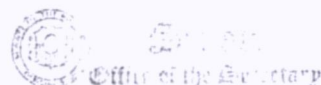


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



SENATE
S. B. No. 2037

'18 OCT -1 P3:56

Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

REC-10

AN ACT
DECLARING THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE
NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, STRENGTHENING IT FOR THE
PURPOSE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Through more than a century's worth of history, the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) has evolved into a premier state university—never ceasing in its efforts to provide responsive, quality, relevant yet affordable higher education to aspiring students, or more fondly called, "iskos at iskas ng bayan."

By imparting the knowledge and skills that will expand the livelihood opportunities available to our youth and improve their chances at fulfilling their hopes and aspirations for themselves and their loved ones, the PUP has contributed significantly to the nation's development.

The PUP has stood out, being among the first in the country to emphasize hands-on, skills-based education that respond to market demands and societal needs. Aside from pioneering two-year associate's degrees that bring students faster and closer to gainful employment, the PUP piloted ladderized technical courses, which the national government is currently working to ramp up across the country with the recent passage of the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF).

Moreover, the University has performed consistently well, producing toppers in the various licensure exams such as in engineering, architecture, and

information technology. In fact, the PUP College of Law has consistently registered 100-percent passing rates at the bar exams, a feat that even the country's most prestigious law schools find difficult to achieve. On top of this, the results of annual surveys conducted by Jobstreet.com show that employers in the Philippines consider graduates of PUP as their top choice for employment—underscoring that a PUP education is competitive and relevant to society's needs.

The fact that the country continues to strive to achieve broad-based, inclusive development only undergirds the imperative for more a work-ready, highly skilled workforce, who abide by principles of excellence, patriotism, and love for knowledge and the truth.

Thus, it is high time to strengthen the PUP and officially designate it through law as the "National Polytechnic University," which will cater to educating and developing the country's future industry leaders.

With this proposed measure, the State will strengthen PUP as an institution and equip it to better fulfill its mandate of providing technical and professional instruction—training students in the applied arts and sciences.

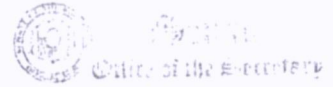
In so doing, the PUP will be able to propagate more widely the ideals for which its core values are based—social justice, peace, freedom, academic excellence, ethical and moral standards, cultural identity and respect for diversity, civil society engagement, and passion for learning.

Hence, the immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



SONNY ANGARA

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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AN ACT
DECLARING THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE
NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, STRENGTHENING IT FOR THE
PURPOSE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Revised Polytechnic*
2 *University of the Philippines (PUP) Charter.*"

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The Polytechnic University of the Philippines is
4 hereby declared as the National Polytechnic University. For this purpose, the
5 University shall be strengthened to guide and support other polytechnic state
6 universities and colleges in developing professional and technical programs.

7 Sec. 3. *The University System.* – The Polytechnic University of the Philippines,
8 hereinafter referred to as the University, shall be composed of its existing regular
9 campuses and those that may be created by law in the future.

10 Sec. 4. *Fiscal and Institutional Autonomy as the National Polytechnic*
11 *University.* – The University shall enjoy institutional autonomy and fiscal autonomy.
12 It shall be treated in a manner consistent with its institutional requirements by the
13 service-wide agencies in the exercise of their respective jurisdiction. Taking into
14 account national goals and priorities, it shall exclusively determine its teaching
15 research and extension thrusts, plans, policies, programs and standards. On the
16 basis of such determination, the University shall recommend its annual budget to the
17 President of the Republic of the Philippines and Congress. Appropriations for the

1 university shall not be reduced by the legislature below the amount appropriated for
2 the previous year and shall be automatically and regularly released to the University
3 immediately after approval.

4 Sec. 5. *Purposes of the University.* – The University shall primarily provide
5 higher occupational, technical and professional instruction and training in the fields
6 of engineering and architecture, applied sciences, accountancy, law, education,
7 business and management, and shall be strengthened as the country’s National
8 Polytechnic University. It shall also promote applied research, advance studies, and
9 progressive leadership in the stated fields. As a national polytechnic university, PUP
10 is committed in implementing programs designed to ameliorate the pressing social
11 need by rendering services to individuals and communities and empowering citizenry
12 for sustainable development.

