CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES TWELFTH CONGRESS Second Regular Session

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## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### H. No. 4809

- BY REPRESENTATIVES DE VENECIA, GONZALES II, COJUANGCO (C.), ANDAYA, MARCOS, DUMARPA, ZIALCITA, DEFENSOR (A.), ACOSTA, ABAD, MAMBA, CLARETE, DE GUZMAN, REYES (V.), ESPINA, ESPINOSA (E.R.), ESCUDERO, ANGARA-CASTILLO, FUENTEBELLA, BERSAMIN, ABAYA (A.), ALBANO, AMIN, ANTONINO-CUSTODIO, BONDOC, CALALAY, CARI, CELESTE, CHIONGBIAN, CHIPECO, CHUNGALAO, CRUZ-DUCUT, DOMOGAN, ERMITA-BUHAIN, FAILON, GORDON, JALA, JARAULA, LEVISTE, NICOLAS, OCAMPO, PABLO, PADILLA, RAMIREZ-SATO, RODRIGUEZ (I.), ROMAN, ROSALES, SILVERIO, SOLIS, SOON-RUIZ, SUAREZ, SUPLICO, TALINO-SANTOS, TEODORO, TEVES, UMALI (A.V.), UY (R.), VILLANUEVA, VILLAR, YAPHA, ZAMORA (M.) AND ZUBIRI, PER COMMITTEI: REPORT NO. 479
- 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:

# 1 ARTICLE I 2 GENERAL PROVISIONS 3 SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the 4 "Government Procurement Reform Act." 5 SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the 6 State that all resources of the government shall be managed, expended or

utilized in accordance with law and regulations, and safeguarded against
 loss or wastage through illegal or improper disposition, with a view to
 ensuring transparency, accountability, impartiality, efficiency, economy
 and effectiveness in agency procurement and government operations.

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5 SEC. 3. Governing Principles on Government Procurement. – All 6 procurement of the national government, its departments, bureaus, offices 7 and agencies, including state universities and colleges, government-owned 8 and/or -controlled corporations, government financial institutions and local 9 government units shall, in all cases, be governed by these principles:

10 (a) Transparency in the procurement process and in the11 implementation of procurement contracts.

(b) Competitiveness by extending equal opportunity to enable
private contracting parties who are eligible and qualified to participate in
public bidding.

(c) Streamlined procurement process that will uniformly apply to
all government procurement. The procurement process shall be simple and
made adaptable to advances in modern technology in order to ensure an
effective and efficient method.

(d) System of accountability where both the public officials directly or indirectly involved in the procurement process as well as in the implementation of procurement contracts and the private parties that deal with government are, when warranted by circumstances, investigated and held liable for their actions relative thereto.

(e) Public monitoring of the procurement process and the implementation of awarded contracts with the end in view of guaranteeing that these contracts are awarded pursuant to the provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations, and that all these contracts are performed strictly according to specifications.

SEC. 4. Scope and Application. – This Act shall apply to the procurement of goods, supplies, materials, infrastructure projects and consulting services by government, its departments, offices, agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned or -controlled corporations

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and local government units, subject to the provisions of Commonwealth
 Act No. 138 and any agreement of which the Philippines is a signatory,
 directly affecting the subject matter of this Act.

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4 SEC. 5. Standardization of Procurement Process and Forms. -- To 5 systematize the procurement process, avoid confusion and ensure 6 transparency, the procurement process, including the forms to be used, 7 shall be standardized insofar as practicable.

8 SEC. 6. Definition of Terms. - For purposes of this Act, the terms
9 or words and phrases used shall mean or be understood as follows:

(a) Approved Budget - The Approved Budget shall be the budget 10 for the contract as approved by the head of the procuring entity in 11 accordance with the General Appropriations Act and/or continuing 12 13 appropriations in the case of national government agencies, the corporate 14 budget approved by the governing board, pursuant to Executive Order No. 15 518, series of 1979, in the case of government-owned or -controlled 16 corporations, and the budget approved by the Sanggunian in the case of 17 local government units.

(b) BAC - A BAC shall refer to the Bids and Awards Committee
established in accordance with Article V of this Act.

