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TWELFTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Second Regular Session

HECEIVED	6Y:

SENATE

€7 COMMITTEE REPORT NO. ____

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws and the Committee on Finance or Try 2002.

2248 Senate Bill No. ___ __, prepared by the Committees.

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 182, 1477 and 1690.

Sponsors: Senators Angara and Osmeña (J.)

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws, as the principal committee, and the Committee on Finance, as secondary committee, to which were referred -

Senate Bill No.182, introduced by Senator Osmeña III, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND REGULATION OF THE PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 1477, introduced by Senator Jaworski, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND REGULATION OF THE PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 1690, introduced by Senator Legarda Leviste, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND REGULATION OF THE PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No. 2248, prepared by the Committees, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND REGULATION OF THE PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 182, 1477 and 1690 with Senators Osmeña III, Jaworski, Legarda Leviste, Angara, and Osmeña(J.), and the members of the committees as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted.

IOHY HENRY R. OSMEÑA

Chairman, Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Chairman. Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws Member, Committee on Finance

Members

VIÇENTE C. SOT/TO III

Vice Chairman

Committee on Constitutional Amendments,

Revision of Codes and Laws,

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Member, Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Member, Committee on Finance

GREGORIO B. HONASAN

Member, Committee on Finance

ΓERESA AQUINÓ-ORETA

Member, Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws, Member, Committee on Finance

M. LACSON ommittee on Finance

SERGIO OSMEÑA III Member, Committee on Finance

COMMITTEE REPORT on the Government Procurement Reform Bill

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JOKER P. ARROYO

Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws Committee on Finance

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LOREN LEGARDA LEVISTE

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Minority Leader

HON. FRANKLIN M. DRILON

President Senate of the Philippines Pasay City

SENATE SPRICE OF THE SECRETARY

TWELFTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

'02 JUL 19 P4:02

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE

S. No. 2248

Prepared by the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws and Committee on Finance with Senators Osmeña III, Jaworski, Legarda Leviste, Angara, and Osmeña (J.) and members of the Committees, as authors

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION, STANDARDIZATION AND REGULATION OF THE PROCUREMENT ACTIVITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

ARTICLE I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Government

Procurement Reform Act of 2002."

activities of the government.

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Sec. 2. Declaration Of Principles. -

It is the declared policy of the State to promote the ideals of good governance in all its branches, departments, agencies, subdivisions, and instrumentalities, including government-owned and controlled corporations, and local government units. Towards this end, the State shall establish a system that ensures transparency, competitiveness, efficiency, accountability, impartiality, equity, and adaptability to modern technology in all procurement

Sec. 3. Scope and Application. – This Act shall apply to the Procurement of Infrastructure Projects, Goods, and Consulting Services by all branches and instrumentalities of government, its departments, offices and agencies, including government-owned or -controlled corporations and local government units,

subject to any treaty or international or executive agreement affecting the subject matter of this Act to which the Philippine government is a signatory.

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- Sec. 4. *Definition of Terms.* For purposes of this Act, the following terms or words and phrases shall mean or be understood as follows:
- Approved Budget for the Contract refers to the budget for the a) 5 contract duly approved by the Head of the Procuring Entity, as provided for in 6 the General Appropriations Act and/or continuing appropriations, in the case of 7 National Government Agencies; the Corporate Budget for the contract approved 8 by the governing Boards, in the case of Government-Owned and Controlled 9 Corporations, Government Financial Institutions and State-Owned Universities 10 and Colleges; and the Budget for the contract approved by the respective 11 Sanggunian, in the case of Local Government Units. 12
 - b) BAC -shall refer to the Bids and Awards Committee established in accordance with Article V of this Act.
- c) Bidding Documents refer to documents issued by the Procuring

 Entity as the basis for Bids, furnishing all information necessary for a prospective

 bidder to prepare a bid for the Goods, Infrastructure Projects, and Consulting

 Services to be provided.
- d) **Bid** refers to a signed offer or proposal submitted by a supplier, contractor or consultant in compliance with the requirements set forth in the Bidding Documents.
 - e) Competitive Bidding refers to a method of procurement which is open to participation by any interested party and which consists of the following processes: advertisement, pre-bid conference, eligibility screening of prospective bidders, receipt and opening of bids, evaluation of bids, post-qualification, and award of contract, the specific requirements and mechanics of which shall be defined in the IRR to be promulgated under this Act.

f) Consulting Services - refer to services for Infrastructure Projects and other types of projects or activities of the Government requiring adequate external technical and professional expertise that are beyond the capability and/or capacity of the government to undertake such as, but not limited to: (i) advisory and review services; (ii) pre-investment or feasibility studies; (iii) design; (iv) construction supervision; (v) management and related services; and (vi) other technical services or special studies.

- g) Goods refer to items, supplies, materials and general support services which need to be procured in the pursuit of any government undertaking, project, or activity, such as equipment, furniture, stationery, construction materials, personal property of any kind, non-personal or contractual services to include among others, repair and maintenance of equipment and furniture, trucking, hauling, janitorial, security, and related or analogous services. These shall exclude Consulting Services, real estate and Infrastructure Projects.
- 16 h) *GPPB* refers to the Government Procurement Policy Board
 17 established in accordance with Article XVI of this Act.
 - i) Infrastructure Projects Shall include the construction, improvement, rehabilitation, demolition, repair, restoration or maintenance of roads and bridges, railways, airports, seaports, communication facilities, civil works components of information technology projects, irrigation, flood control and drainage, water supply, sanitation and sewerage systems, shore protection, energy/power and electrification facilities, national buildings, school buildings, hospital buildings, and other related construction projects of the government.
 - j) IRR refer to the implementing rules and regulations to be promulgated in accordance with Section 65 this Act.
- 27 k) *Procurement* refers to the acquisition of Goods, Consulting
 28 Services, and the contracting for Infrastructure Projects by the Procuring Entity.