13 Sec. 6. *General Mandate.* – The University shall offer undergraduate and
14 graduate programs in the field of accountancy, engineering and architecture, applied
15 sciences, law, education, business and management. In addition, the University shall
16 offer other programs in the polytechnic areas in light of its purpose as a national
17 polytechnic university.

18 Sec. 7. *The University Administration.* – The administration of the university
19 shall be vested in the President of the university who shall render full-time service.
20 He shall be appointed by the Board of Regents, upon the recommendation of a duly
21 constituted search committee. He shall have a term of six (6) years without an
22 eligibility for reappointment for another term: *Provided*, That this provision shall not
23 adversely affect the terms of the incumbents: *Provided, further*, That in cases no
24 appointment was made, the incumbent President shall continue to hold the office in
25 a hold-over capacity, such period shall in no case be more than ninety (90) days.

26 The President shall be assisted by a vice president for academic affairs who
27 shall be appointed by the Board upon the former's recommendation without
28 prejudice to the appointment of more than one vice president when so warranted.

29 In case of vacancy by reason of death, resignation, removal for cause or
30 incapacity of the president to perform the functions of his office, the Board of

1 Regent shall have the authority to designate an officer-in-charge pending the
2 appointment of a new president.

3 In case of vacancy in the office of the president as mentioned in the
4 immediately preceding paragraph, his successors shall hold office for the unexpired
5 term.

6 *Sec. 8. Powers and Duties of the President.* – Specifically, the President of the
7 University shall have the following powers and duties in addition to those normally
8 appertaining to the Office of the President of the University:

9 (a) He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the University. As such,
10 progressive and dynamic, ethical, and intellectual and administrative
11 leadership in the University is expected of him and vested in him;

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

13 (c) He shall have general supervision over all academic as well as business
14 and financial operations of the University;

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

21 (e) He shall appoint qualified persons to fill all vacancies and new positions
22 subject to the approval of the Board and make such other arrangements
23 to meet emergencies occurring between meetings of the Board so that the
24 work of the University shall not suffer:.

25 (f) He shall institute disciplinary action against any member of the University
26 personnel, faculty or non-faculty as well as any student of the University
27 whose actions adversely affect the general interest of the University;

28 (g) He shall decide appeals in controversies between ranking officials of the
29 University, his decisions being final and conclusive;

30 (h) He shall grant or deny sabbatical leaves and leaves of absence without
31 pay and/or extension of such leaves as well as extension of fellowships or

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

3 (i) He shall make ad-interim appointments;

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

7 (k) He shall grant permission for the use of buildings and premises of the
8 University for academic, professional and scientific conventions, for
9 student and related activities and to fix the fee thereof;

10 (l) He is authorized to join the execution of all contracts, deeds, and
11 instruments for the proper conduct of the business of the University and to
12 assign the same in behalf of the University;

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

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

19 *Sec. 9. The Board of Regents.* – The governing body of the University shall be
20 the Board of Regents of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, hereinafter
21 referred to as the "Board". I shall be chaired and co-chaired by the Chairperson of
22 the Commission on Higher Education and the President of the University,
23 respectively, and with the following as members:

24 (a) The Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Education, Arts, and Culture;

25 (b) The Chairperson of the House Committee on Higher and Technical
26 Education;

27 (c) The Director-General of the National Economic Development Authority;

28 (d) The President of the Alumni Association who will serve for a period of two
29 (2) years: *Provided*, That he is not in the employ of the University in any
30 capacity whatsoever;

- 1 (e) One Faculty Regent representing all teaching personnel, elected by the
2 said personnel in accordance with the rules and qualifications set out by
3 the same constituency, who shall serve for a period of two (2) years;
- 4 (f) One Student Regent, elected by the students in accordance with the rules
5 and qualifications set out by said constituency, who shall serve for a
6 period of one (1) year;
- 7 (g) One Staff Regent representing all non-teaching personnel, elected in
8 accordance with the rules and regulations set out by said constituency,
9 who shall serve for a period of two (2) years; and
- 10 (h) Two other Regents who are prominent citizens representing the private
11 sector who shall serve for a period of two (2) year and who shall be
12 appointed by the Board as recommended by the search committee
13 organized for the purpose.

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

17 In case of vacancy in the Board, except for the President of the University,
18 such vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided for the predecessor,
19 and such appointee shall hold the office only for the unexpired portion of the term.
20 In case of Regents representing a particular sector, their membership shall cease
21 upon suspension, separation, or recall. No person, however, who has succeeded and
22 served for more than three (3) years of the unexpired portion shall be eligible for
23 appointment as president.