20 (c) Bid - A Bid is a signed offer submitted by a manufacturer,
21 supplier, distributor, contractor or consultant in response to bidding
22 documents.

(d) *Bidding Documents* – Bidding Documents are the 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/supplies/materials/infrastructure projects/consulting services to be
provided.

(e) Consulting Services – Consulting Services are services for
infrastructure projects and other types of projects of the government
requiring adequate technical expertise and financial capability in
undertaking the following types of services: (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. These services may be in the
 fields of Engineering, Architecture, Law, Finance, Management,
 Agriculture, and the like.

5 (f) EPS - The EPS shall refer to the Electronic Procurement
6 System as provided in Section 8 of this Act.

7 (g) Goods/Supplies/Materials - Goods/Supplies/Materials include 8 everything except consulting services, real estate and infrastructure 9 projects, which may be needed in the transaction of public businesses or in 10 the pursuit of any government undertaking, project or activity, whether in 11 the nature of equipment, furniture, stationery, materials for construction, or 12 personal property of any kind, including non-personal or contractual 13 services such as the repair and maintenance of equipment and furniture, as 14 well as trucking, hauling, janitorial, security, and related or analogous 15 services, as well as procurement of materials and supplies provided by the 16 procuring entity for such services.

17 (h) GPPB – The GPPB shall refer to the Government Procurement
18 Policy Board established in accordance with Article XV of this Act.

(i) Head of the Procuring Entity – The Head of the Procuring
Entity shall refer to: (i) the head of the agency or his duly authorized
official for national government agencies; (ii) the governing boards or its
duly authorized official for government-owned or -controlled corporations;
or (iii) the local chief executive for local government units.

(j) Infrastructure Projects - Infrastructure Projects include the 24 construction, improvement, rehabilitation, modification, demolition, repair, 25 26 restoration or maintenance of roads and bridges, railways, airports, 27 seaports, information and communication technology facilities, irrigation, flood control and drainage, water supply, sanitation, sewerage and solid 28 waste management systems, shore protection, energy/power and 29 electrification facilities, national buildings, school buildings, hospital 30 31 buildings, and other related construction projects of the government.

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(k) IRR - IRR shall refer to the implementing rules and regulations
 to be formulated and approved in accordance with Section 59 of this Act.

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3 (1) Procurement – Procurement refers to the acquisition of goods.
4 supplies, materials and consulting services, and the contracting for
5 infrastructure projects by the procuring entity. Procurement also covers the
6 lease of goods, supplies and materials.

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7 (m) *Procuring Entity* – Procuring Entity refers to the national 8 government agency, department or office, including state university and 9 college; the government-owned or -controlled corporation, including 10 government financial institution; and the local government unit procuring 11 the goods/supplies/materials/consulting services and infrastructure projects.

(n) *Public Bidding* – Public Bidding is a method of procurement
which consists of: advertisement; eligibility screening of prospective
bidders; pre-bid conferences; receipts of bids; evaluation of bids; postqualification; and award of contract; the requirements and mechanics of
which shall be specified in the IRR.

# ARTICLE II PROCUREMENT PLANNING

19 SEC. 7. Procurement Planning and Budgeting Linkage. – All 20 procurement should be within their approved budget and should be 21 meticulously and judiciously planned by the procuring entity concerned. 22 Consistent with government fiscal discipline measures, only those 23 considered crucial to the efficient discharge of governmental functions 24 shall be included in the Agency Procurement Program to be specified in the 25 IRR.

### ARTICLE III

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### PROCUREMENT BY ELECTRONIC MEANS

28 SEC. 8. The Electronic Procurement System. - Pursuant to 29 Republic Act No. 8792, the "Electronic Commerce Act", there shall be a 30 single electronic portal for government procurement herein referred to as 31 the EPS, to be used by procuring entities, end-users and concerned citizens,