- Procurement shall also include the lease of goods and real properties. With
- respect to real property, its procurement shall be governed by the provisions of
- 3 Republic Act No. 8974, entitled "An Act to Facilitate the Acquisition of Right-of-
- 4 Way Site or Location for National Government Infrastructure Projects and for
- 5 Other Purposes, and other applicable laws, rules and regulations.
- 6 l) Procuring Entity refers to any branch, department, office,
- 7 agency, or instrumentality of the government, including government-owned or -
- 8 controlled corporation, and local government units procuring Goods,
- 9 Infrastructure Projects and Consulting Services.
- m) Head of the Procuring Entity refers to the head of a
- 11 branch, department, office, agency, or instrumentality of the government,
- including government-owned and controlled corporation, as well as local
- 13 government units: *Provided*, That in a department, office or agency where the
- 14 procurement is decentralized, the Head of each decentralized unit shall be
- considered as the Head of the Procuring Entity subject to the limitations and
- authority delegated by the Head of the department, office or agency.
- Sec. 5. Standardization of Procurement Process and Forms. Pursuant to
- the objective of instituting a systematized Procurement process in government,
- and in order to ensure transparency, the Procurement process, including the
- forms to be used, shall, as far as practicable, be standardized.
- 21 For this purpose, the GPPB shall pursue the development of generic
- 22 procurement manuals and standard bidding forms, the use of which once issued
- shall be mandatory upon all Procuring Entities.
- 24 ARTICLE II
- 25 **PROCUREMENT PLANNING**
- Sec. 6. Annual Procurement Plan. No government Procurement
- 27 shall be undertaken unless it is in accordance with the approved Annual
- Procurement Plan of the Procuring Entity. The Annual Procurement Plan shall

be approved by the Head of the Procuring Entity and must be consistent with its

duly approved yearly budget. The Annual Procurement Plan shall be

formulated and revised only in accordance with the guidelines set forth in the

IRR. In the case of Infrastructure Projects, the Plan shall include engineering

5 design and acquisition of right-of-way.

ARTICLE III

PROCUREMENT BY ELECTRONIC MEANS

Sec. 7. The Procurement By Electronic Means. - To promote transparency and efficiency, information and communications technology shall be utilized in the conduct of procurement procedures. Accordingly, there shall be a single portal that shall serve as the primary source of information on all government procurement. The Government Electronic Procurement Service (G-EPS) shall provide the said portal. Further, the GPPB is authorized to approve changes in the procurement process to adapt to improvements in modern technology, provided that such modifications are consistent with the provisions of Section 2 of this Act.

To take advantage of the significant built-in efficiencies of the G-EPS and the volume discounts inherent in bulk purchasing, all procuring entities shall utilize the G- EPS for the procurement of common supplies in accordance with the rules and procedures to be established by the GPPB. With regards to the procurement of non-common use items, infrastructure projects and consulting services, agencies may hire service providers to undertake their electronic procurement provided these service providers meet the minimum requirements set by the GPPB.

Sec. 8. Security, Integrity and Confidentiality. - The G-EPS shall ensure the security, integrity and confidentiality of documents submitted through the system. It shall include a feature that provides for an audit trail for on-line

transactions and allow the Commissions on Audit to verify the security and integrity of the systems at any time.

3 ARTICLE IV

COMPETITIVE BIDDING

Sec. 9. Competitive Bidding. - Subject to the provisions of Article XIII, the
Procurement of Goods, Infrastructure Projects and Consulting Services shall be
done through Competitive Bidding,

ARTICLE V

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Sec. 10. The BAC and its Functions. - Except as otherwise allowed in this section, each Procuring Entity shall establish a single BAC to handle its procurement. The Head of the procuring entity may establish separate BACs whenever in his judgment the number and complexity of the items to be procured so warrant.

Similarly, separate BACs for decentralized and lower level offices may also be established as may be deemed fit by the Head of the Procuring Entity.

The BAC shall have the following functions: advertise and/or post the invitation to bid, conduct pre-procurement and pre-bid conferences, determine the eligibility of prospective bidders, receive bids, conduct the evaluation of bids, undertake post-qualification proceedings, recommend award of contracts to the Head of the Procuring Entity or his duly authorized representative, recommend the imposition of sanctions in accordance with Article XIX, and perform such other related functions as may be necessary, including the creation of a Technical Working Group from a pool of technical, financial and/or legal experts to assist in the procurement process.

In proper cases, the BAC shall also recommend to the Head of the Procuring Entity the use of Alternative Methods of Procurement as provided for in Article XIII hereof.

1 3 5	Sec. 11. <i>Membership in the BAC.</i> – The BAC shall have at least five (5
2	members, but not more than seven (7) and composed of the following:
3	a. National government branches, departments, agencies, offices and
4	instrumentalities, including Government-owned and controlled corporations
5	government Financial Institutions and State Universities and Colleges:
6	Regular Members:
7	1. Chairman, who is at least a third ranking permanent
8	official of the Procuring Entity;
9	2. An officer with knowledge, experience and expertise
10	in procurement who, to the extent possible, represents
11	the legal or administrative area of the Procuring
12	Entity;
13	3. An officer with knowledge, experience and expertise
14	in procurement who, to the extent possible, represents
15	the finance area of the Procuring Entity;
16	4. An officer with knowledge, experience and expertise
17	in procurement who, to the extent possible, represents
18	the technical area of the Procuring Entity; and,
19	5. A representative from the end user unit (designated
20	on a contract to contract basis) who has knowledge of
21	procurement laws and procedures.
22	The members of the BAC shall be designated by the Head of the Procuring
23	Entity or their respective governing Boards.
24	b. Local Government Units:
25	The BAC shall be composed of one (1) representative each from the
26	regular offices under the Office of the Chief Executive such as, but not limited to
27	the following: Budget Office, Legal Office, Engineering Office, General Services

Office, Administrative Office. The end user office shall always be represented in the BAC.

The members shall elect from among themselves who shall act as the Chairman.

In no case shall the approving authority be a member of the BAC.