24 *Sec. 10. Powers and Duties of the Governing Board.* – The Board, in addition
25 to its general powers of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to
26 the board of directors of a corporation under Section 36 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 68
27 or the Corporation Code of the Philippines and other existing laws, shall have the
28 following specific powers and duties;

- 29 (a) Enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to
30 carry to carry out the purposes and functions of the university;

1 (b) Receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided, for the support of
2 the university in the manner it may determine, in its discretion, to carry
3 out the purposes and functions of the university;

4 (c) Receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal
5 properties of all kinds, to administer and dispose the same when
6 necessary for the benefit of the university, subject to limitations, directions
7 and instructions of the donors, if any. Such donations shall be exempt
8 from all taxes and shall be considered as deductible items from the income
9 tax of the donor;

10 (d) Fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, such as but not
11 limited matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as their
12 respective boards may deem proper to impose after due consultations with
13 the involved sectors.

14 Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other income
15 generated by the university, shall constitute special trust funds and shall be
16 deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all interests shall
17 accrue therefrom shall part of the same fund for the use of the university.

18 Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary
19 notwithstanding, any income generated by the university from tuition fees and other
20 charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land grants, shall be
21 retained by the university, and may be disbursed by the Board of Regents for
22 instruction, research, extension, or other programs/projects of the university:
23 *Provided*, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific purposes for
24 which they are collected.

25 If, for reason of control, the university, shall not be able to pursue any project
26 for which funds have been appropriated and, allocated under its approved program
27 of expenditures, the Board of Regents may authorize the use of said funds for any
28 reasonable purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary and urgent for the
29 attainment of the objectives and goals of the universities: *Provided, further*, That a
30 portion of any amount of fees increased, however, shall inure to the benefit of the

- 1 College or Institute for the purpose of faculty, physical facilities and equipment
2 development;
- 3 (e) Authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machineries,
4 equipment and other facilities and the purchase and acquisition of real and
5 personal properties including necessary supplies, materials and equipment.
6 Purchases and other transactions entered into by the university through
7 the Board of Regents shall be exempt from all taxes and duties;
- 8 (f) Appoint, upon the recommendation of the president and vice presidents of
9 the University;
- 10 (g) Fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and
11 employees subject to the provisions of the revised compensation and
12 classification system and other pertinent budget and compensation laws
13 governing hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may
14 deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence under
15 such regulations as it may promulgate, any provisions of existing law to
16 the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in
17 accordance with the requirements of due process of law;
- 18 (h) Approve the curricula, institutional programs and rules of discipline drawn
19 by the administrative and academic councils as herein provided;
- 20 (i) Set polices on admission and graduation of students;
- 21 (j) Award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of outstanding
22 contribution in the field of education, public service, arts, science and
23 technology or in any field of specialization within the academic
24 competence of the university and to authorize the award of certificates of
25 completion of non-degree and non-traditional courses;
- 26 (k) Absorb non-chartered tertiary institutions within their respective provinces
27 in coordination with the CHED and in consultation with the Department of
28 Budget and Management, and to offer therein needed programs or
29 courses, to promote and carry out equal access to educational
30 opportunities mandated by the Constitution;

- 1 (l) Establish research and extension centers of the SUC where such will
2 promote the development of the latter;
- 3 (m) Establish chairs in the university and to provide fellowships for qualified
4 faculty members and scholarships to deserving students;
- 5 (n) Delegate any of its powers and duties provided for hereinabove to the
6 president and/or other officials of the university as it may deem
7 appropriate so as to expedite the administration of the affairs of the
8 university;
- 9 (o) Authorize an external management audit of the institution and to institute
10 reforms, including academic and structural changes, on the basis of the
11 audit results and recommendations;
- 12 (p) Collaborate with other governing boards of SUCs within the province or
13 the region, in coordination with the CHED and the Department of Budget
14 and Management, the restructuring of said colleges and universities to
15 become more efficient, relevant, productive, and competitive;
- 16 (q) Enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the profitable
17 development and management of the economic assets of the college or
18 institution, the proceeds from which to be used for the development and
19 strengthening of the university;
- 20 (r) Develop consortia and other forms of linkages with local government
21 units, institutions and agencies, both public and private, local and foreign,
22 in furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the institution;
- 23 (s) Develop academic arrangements for institution capability building with
24 appropriate institutions and agencies, public or private, local or foreign,
25 and to appoint experts/specialists as consultants, or visiting or exchange
26 professors, scholars, researchers, as the case may be;
- 27 (t) Set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of transmitting
28 knowledge such as the use of information technology, the dual system,
29 open learning, community laboratory, etc., for the promotion of greater
30 access to higher education that shall possess international character and