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1	to enhance transparency, accountability, impartiality, equity, efficiency and
2	economy in government procurement.
3	ARTICLE IV
4	PUBLIC BIDDING
5	SEC. 9. Public Bidding All procurement shall be through public
6	bidding, except as provided for in Article XII of this Act.
7	ARTICLE V
8	BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
9	SEC. 10. The BAC and its Composition Each procuring entity
10	shall establish a single BAC for its procurement. The BAC shall be chaired
11	by at least a third ranking permanent official of the procuring entity other
12	than its head, and its composition shall be specified in the IRR.
13	Alternatively, as may be deemed fit by the head of the procuring entity,
14	there may be separate BACs where the number and complexity of the items
15	to be procured shall so warrant. Similar BACs for decentralized and lower
16	level offices may be formed when deemed necessary by the head of the
17	procuring entity. To enhance the transparency of the procurement process,
18	the BAC shall invite, in addition to the representative of the Commission
19	on Audit, at least one (1) representative from a duly recognized private
20	sector association, chamber or organization in a discipline which is relevant
21	to the contract under procurement, and one (1) representative from the end-
22	user group including, among others, a nongovernment organization.
23	SEC. 11. Functions of the BAC The BAC shall determine the
24	eligibility of prospective bidders, receive and open bids, conduct the

evaluation of bids, conduct pre-bid conference, undertake post-25 qualification proceedings, recommend the award of contracts, and impose 26 27 sanctions where appropriate in accordance with Article XVIII of this Act. The BAC shall also have the responsibility for monitoring the performance 28 against standards set forth by this Act and the IRR, and it shall prepare a 29 procurement monitoring report that shall be approved and submitted by the 30 head of the procuring entity to the GPPB on a semestral basis. 31 The contents and coverage of this report shall be provided in the IRR. 32

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1	SEC. 12. Secretariat and Technical Working Group The BAC
2	shall be supported by a permanent Secretariat and may be assisted by a
3	Technical Working Group which shall handle technical evaluation work.
4	ARTICLE VI
5	PUBLIC BIDDING PROCEDURES
6	SEC. 13. Invitation to Bid The invitation to bid shall contain,
7	among others: a brief description of the goods/supplies/materials,
8	infrastructure projects and/or consulting services to be procured; the
9	eligibility requirements; the place, date and time of the deadlines for receipt
10	of eligibility requirements and bids; the approved budget: the time and
11	place of the opening of bids; and the contract duration or delivery schedule.
12	The invitation to bid shall be advertised in such manner and for such
13	period of time as to ensure the widest possible dissemination, the details of
14	which shall be provided in the IRR.
15	SEC. 14. Pre-bid Conference At least one (1) pre-bid conference
16	shall be conducted for each procurement, unless otherwise provided in the
17	IRR. Subject to the approval of the BAC, a pre-bid conference may also be
18	conducted upon the written request of any prospective bidder.
19	The pre-bid conference(s) shall be held within a reasonable period
20	before the deadline for receipt of bids to allow prospective bidders to
21	adequately prepare their bids, which shall be specified in the IRR.
22	SEC. 15. Eligibility Requirements of Prospective Bidders for the
23	Procurement of Goods/Supplies/Materials and Infrastructure Projects
24	The BAC or, under special circumstances specified in the IRR, its duly
25	designated organic office shall determine the eligibility of prospective
26	bidders for the procurement of goods/supplies/materials and infrastructure
27	projects, based on submission of the eligibility requirements provided in
28	the bidding documents. The documents submitted in satisfaction of the
29	eligibility requirements shall be made under oath by the prospective bidder
30	or by his duly authorized representative certifying to the correctness of the
31	statement and authenticity of the said documents.

1 SEC. 16. Eligibility Requirements and Short Listing of Prospective Bidders for the Procurement of Consulting Services. - The BAC or, under 2 3 special circumstances specified in the IRR, its duly designated organic 4 office shall determine the eligibility of prospective bidders for the 5 procurement of consulting services using numerical ratings on the basis of 6 the eligibility requirements provided in the bidding documents, to 7 determine the short list of bidders whose bids shall be considered for 8 evaluation. The short list shall consist of the highest ranked eligible 9 bidders from three (3) to seven (7) in number, as predetermined by the 10 BAC and as indicated in the invitation to bid. The documents submitted in 11 satisfaction of the eligibility requirements shall be made under oath by the 12 prospective bidder or by his duly authorized representative certifying to the 13 correctness of the statements and authenticity of the said documents.