Unless sooner removed for a cause, the members of the BAC shall have a fixed term of one (1) year reckoned from the date of appointment, renewable at the discretion of the Head of the Procuring Entity. In case of resignation, retirement, separation, transfer, re-assignment, removal, the replacement shall serve only for the unexpired term: *Provided*, That in case of leave or suspension, the replacement shall serve only for the duration of the leave or suspension. For justifiable causes, a member shall be suspended or removed by the Head of the Procuring Entity.

Sec. 12. Observers. - To enhance the transparency of the process, the BAC shall, in all stages of the procurement process, invite at least two (2) observers to sit in its proceedings, one (1) from a duly recognized private group in a sector or discipline relevant to the procurement at hand, and the other from a non-government organization: *Provided, however*, That they do not have any direct or indirect interest in the contract to be bid out. The observers should be duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and should meet the criteria for observers as set forth in the IRR.

Sec. 13. BAC Secretariat. - To assist the BAC in the conduct of its functions, the Head of the Procuring Entity shall create a Secretariat that will serve as the main support unit of the BAC. The Head of the Procuring Entity may also designate an existing organic office within the agency to serve as the Secretariat.

Sec. 14. Honoraria of BAC Members. -The Procuring Entity may grant payment of honoraria to the BAC members in an amount not to exceed twenty

five percent (25%) of their respective basic monthly salary subject to availability of funds. For this purpose, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall promulgate the necessary guidelines. 3 Sec. 15. Professionalization of BAC, BAC Secretariat and Technical 4 5 Working Group Members. - The GPPB shall establish a sustained training program for developing the capacity of the BACs, BAC Secretariats and 6 Technical Working Groups of Procuring Entities, and professionalized the same. 7 8 **ARTICLE VI** PREPARATION OF BIDDING DOCUMENTS 9 Sec. 16. Form and Contents of Bidding Documents. - The Bidding 10 11 Documents shall be prepared by the Procuring Entity following the standard forms and manuals prescribed by the GPPB. The Bidding Documents shall 12 include the following: 13 Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) 14 15 b) Instructions to Bidders, including criteria for eligibility, bid evaluation and post-qualification, as well as the date, time 16 and place of the pre-bid Conference (where applicable), 17 submission of bids and opening of bids; 18 Terms of Reference; c) 19 d) Eligibility Requirements; 20 Plans and Technical Specifications; e) 21 Form of Bid, Price Form, and List of Goods or Bill of f) 22

Quantities;

and,

Delivery Time or Completion Schedule;

Form and Amount of Performance Security and Warranty;

Form and Amount of Bid Security;

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- j) Form of Contract, and General and Special Conditions of Contract.
- 3 The Procuring Entity may require additional documents requirements or
- 4 specifications necessary to complete the information required for the bidders to
- 5 prepare and submit their respective bids.
- 6 Sec. 17. Reference to Brand Names. Specifications for the Procurement of
- 7 Goods shall be based on relevant characteristics and/or performance
- 8 requirements. Reference to brand names shall not be allowed.
- 9 Sec. 18. Access to Information. In all stages of the preparation of the
- 10 Bidding Documents, the Procuring Entity shall ensure equal access to
- information. Prior to their official release, no aspect of the Bidding Documents
- shall be divulged or released to any prospective bidder or person having direct
- or indirect interest in the project to be procured.

14 ARTICLE VII

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15 **INVITATION TO BID**

Sec. 19. Pre-Procurement Conference. - Prior to the issuance of the Invitation to Bid, the BAC is mandated to hold a pre-procurement conference on each and every procurement, except those contracts below a certain level or

amount specified in the IRR, in which case, the holding of the same is optional.

The pre-procurement conference shall assess the readiness of the

- 21 procurement in terms of confirming the certification of availability of funds, as
- 22 well as reviewing all relevant documents in relation to their adherence to law.
- 23 This shall be attended by the BAC, the unit or officials who prepared the bidding
- 24 documents and the draft Invitation to Bid, as well as consultants hired by the
- 25 agency concerned and the representative of the end-user.
- Sec. 20. Advertising and Contents of the Invitation to Bid. In line with
- 27 the principle of transparency and competitiveness, all Invitations to Bid for
- contracts under competitive bidding shall be advertised by the Procuring Entity
- in such manner and for such length of time as may be necessary under the

circumstances, in order to ensure the widest possible dissemination thereof, such

- as, but not limited to, posting in the Procuring Entity's premises, in newspapers
- of general and nationwide circulation, the G-EPS and the website of the
- Procuring Entity, if available. The details and mechanics of implementation shall
- be provided in the IRR to be promulgated under this Act.
- The Invitation to Bid shall contain, among others: 6
- 7 a) A brief description of the subject matter of the Procurement;
 - b) A general statement on the criteria to be used by the Procuring Entity for the eligibility check, the short listing of prospective bidders, in the case of the Procurement of Consulting Services, the examination and evaluation of Bids, and post-qualification;
 - c) The date, time and place of the deadline for the submission and receipt of the eligibility requirements, the pre-bid conference if any, the submission and receipt of bids, and the opening of bids;
 - d) The Approved Budget for the Contract to be bid;
- e) The source of funds; 16

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- 17 f) The period of availability of the Bidding Documents, and the place where these may be secured; 18
 - g) The contract duration; and,
- h) Such other necessary information deemed relevant by the Procuring 21 Entity.

ARTICLE VIII 22

PRE-BID CONFERENCE 23

Sec. 21. Pre-Bid Conferences. - At least one pre-bid conference shall be 24 25 conducted for Infrastructure Projects with an approved budget of Five (5) Million Pesos and above, and for Procurement of Goods and Consulting Services with an 26 Approved Budget of One (1) Million Pesos and above. For Infrastructure Projects costing less than Five (5) Million Pesos and for Procurement contracts of Goods 28

and Consulting Services, costing less than One (1) Million Pesos, pre-bid conferences may be conducted at the option of the BAC.

The aforementioned amounts shall be subject to a periodic review by the GPPB. For this purpose, the GPPB is authorized to increase or decrease the threshold level to keep abreast with the changes in economic conditions:

Provided, That any modification shall not be oftener than once in every two (2) years.