1 shall have international linkages and adopt internationally recognized
2 curricula;

3 (u) Establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative decision-
4 making and transparency within the institution;

5 (v) Create, organize, reorganize, merge or abolish colleges, institutes, and
6 other academic and administrative units of the University; and

7 (w) Privatize, where most advantageous to the institution, management
8 and non-academic services such as health, food, building or grounds or
9 property maintenance and similar such other objectives.

10 Sec. 11. *Quorum and Service of Processes.* – A quorum of the Board of
11 Regents shall consist of a majority of all members. All processes against the Board of
12 Regents shall be served on the President or Secretary thereof.”

13 Sec. 12. *Meetings.* – Regular meetings of the Board of Regents shall be held
14 every third Tuesday of the month. Special meetings of the Board may be called upon
15 by the Chairman or on request of the four (4) members of the Board. In both cases,
16 notice of such meetings shall be issued at least three (3) days prior to the meeting.”

17 Sec. 13. *University Officials.* – The officers of the administration of the
18 University shall be University President, the Executive Vice-President, the Vice-
19 President for Administration, the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, the Vice-
20 President for Student Affairs, the Vice-President for Research and Extension, the
21 Vice-President for Finance, the Vice-President for Branches and Campuses, the Vice-
22 President for Legal Affairs, the Secretary of the University and such other academic
23 and administrative officials whose positions and functions are deemed necessary to
24 assist in the effective and efficient administration of the University as may be
25 determined by the Board of Regents.

26 Sec. 14. *Heads of University Campuses.* – The Campus Directors shall serve
27 as heads or administrators of the University campuses and shall render full-time
28 service.

29 They shall be appointed/designated by the Board upon the recommendation
30 of the Search Committee and the President, subject to the guidelines, qualifications
31 and standards set by the Board: *Provided*, That the incumbent Campus Directors of

1 the existing campuses shall serve as Campus Directors of their respective campuses
2 upon the effectivity of this Act.

3 Sec. 15. *The Faculty.* – The teaching staff of each college shall constitute its
4 faculty. The College Faculty shall be presided over by a Dean. The Dean shall be
5 chosen by the President selected from a shortlist of three nominees submitted by a
6 special selection committee established for the purpose. If a Dean fails to complete
7 his/her term, the President shall appoint an acting Dean while a search process is in
8 progress. In no case shall the search and election of the next Dean be longer than
9 sixty (60) calendar days from the date when the vacancy occurs.”

10 Sec. 16. *Academic Freedom.* – The Polytechnic University of the Philippines
11 as the National Polytechnic University shall have the right and responsibility to
12 exercise academic freedom.

13 Sec. 17. *Land Grants and Other Real Properties of the University.* –

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

21 (b) Such parcels of land ceded by law, decree or presidential issuance to the
22 Polytechnic University of the Philippines are hereby declared to be reserved for the
23 purposes intended. The absolute ownership of the national polytechnic university
24 over these landholdings, including those covered by original and transfer certificates
25 of title in the name of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines and their future
26 derivatives, is hereby confirmed. Where the issuance of proper certificates of title is
27 yet pending for these landholdings, the appropriate government office shall expedite
28 the issuance thereof within six months from the date of effectivity of this
29 Act: *Provided*, That all registration requirements necessary for the issuance of the
30 said titles have been submitted and complied with;

1 (c) The Board may plan, design, approve and/or cause the implementation of
2 land leases: *Provided*, That such mechanisms and arrangements shall sustain and
3 protect the environment in accordance with law, and be exclusive of the academic
4 core zone of the campuses of the Polytechnic University of the
5 Philippines: *Provided, further*, That such mechanisms and arrangements shall not
6 conflict with the academic mission of the national polytechnic university;

