sanitary and Environmental Engineering is a professional service admission to which is based on individual and personal qualifications. Practice in a corporation may be allowed but individual members shall be responsible for their own respective acts and shall be limited to restrictions of corporate practice.

Persons properly qualified and licensed Sanitary and Environmental Engineer may, among themselves, form a partnership or association and collectively render sanitary engineering service.

SEC. 38. *Certificate of Specialty.* - Certificates of specialty shall be issued by the Board, subject to the approval of the Commission, to Sanitary and Environmental Engineers who have been screened and recommended by the integrated and accredited sanitary and environmental engineering association. These are for specific fields in which the applicants have specialized knowledge, training and experience and have demonstrated their competence and expertise. The Board shall, subject to the approval of the Commission, and after consultation with the association, prescribe and issue the necessary guidelines for the issuance of these certificates.

SEC. 39. Foreign Reciprocity. - No foreign engineer shall be admitted to take a board examination, be given a certificate of registration, or be entitled to any of the rights and privileges under his Act unless the country of which he is a subject or citizen specifically permits Filipino engineers to practice within its territorial limits on the same basis as the subjects or citizens of such country.

SEC. 40. Enforcement of the Act by Officers of the Law. - It shall be the duty of all constituted officers of the law of the national government, or any provincial, city or municipal government or of any political subdivision thereof to prosecute any person violating the provisions of this Act. The Secretary of Justice or his assistant shall act as legal adviser of the Board and render such legal assistance as may be necessary in carrying out the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 41. Penalty Clause. - Any person who shall violate any provisions of this Act shall be guilty of misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) or imprisonment for a period not less than six (6) months nor more than five (5) years or both at the discretion of the court.

## ARTICLE V

### TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

SEC. 42. Terms of Office of the Board Members. - Upon approval of this Act, the incumbent chairman and two (2) members of the Board shall continue to serve until their terms of office expire or until their replacement have been appointed by the President and shall have been duly qualified.

SEC. 43. New Certificates of Registration and Professional Licenses. –

43.1 Sanitary Engineers with valid certificates of registration under Republic Act No. 1364 shall register within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act and be issued new certificates of registration and new licenses as registered Sanitary Engineers with the same serial numbers as their old ones to replace their original certificates and licenses.

43.2 Master Plumbers with valid certificates of registration under Republic Act No. 1378 shall register within two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act and be issued new certificates of registration and new licenses as registered Master Plumbers with the same serial numbers as their old ones to replace their original certificates and licenses.

Sec. 44. Repealing Clause. - Republic Act Nos. 1364 and 1378, existing provisions of provincial, city, or municipal ordinances or regulations pertaining to examinations for sanitary contractor, sanitarian, or master plumbers and all other laws, part of laws, orders, ordinances or regulations in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 45. Separability Clause. - if any part of this Act or application of such provision or circumstance is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected by such declaration.



SEC. 46. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall act effect thirty (30) days following its full publication in the Official Gazette or newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,