The Pre-bid conference(s) shall be held at least fifteen (15) calendar days before the deadline for receipt of bids. The proceedings shall be duly recorded and the minutes thereof made available to all prospective bidders, subject to the payment of reasonable fee to cover cost.

12 ARTICLE IX

RECEIPT AND OPENING OF BIDS

Sec. 22. Eligibility Requirements for Goods and Infrastructure Projects. The eligibility of prospective bidders for the Procurement of Goods and
Infrastructure Projects shall be determined by their compliance, within the
period set forth in the Invitation to Bid, with the eligibility requirements
prescribed in the Bidding Documents. The prospective bidder shall certify under
oath as to the correctness of the statements made and the completeness and
authenticity of the documents submitted.

Sec. 23. Eligibility Requirements and Short Listing for Consulting Services. - The eligibility of prospective bidders for the Procurement of Consulting Services shall be determined by their compliance with the eligibility requirements prescribed for the Competitive Bidding concerned, within the period stated in the Invitation to Bid. The prospective bidder shall certify under oath as to the correctness of the statements made, and the completeness and authenticity of the documents submitted.

The eligible prospective bidders shall then be evaluated using numerical ratings on the basis of the short listing requirements prescribed for the Competitive Bidding concerned, within the period stated in the Invitation to Bid to determine the short list of bidders whose bids shall be considered for evaluation.

Sec. 24. *Receipt of Bids.* Only those Bids received by the BAC on the date, time, and place specified in the Invitation to Bid shall be considered. Bids submitted after the deadline shall not be accepted.

Sec. 25. Modification and Withdrawal of Bids. - A bidder may be allowed to modify his Bid, provided that this is done only once and before the deadline for the receipt of Bids. The modification shall be submitted in a sealed envelope duly attached to his original Bid and marked as "Modification." A bidder is allowed to withdraw his Bid: *Provided*, That this is done at least five (5) calendar days before the deadline for the receipt of Bids: *Provided*, *further*, That he shall submit a letter of withdrawal and non-participation to the BAC. In such case, he shall no longer be allowed to submit another Bid for the same contract either directly or indirectly.

Sec. 26. Bid Security. - All Bids shall be accompanied by a Bid security, which shall serve as a guarantee that, after receipt of the Notice of Award, the winning bidder shall enter into contract with the Procuring Entity within the stipulated time and furnish the required performance security. The specific amounts and allowable forms of the Bid security shall be prescribed in the IRR.

Sec. 27. *Bid Validity.* - Bids and Bid securities shall be valid for such reasonable period of time indicated in the Bidding Documents. The duration for each undertaking shall take into account the time to be involved in the process of Bid evaluation and award of contract.

Sec. 28. *Bid Opening.* - The BAC shall publicly open all Bids at the time, date, and place specified in the Bidding Documents.

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ARTICLE X

BID EVALUATION

Sec. 29. Preliminary Examination of Bids. – Prior to a Bid evaluation of all
Procurement, the BAC shall first examine, using a "pass or fail" criterion, the
technical components of the Bids submitted to determine whether all the
required documents are present. For each required document, a bidder is rated
"pass", if the document is included in its Bid, and "fail", if otherwise. Only Bids
that are found to contain all the Bid requirements and rated "passed" shall be
considered for evaluation.

Sec. 30. Ceiling for Bid Prices. - The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) shall be the upper limit or ceiling for the Bid prices. Bid prices that exceed this ceiling shall be disqualified outright from further participating in the bidding. There shall be no lower limit to the amount of the award.

Sec. 31. Bid Evaluation and Determination of the Lowest Calculated Bid for Goods and Infrastructure Projects. - For purposes of comparison, the Bid prices of bidders for the Procurement of Goods and Infrastructure Projects who passed the preliminary examination shall be evaluated and corrected for minor deviations, such as computational errors and omissions, in accordance with the Bidding Documents. Any corrections for minor deviations shall be calculated in monetary terms and the corrected prices shall be referred to as calculated prices. The Bids shall be ranked from lowest to highest in terms of their corresponding calculated prices. The Bid with the lowest calculated price shall be the "Lowest Calculated Bid".

Sec. 32. Bid Evaluation of Short Listed Bidders for Consulting Services.
For the Procurement of Consulting Services, the Bids of the short listed bidders shall be evaluated and ranked using numerical ratings in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated in the Bidding Documents, which shall include factors such as, but not limited to, experience, performance, quality of personnel, price

and methodology. The Bids shall be ranked from highest to lowest in terms of their corresponding calculated ratings. The Bid with the highest calculated 3 rating shall be the "Highest Rated Bid." After approval by the Head of the Procuring Entity of the Highest Rated Bid, the BAC shall invite the bidder 5 concerned for negotiation and/or clarification on the following items: financial proposal submitted by the bidder, terms of reference, scope of services, methodology and work program, personnel to be assigned to the job, services/facilities/data to be provided by the Procuring Entity concerned, and 9 provisions of the contract. When negotiations with the first-in-rank bidder fails, 10 the financial proposal of the second rank bidder shall be opened for negotiations: Provided, That the amount indicated in the financial envelope shall be made as 11 the basis for negotiations and the total contract amount shall not exceed the 12 amount indicated in the envelope and the Approved Budget for the Contract. 13 Whenever necessary, the same process shall be repeated until the bid is awarded 14 to the winning bidder. 15

ARTICLE XI

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POSTQUALIFICATION

Sec. 33. Objective and Process of Post-qualification. - Post-qualification is the stage where the bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid, in the case of Goods and Infrastructure or the Highest Rated Bid, in the case of Procurement of Consulting Services undergoes verification and validation whether he has passed all the requirements and conditions as specified in the Bidding Documents.