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

10 (e) The Board may approve the implementation of joint ventures: *Provided*,
11 That in the event real properties of the national polytechnic university are involved,
12 only the income derived by the University from the use of the real properties shall be
13 the subject of its participation or obligation in the joint ventures: *Provided, further*,
14 That no joint venture shall result in the alienation of the real properties of the
15 national polytechnic university; and

16 (f) Any plan to generate revenues and other sources from land grants and
17 other real properties entrusted to the national polytechnic university shall be
18 consistent with the academic mission and orientation of the national polytechnic
19 university as well as protect it from undue influence and control of commercial
20 interests: *Provided*, That such programs, projects or mechanisms shall be approved
21 by the Board subject to a transparent and democratic process of consultation with
22 the constituents of the national polytechnic university: *Provided, further*, That funds
23 generated from such programs, projects or mechanisms shall not be meant to
24 replace, in part or in whole, the annual appropriations provided by the national
25 government to the national polytechnic university."

26 Sec. 18. *Safeguards on Assets Disposition.* – The preservation of the value of
27 the assets of the national polytechnic university shall be of primordial consideration.

28 The sale of any existing real property of the national polytechnic university
29 shall be prohibited: *Provided*, That the Board may alienate real property donated
30 after the effectivity of this Act if the terms of the donation specifically allow it.

1 Notwithstanding the provision of this Act or any other law to the contrary, the
2 lease of more than five (5) years of the assets of the national polytechnic university
3 and any transaction referred to in Section 22 shall be subject to the following
4 conditions and procedures:

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

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

13 (c) The transactions shall be subject to competitive and public bidding as
14 provided under Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise known as the
15 "Government Procurement Reform Act"; and

16 (d) If the contract or transaction involves an amount more than Fifty Million
17 Pesos (P50,000,000.00), it shall be approved by three-fourths (3/4) of all
18 the members of the Board: *Provided*, That the splitting of contracts, which
19 is by breaking up a contract into smaller quantities or amounts or dividing
20 contract implementation into artificial or arbitrary phases or subcontracts
21 for the purpose of circumventing this provision, shall not be allowed.

22 Sec. 19. *Tax Exemptions.* – The provisions of any general or special law to the
23 contrary notwithstanding:

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

27 (b) Gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds shall be
28 exempt from the donor's tax and the same shall be considered as
29 allowable deductions from the gross income of the donor, in accordance
30 with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as
31 amended: *Provided*, That the allowable deductions shall be equivalent to

1 one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the value of such donation. Valuation
2 of assistance other than money shall be based on the acquisition cost of
3 the property. Such valuation shall take into consideration the depreciated
4 value of property in case said property has been used;

5 (c) Importation of economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical,
6 historical, legal and cultural books, supplies and materials duly certified by
7 the Board, including scientific and educational computer and software
8 equipment, shall be exempt from customs duties;

9 (d) The University shall only pay zero percent (0%) value-added tax for all
10 transactions subject to this tax; and

11 (e) All academic awards shall be exempt from taxes.

12 *Sec. 20. Rules of Construction.* – No statutory or other issuances shall
13 diminish the powers, rights, privileges and benefits accorded to the national
14 polytechnic university under this Act or enjoyed at present, by it under other
15 issuances not otherwise modified or repealed under this Act, unless subsequent
16 legislation expressly provides for their repeal, amendment or modification. Any case
17 of doubt in the interpretation of any of the provisions of this Charter shall be
18 resolved in favor of the academic freedom and fiscal autonomy of the Polytechnic
19 University of the Philippines.

20 *Sec. 21. Appropriations.* – In addition to the amount already appropriated for
21 the Polytechnic University of the Philippines for the current fiscal year, there is
22 hereby appropriated an initial sum of Three Billion Pesos (P3,000,000,000.00) from
23 any amount available in the Treasury of the Philippines for the purpose of carrying
24 out the implementation of this Act. Further, an additional sum of Fifty Million Pesos
25 (P50,000,000.00) shall be appropriated separate and above the said initial funding
26 for each fiscal year for the first three years of the implementation of this Act.

27 *Sec. 22. Separability Clause.* – Should any provision herein be declared
28 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this
29 Act.

30 *Sec. 23. Repealing Clause.* – Presidential Decree No. 1341, Republic Act No.
31 8292, as amended, and all laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, and other

1 issuances or parts thereof that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
2 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

3 Sec. 24. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
4 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,