14 SEC. 17. Submission and Receipt of Bids. - A bid shall have two 15 (2) components, namely the technical and financial components which should be in separate sealed envelopes, and which shall be submitted 16 17 simultaneously. The bids shall be received by the BAC on such date, time 18 and place specified in the invitation to bid. The deadline for the receipt of 19 bids shall be fixed by the BAC, giving it sufficient time to complete the 20 bidding process and giving the prospective bidders sufficient time to study 21 and prepare their bids. The deadline shall also consider the urgency of the 22 procurement involved.

Bids submitted after the deadline shall be returned by the BACunopened.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section and Section 18 of this
Act, the GPPB may prescribe innovative procedures for the submission,
receipt and opening of bids through the EPS.

SEC. 18. *Modification and Withdrawal of Bids.* – A bidder may modify his bid, provided that this is done before the deadline for the receipt of bids. The modification shall be submitted before the deadline for receipt of bids in a sealed envelope duly identified as a modification of the original bid and stamped received by the BAC. A bidder may, through a letter,

withdraw his bid or express his intention not to participate in the bidding
 before the deadline for the receipt of bids.

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3 SEC. 19. *Bid Security.* – Except for the procurement of consulting 4 services, each bid shall be accompanied by a bid security which shall serve 5 as a guarantee that, after receipt of the notice of award, the winning bidder 6 shall enter into contract with the procuring entity within the stipulated time 7 and shall furnish the required performance security. The amount and 8 allowable forms of the bid security shall be provided in the IRR.

9 SEC. 20. *Bid Validity.* – Bids and bid securities, where applicable, 10 shall be valid for such reasonable period as determined in the IRR and 11 indicated in the bidding documents. This validity shall be set taking into 12 account the time that will be involved in the process of bid evaluation and 13 award of contract.

SEC. 21. *Bid Opening.* – The BAC shall publicly open all bids at
the time, date, and place specified in the bidding documents. The minutes
of the bid opening shall be made available to the public upon written
request and payment of a specified fee.

18 SEC. 22. *Preliminary Examination of Bids.* – For all procurement, 19 the BAC shall examine first the technical components of the bids using 20 "pass/fail" criteria to determine whether all required documents are present. 21 Only bids that are determined to contain all the bid requirements of the 22 technical component shall be considered for opening and evaluation of 23 their financial component.

SEC. 23. Bid Evaluation for the Procurement of Goods/ Supplies/Materials and Infrastructure Projects. – For the procurement of goods/supplies/materials and infrastructure projects, the BAC shall evaluate the financial component of the bids. 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 referred to as the "Lowest Calculated Bid".

SEC. 24. Bid Evaluation of Short Listed Bidders for Consulting
 Services. - For the procurement of consulting services, the BAC shall

procuring entity within fifteen (15) calendar days from receipt of the notice of award, and the head of the procuring entity, or his duly authorized representative shall act on the approval of contract within fifteen (15) calendar days from receipt thereof. In the case of government-owned or -controlled corporations, the concerned board shall take action on the said recommendation within thirty (30) calendar days from receipt thereof.

If no action on the contract is taken by the head of the procuring
entity; or by his duly authorized representative, or by the concerned board,
in the case of government-owned or -controlled corporations, within the
periods specified in the preceding paragraph, the contract concerned shall
be deemed approved.

SEC. 31. *Performance Security.* – Except for the procurement of consulting services, prior to contract signing, the winning bidder shall post a performance security in the form and amount specified in the bidding documents in accordance with the IRR, to guarantee the faithful performance of and compliance with his obligations under the contract in accordance with the bidding documents.

18 SEC. 32. Failure to Enter into Contract and Post Performance 19 Security. - If the bidder with the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or 20 Highest Rated Responsive Bid, as the case may be, fails, refuses or is 21 otherwise unable to make good his bid by entering into contract with the 22 procuring entity or, in the case of goods/supplies/materials and 23 infrastructure projects, post the required performance security within the 24 period stipulated in the bidding documents, the bid security shall be 25 forfeited where so applicable, and the appropriate administrative sanctions 26 shall be imposed, except where such failure, refusal or inability is through 27 no fault of his. Thereupon, the BAC shall disqualify the said bidder and shall post-qualify the next ranked Lowest Calculated Bid or Highest Rated 28 29 Bid, as the case may be. This procedure shall be repeated until an award is 30 made. However, if no award is made, the contract shall be re-bid.