If the bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid or Highest Rated Bid passes all the criteria for post-qualification, his Bid shall be considered the "Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid," in the case of Goods and Infrastructure or the "Highest Rated Responsive Bid," in the case of Consulting Services. However, if a bidder fails to meet any of the requirements or conditions, he shall be "post-disqualified" and the BAC shall conduct the post-qualification on the bidder with

the second Lowest Calculated Bid or Highest Rated Bid. If the bidder with the

- 2 second Lowest Calculated Bid or Highest Rated Bid is post-disqualified, the same
- 3 procedure shall be repeated until the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or
- 4 Highest Rated Responsive Bid is finally determined.
- In all cases, the contract shall be awarded only to the bidder with the
- 6 Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or Highest Rated Responsive Bid.
- Sec. 34. Failure of Bidding. There shall be a failure of bidding when: a)
- 8 no prospective bidder applies for eligibility check; b) no bids are received; c) all
- 9 prospective bidders are declared ineligible or are disqualified from participating
- in the competitive bidding; or, d) all bids fail to comply with all the Bid
- requirements or fail post-qualification. In this event, the Procuring Entity shall
- re-bid the contract either under the original or revised terms of reference. In the
- latter case, there shall be re-advertisement as required under Article VII.
- Sec. 35. Single Calculated/Rated and Responsive Bid Submission. A
- single calculated/rated and responsive bid shall be considered for award if it
- falls under any of the following circumstances:
- a) If after advertisement, only one prospective bidder submits a Letter of
- Intent and/or applies for eligibility check, and meets the eligibility
- requirements or criteria, after which it submits a bid, which is found to
- 20 be responsive to the bidding requirements;

- b) If after the advertisement, more than one prospective bidder applies
- for eligibility check, but only one bidder meets the eligibility
- requirements or criteria, after which it submits a bid which is found to
- be responsive to the bidding requirements; or
- c) If after the eligibility check, more than one bidder meets the eligibility
- requirements, but only one bidder submits a bid, and its bid is found
- to be responsive to the bidding requirements.

In all instances, the Procuring Entity shall ensure that the Approved Budget for the Contract reflects the most advantageous prevailing price for the Government.

ARTICLE XII

AWARD, IMPLEMENTATION AND

TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT

Sec. 36. Notice and Execution of Award. – Within a period not exceeding fifteen (15) calendar days from the determination and declaration by the BAC of the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or Highest Rated Responsive Bid, and the recommendation of the award, the Head of the Procuring Entity or his duly authorized representative shall approve or disapprove the said recommendation. In case of approval, the Head of the Procuring Entity or his duly authorized representative shall immediately issue the Notice of Award to the bidder with the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or Highest Rated Responsive Bid.

Within ten (10) calendar days from receipt of the Notice of Award, the winning bidder shall formally enter into contract with the Procuring Entity. When further approval of the signed authority is required, the approving authority for the contract shall be given a maximum of twenty (20) calendar days to approve or disapprove it. If the aforementioned approving authority or his duly authorized representative fails to take any action on the contract within the period specified in the preceding paragraph, the contract concerned shall be deemed approved.

The Procuring Entity shall issue the Notice to Proceed to the winning bidder not later than seven (7) calendar days from the date of approval of the contract by the appropriate authority. All notices called for by the terms of the contract shall be effective only at the time of receipt thereof by the contractor.

Sec. 37. Performance Security. - Prior to the signing of the contract, the winning bidder shall, as a measure of guarantee for the faithful performance of and compliance with his obligations under the contract prepared in accordance with the Bidding Documents, be required to post a performance security in such form and for amount as specified in the Bidding Documents.

Sec. 38. Failure to Enter into Contract and Post Performance Security. – If the bidder with the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or Highest Rated Responsive Bid fails, refuses or is otherwise unable to enter into contract with the Procuring Entity, or fails to post the required performance security within the period stipulated in the Bidding Documents, the bid security shall be forfeited without prejudice to the imposition of sanctions prescribed under Article XIX. Thereupon, the BAC shall disqualify the said bidder and shall undertake post-qualification for the next-ranked Lowest Calculated Bid or Highest Rated Bid. This procedure shall be repeated until an award is made. However, if no award is possible, the contract shall be subjected to a new bidding in accordance with the provisions of Section 34 of this Act.

Sec. 39. *Reservation Clause.* - The Head of the Agency reserves the right to reject any and all Bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract in the following situations:

- (a) if there is *prima facie* evidence of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the Procuring Entity, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition;
- (b) if the BAC is found to have failed in following the prescribed bidding procedures; or

(c) for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the
contract will not redound to the benefit of the government as defined
in the IRR.

Sec. 40. Contract Implementation and Termination. - The rules and guidelines for the implementation and termination of contracts awarded pursuant to the provisions of this Act shall be prescribed in the IRR. The rules and guidelines shall include standard general and special conditions for contracts.

ARTICLE XIII

ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF PROCUREMENT

Sec. 41. Alternative Methods. - Subject to the prior approval of the Head of the Procuring Entity or his duly authorized representative, and whenever justified by the conditions provided in this Act, the Procuring Entity may, in order to promote economy and efficiency, resort to any of the following alternative methods of Procurement:

- a) Limited Source Bidding, otherwise known as Selective Bidding a method of Procurement that involves direct invitation to bid by the Procuring Entity from a set of pre-selected suppliers or consultants with known experience and proven capability relative to the requirements of a particular contract;
- b) Direct Contracting, otherwise known as Single Source Procurement

 a method of Procurement that does not require elaborate Bidding
 Documents because the supplier is simply asked to submit a price quotation or a pro-forma invoice together with the conditions of sale, which offer may be accepted immediately or after some negotiations;
- c) Repeat Order a method of Procurement that involves a direct Procurement of Goods from the previous winning bidder,

. 1		whenever there is a need to replenish Goods procured under a
2		contract previously awarded through Competitive Bidding;
3	d)	Shopping - a method of Procurement whereby the Procuring Entity
4		simply requests for the submission of price quotations for readily
5		available off-the-shelf Goods or ordinary/regular equipment to be
6		procured directly from suppliers of known qualification; or
7	e)	Negotiated Procurement - a method of Procurement that may be
8		resorted under the extraordinary circumstances provided for in
9	;	Sec. 47 of this Act and other instances that shall be specified in the
10		IRR, whereby the Procuring Entity directly negotiates a contract
11		with a technically, legally and financially capable supplier,
12	•	contractor or consultant.
13	In all	instances, the Procuring Entity shall ensure that the most
14	advant	ageous price for the Government is obtained.
15	Sec. 4	12. Limited Source BiddingLimited Source Bidding may be
16	resorted to on	ly in any of the following conditions:
17	a) I	Procurement of highly specialized types of Goods and
18	(Consulting Services which are known to be obtainable only
19	f	rom a limited number of sources; or
20	b) I	Procurement of major plant components where it is deemed
21	а	dvantageous to limit the bidding to known eligible bidders
22	i	n order to maintain an optimum and uniform level of
23	q	quality and performance of the plant as a whole.
24	Sec. 43	. Direct Contracting Direct Contracting may be resorted to only
25	in any of the fo	ollowing conditions:
26	a) P	Procurement of Goods of proprietary nature, which can be
27	o	btained only from the proprietary source, i.e. when patents,

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1,	trade secrets and copyrights prohibit others from
2	manufacturing the same item;
3	b) When the Procurement of critical components from a specific
4	manufacturer, supplier or distributor is a condition
5	precedent to hold a contractor to guarantee its project
6	performance, in accordance with the provisions of his
7	contract;
8	c) Those sold by an exclusive dealer or manufacturer, which does not have
9	sub-dealers selling at lower prices and for which no suitable substitute can be
10	obtained at more advantageous terms to the Government.
11	Sec. 44. Repeat Order When provided for in the Annual Procurement
12	Plan, Repeat Order may be allowed wherein the Procuring Entity directly
13	procures Goods from the previous winning bidder whenever there arises a need
14	to replenish goods procured under a contract previously awarded through
15	Competitive Bidding, subject to post-qualification process prescribed in the
16	Bidding Documents and provided all the following conditions are present:
17	a) The unit price must be equal to or lower than that provided

- 18 in the original contract;
- b) 19 The repeat order does not result in splitting of requisitions 20 or purchase orders;
- c) Except in special circumstances defined in the IRR, the 21 repeat order shall be availed of only within six (6) months 22 from the date of the Notice to Proceed arising from the 23 24 original contract; and,

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- d) The repeat order shall not exceed twenty-five percent (25%) of the quantity of each item of the original contract.
- Sec. 45. Shopping. Shopping may be resorted to under any of the 27 28 following instances:

a) When there is an unforeseen contingency requiring immediate purchase: *Provided, however,* That the amount shall not exceed Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000); or

b) Procurement of ordinary or regular office supplies and equipment not available in the Procurement Service involving an amount not exceeding Two Hundred Fifty
Thousand Pesos (P250,000): Provided, however, That the
Procurement does not result in Splitting of Contracts:

Provided, further, That at least three (3) price quotations from bona fide suppliers shall be obtained.

The above amounts shall be subject to a periodic review by the GPPB. For this purpose, the GPPB shall be authorized to increase or decrease the said amount in order to reflect changes in economic conditions and for other justifiable reasons.

There is splitting of contracts when two (2) or more contracts for similar Goods are made in favor of one dealer or supplier within one (1) month of each other, and analogous cases.

Sec. 46. *Negotiated Procurement.* – Negotiated Procurement shall be allowed only in the following instances:

- a) In case of imminent danger to life or property during a state of calamity, or when time is of the essence arising from natural or man-made calamities or other causes where immediate action is necessary to prevent damage to or loss of life or property, or to restore vital public services, infrastructure facilities and other public utilities;
- b) Take-over of contracts, which have been rescinded or terminated for causes provided for in the contract and existing laws, where immediate action is necessary to

prevent damage to or loss of life or property, or to restore vital public services, infrastructure facilities and other public utilities; and,

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- Where the subject contract is adjacent or contiguous to an on-going infrastructure project: *Provided, however,* That the original contract is the result of a Competitive Bidding; the subject contract to be negotiated has similar or related scopes of work; it is within the contracting capacity of the contractor; the contractor uses the same prices or lower unit prices as in the original contract less mobilization cost; the amount involved does not exceed the amount of the ongoing project; and, the contractor has no negative slippage: *Provided, further,* That negotiations for the procurement are commenced before the expiry of the original contract. Whenever applicable, this principle shall also govern consultancy contracts, where the consultants have unique experience and expertise to deliver the required service; or
- d) Subject to the guidelines specified in the IRR, purchases of Goods from another agency of the Government, such as the Procurement Service of the DBM, which is tasked with a centralized procurement of commonly used Goods for the government in accordance with Letters of Instruction No. 755 and Executive Order No. 359, series of 1989.
- Sec. 47. Terms and Conditions for the use of Alternative Methods. The specific terms and conditions, including the limitations and restrictions, for the application of each of the alternative methods mentioned in this Article shall be specified in the IRR.

27 ARTICLE XIV

Sec. 48. Appeals from Decisions of the BAC. - Decisions of the BAC in all stages of Procurement may be the subject of a written protest to the Head of the Procuring Entity. The protest is taken by the submission of a verified position paper and filing of a non-refundable protest fee. The amount of the protest fee, and the periods during which the appeals may be filed and resolved shall be 6 specified in the IRR. 7 Sec. 49. Resolution of Protest. - All protests shall be resolved strictly on the basis of the official records in the custody of the BAC. No other document of whatever nature that are not in the custody of the BAC at the time the protest is filed, shall be considered. The decision of the Head of the Procuring Entity shall 10 be final. 11 Sec. 50. Non-interruption of the Bidding Process. - In no case shall any protest taken from any decision treated in this Article stay or delay the bidding 13 process. However, all protests shall first be resolved before any award is made. 14 Sec. 51. Resort to Regular Courts; Certiorari. - Court action may be 15 16 resorted to only after the protests contemplated in this Article shall have been completed. Cases filed in violation of the process shall be dismissed for lack of 17 jurisdiction. The Regional Trial Court shall have jurisdiction over final decisions 18 of the Head of the Procuring Entity. Court actions shall be governed by Rule 65 19 of the 1997 Rules of Civil Procedure. 20 This provision is without prejudice to any law conferring on the Supreme 21 22 Court the sole jurisdiction to issue temporary restraining orders and injunctions relating to Infrastructure Projects of Government. 23 ARTICLE XV 24 25 **SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

Sec. 52. Arbitration. - Any and all disputes arising from the implementation of a contract covered by the provisions of this Act shall be submitted for arbitration in the Philippines in accordance with the provisions of

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Republic Act No. 876, otherwise known as the "Arbitration Law": Provided,

however, That disputes falling within the competence of the Construction

Industry Arbitration Commission to resolve shall be referred thereto. The

process of arbitration shall be mandatory for all contracts executed pursuant to

5 the provisions of this Act. Recourse to arbitration however, shall be without

prejudice to the right of both parties to the contract to mutually agree in writing,

to resort to other alternative modes of dispute resolution.

Sec. 53. Appeals. - The arbitral award, and any decision issued in accordance with the immediately preceding Section are appealable, by way of a petition for review, to the Court of Appeals. The petition shall only raise pure questions of law and shall be governed by the Rules of Court.

ARTICLE XVI

CONTRACT WARRANTIES

Sec. 54. Warranty. - (a) For the procurement of Goods, in order to assure that manufacturing defects shall be corrected by the supplier, manufacturer, or distributor, as the case may be, for a specific time after performance of the contract, a warranty shall be required from the contract awardee for such period of time as may be provided in the IRR, the obligation for which shall be covered by either retention money in the amount equivalent to a percentage of every progress payment, or a special bank guarantee equivalent to a percentage of the total contract price, to be provided in the IRR. The said amounts shall only be released after the lapse of the warranty period, provided that the Goods supplied and/or the works performed are free from defects and all the conditions imposed under the contract have been fully met.

(b) For the procurement of infrastructure projects, the contract shall assume full responsibility for the contract work from the time project construction commenced until five (5) years from its final acceptance by the government and shall be held responsible for any damage or construction of

works except those occasioned by firce majeure. The contractor shall be fully

responsible for the safety, protection, security, and convenience of his personnel,

third parties, and the public at large, as well as the works, equipment,

4 installation and the like to be affected by his construction work.

The contractor shall undertake the repair works, at his own expense, of any defect or damage to the infrastructure projects on account of the use of materials of inferior quality within ninety (90) days from the time the Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways has issued an order to undertake repair. In case of failure or refusal to comply with this mandate, the government shall undertake such repair works and shall be entitled to full reimbursement of expenses incurred therein upon demand.

Any contractor who fails to comply with the preceding paragraph shall suffer perpetual disqualification from participating in any public bidding and his property or properties shall be subject to attachment or garnishment proceedings to recover the costs. All payables of government in his favor shall be offset to recover the costs.

ARTICLE XVII

THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT POLICY BOARD

Sec. 55. Organization and Functions. - A Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) is hereby established to: (a) protect national interest in all matters affecting public Procurement, having due regard to the country's regional and international obligations; (b) formulate and amend, whenever necessary, the IRR and the corresponding standard forms for Procurement; (c) ensure that Procuring Entities regularly conduct Procurement training programs and prepare a Procurement operations manual for all offices and agencies of government; and (d) conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of this Act and recommend any amendments thereto, as may be necessary.

The GPPB shall convene within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act to formulate the IRR and for other related purposes.

In addition to the powers granted under this Act, the GPPB shall absorb
all the powers, functions and responsibilities of the Procurement Policy Board
created under Executive Order No. 359, series of 1989. All affected functions of
the Infrastructure Committee of the National Economic and Development
Authority is hereby transferred to the GPPB.

Sec. 56. Membership. - The GPPB shall be composed of the Secretary of the 8 Department of Budget and Management, as Chairman, the Director-General of 9 the National Economic Development Authority, as Alternate Chairman, with the 10 following as Members; the Secretaries of the departments of Public Works and 11 Highways, Finance, Trade and Industry, Health, National Defense, Education, 12 Interior and Local Government, Science and Technology, Transportation and 13 Communication, and Energy, and a representative from the private sector to be 14 15 appointed by the GPPB.

ARTICLE XVIII

17 **PENAL CLAUSE**

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Sec. 57. Offenses and Penalties. - (a) Without prejudice to the provisions of Republic Act No. 3019, otherwise known as the "Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act" and other penal laws, public officers who commit any of the following acts shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1) day, but not more than fifteen (15) years:

1. Open any sealed Bid including but not limited to Bids that may have been submitted through the electronic system and any and all documents required to be sealed or divulging their contents, prior to the appointed time for the public opening of Bids or other documents.

Delay without any justifiable cause the screening process for eligibility or the opening of Bids or the post-qualification process.

When any of the foregoing acts is done in collusion with private individuals, the private individuals shall likewise be liable for the offense.

In addition, the public officer involved shall also suffer the penalty of temporary disqualification from public office, while the private individual shall be permanently disqualified from transacting business with the Government.

- (b) Private individuals who commit any of the following acts, including any public officer, who conspires with them, shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1) day but not more than fifteen (15) years:
 - 1. When two or more bidders agree and submit different Bids as if they were bona fide, when they knew that one or more of them was so much higher than the other that it could not be honestly accepted and that the contract will surely be awarded to the pre-arranged lowest Bid.
 - 2. When a bidder maliciously submits different Bids through two or more persons, corporations, partnerships or any other business entity in which he has interest to create the appearance of competition that does not in fact exist so as to be adjudged as the winning bidder.
 - 3. When two or more bidders enter into an agreement which call upon one to refrain from bidding for Procurement contracts, or which call for withdrawal of Bids already submitted, or which are otherwise intended to secure an undue advantage to any one of them.

4. When a bidder, by himself or in connivance with others, employ schemes which tend to restrain the natural rivalry of the parties or operates to stifle or suppress competition and thus produce a result disadvantageous to the public.

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In addition, the persons involved shall also suffer the penalty of temporary or perpetual disqualification from public office and be permanently disqualified from transacting business with the Government.

- (c) Private individuals who commit any of the following acts, and any public officer conspiring with them, shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1) day but not more than fifteen (15) years:
- 1. Submit eligibility requirements of whatever kind and nature that contain false information or falsified documents calculated to influence the outcome of the eligibility screening process or conceal such information in the eligibility requirements when the information will lead to a declaration of ineligibility from participating in public bidding.
 - 2. Submit Bidding Documents of whatever kind and nature that contain false information or falsified documents or conceal such information in the Bidding Documents, in order to influence the outcome of the public bidding.
 - 3. Participate in a public bidding using the name of another or allow another to use one's name for the purpose of participating in a public bidding.
- 4. Withdraw a Bid, after it shall have qualified as the Lowest Calculated Bid/Highest Rated Bid, or refuse to accept an award, without just cause or for the purpose of forcing the Procuring Entity to award the contract to another bidder.

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1	This shall include the non-submission within the prescribed
2	time, or delaying the submission of requirements such as,
3	but not limited to, performance security, preparatory to the
4	final award of the contract.

(d) When the bidder is a juridical entity, criminal liability and the accessory penalties shall be imposed on its officers or employees who actually commit any of the foregoing acts.

Sec. 58. *Jurisdiction.* - Jurisdiction over the offenses defined under this Article shall belong to the appropriate courts, according to laws existing at the time of the commission of the offenses.

ARTICLE XIX

CIVIL LIABILITY

Sec. 59. Civil Liability in Case of Conviction. - Without prejudice to administrative sanctions that may be imposed in proper cases, a conviction under this Act or Republic Act No. 3019 shall carry with it civil liability, which may either consist of restitution for the damage done or the forfeiture in favor of the government of any unwarranted benefit derived from the act or acts in question or both, at the discretion of the courts.

Sec. 60. *Liquidated Damages.* - All contracts executed in accordance with this Act shall contain a provision on liquidated damages which shall be payable in case of breach thereof. The amount thereof shall be specified in the IRR.

ARTICLE XX

ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS

Sec. 61. Imposition of Administrative Penalties. - (a) In addition to the provisions of Article XVII and XVIII of this Act, the Head of the Procuring Entity, subject to the authority delegated to the BAC, if any, shall impose on bidders or prospective bidders, the administrative penalty of suspension for one (1) year for

the first offense, and suspension of two (2) years for the second offense from participating in the public bidding process, for the following violations:

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 Submission of eligibility requirements containing false information or falsified documents.

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- Submission of Bids that contain false information or falsified documents, or the concealment of such information in the Bids in order to influence the outcome of eligibility screening or any other stage of the public bidding.
- 9 3. Allowing the use of one's name, or using the name of another, for purposes of public bidding.
 - 4. Withdrawal of a Bid, or refusal to accept an award, or enter into contract with the Government without justifiable cause, after he had been adjudged as having submitted the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or Highest Rated Responsive Bid.
 - 5. Refusal or failure to post the required performance security within the prescribed time.
 - 6. Termination of the contract due to the default of the bidder.
- 7. Refusal to clarify or validate in writing its Bid during postqualification within a period of seven (7) calendar days from receipt of the request for clarification.
- 8. Any document unsolicited attempt by a bidder to unduly influence the outcome of the bidding in his favor.
- 9. All other acts that tend to defeat the purpose of the Competitive Bidding.
- 25 (b) In addition to the penalty of suspension, the Bid security or the 26 performance security posted by the concerned bidder or prospective bidder shall 27 also be forfeited.

(c) The Head of the Procuring Entity may delegate to the BAC the authority to impose the aforementioned administrative penalties.

ARTICLE XXI

INDEMNIFICATION OF BAC MEMBERS

Sec. 62. Indemnification of BAC and BAC Secretariat Members. – The Procuring Entity shall indemnify public officials for all costs and expenses reasonably incurred by such persons in connection with any civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding to which they have been made a party by reason of the performance of their functions or duties, unless they are finally adjudged in such action or proceeding to be liable for gross negligence or misconduct.

In the event of a settlement or compromise, indemnification shall be confined only on matters covered by the settlement, as to which the Procuring Entity had been advised by counsel that the public officials to be indemnified have not committed gross negligence or misconduct in the performance of their functions and duties.

The members of the BAC and the BAC Secretariat shall also be entitled to medical assistance for injuries incurred in the performance of their functions.

ARTICLE XXII

FINAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 63. Agency Incentives. - In instances where an agency generates savings from a procurement contract, fifty percent (50%) of such savings shall accrue to the account of the agency and fifty percent (50%) will revert back to the National Treasury. For purposes of this provision, savings shall mean to be the difference between the approved budget for the contract and the actual amount of the awarded contract. The DBM shall issue the necessary guidelines for the proper implementation of this provision.

Sec. 64. *Implementing Rules and Regulations and Standard Forms.* - Within sixty (60) days from the promulgation of this Act, the necessary rules and

regulations for the proper implementation of its provisions shall be formulated

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by the GPPB and approved by the President of the Philippines. For a period not

later than thirty (30) days upon the approval of the implementing rules and 3

regulations, the standard forms for Procurement shall be formulated and

approved. 5

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Sec. 65. Repealing Clause. - This Act specifically repeals Executive Order 6 No. 262 dated July 5, 2000, entitled "Amending Executive Order No. 302, Series 7 of 1996, entitled 'Providing Policies, Guidelines, Rules and Regulations for the 8 Procurement of Goods/Supplies by the National Government' and Section Three (3) of Executive Order No. 201, Series of 2000, Entitled 'Providing Additional 10 Policies and Guidelines in the Procurement of Goods and Supplies by the 11 National Government"; Executive Order No. 302, Series of 1996, Entitled 12 "Providing Policies, Guidelines, Rules and Regulations for the Procurement of 13 Goods/Supplies by the National Government"; and Presidential Decree No. 14 1594 dated June 11, 1978, entitled "Prescribing Policies, Guideline, Rules and 15

All other laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulations, and any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

Regulations for Government Infrastructure Contracts".

Sec. 66. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

Sec. 67. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Adopted,