SEC. 33. Reservation Clause. - The government reserves the right
 to reject any and all bids or declare a failure of bidding or not award the

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evaluate bids of the short listed bidders and rank them using numerical ١ 2 ratings in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated in the bid documents. The bids shall be ranked from highest to lowest in terms of 3 4 their corresponding calculated ratings. The bid with the highest calculated 5 ratings shall be referred to as the "Highest Rated Bid."

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SEC. 25. Ceiling for Bid Prices. - The approved budget shall be the 7 upper limit or ceiling for the bid prices. Bid prices which exceed this 8 ceiling shall be rejected outright. There shall be no lower limit to the 9 amount of the award.

10 SEC. 26. Objective and Process of Post-Qualification. - Through 11 post-qualification, the BAC shall verify and validate whether the bidder 12 with the Lowest Calculated Bid or the Highest Rated Bid, as the case may 13 be, passes all the requirements and conditions as specified in the bidding 14 documents.

15 If the bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid/Highest Rated Bid 16 passes all the criteria for post-qualification, his bid shall be considered the 17 "Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid," in the case of procurement of 18 goods/supplies/materials and infrastructure projects, or the "Highest Rated 19 Responsive Bid," in the case of procurement of consulting services. 20 However, if a bidder fails to meet any of the requirements or conditions, he 21 shall be "post-disqualified" and the BAC shall conduct the post-22 qualification on the bidder with the second Lowest Calculated Bid or the 23 Highest Rated Bid, as the case may be. If the bidder with the second 24 Lowest Calculated Bid or Highest Rated Bid is post-disgualified, the same 25 procedure shall be repeated until the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or 26 the Highest Rated Responsive Bid, as the case may be, is finally 27 determined.

28 The contract shall be awarded to the bidder with the Lowest 29 Calculated Responsive Bid or Highest Rated Responsive Bid, as the case 30 may be.

31 SEC. 27. Failure of Bidding. - There shall be a failure of bidding if no bids are received or if no bid qualifies as the Lowest Calculated 32

Responsive Bid or Highest Rated Responsive Bid, as the case may be. In 1 2 this event, the contract shall be re-advertised and re-bid. The BAC shall 3 observe the same process and set the new periods according to the same 4 rules followed during the first bidding: Provided, however, That after the 5 second failed bidding, the BAC may resort to the alternative methods of 6 procurement as provided in Article XII of this Act.

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SEC. 28. Single Calculated/Rated and Responsive Bid Submission. 8 - A single calculated/rated and responsive bid shall be considered under 9 any of the following exceptional circumstances:

10 (a) If after advertisement, only one prospective bidder applies for eligibility check and he meets the eligibility check requirements, after 11 12 which his bid is found to be responsive;

13 (b) If after the advertisement, more than one prospective bidder 14 applies for eligibility check but only one meets the eligibility check 15 requirements, after which his bid is found to be responsive; or

16 (c) If after the eligibility check of more than one bidder, only one 17 bid is submitted and found to be responsive.

Provided, however, That the BAC of the procuring entity concerned may 18 19 require a greater number of bidders.

ARTICLE VII

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21 AWARD, IMPLEMENTATION AND TERMINATION OF CONTRACT

22 SEC. 29. Award of Contract and Notice to Proceed. - The head of 23 the procuring entity or his duly authorized official shall award and issue the 24 corresponding notice to proceed, when applicable, to the bidder with the 25 Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid or the Highest Rated Responsive Bid, 26 as the case may be, in accordance with the deadlines specified in the IRR.

27 SEC. 30. Period of Action on Procurement Activities. - The 28 procurement process from the opening of bids up to the award of contract 29 shall not exceed three (3) months, or a shorter period to be determined by the procuring entity concerned. The different procurement activities shall 30 31 be completed within reasonable periods to be specified in the IRR. In 32 addition, the winning bidder shall formally enter into contract with the

contract: Provided, however, That the reasons for rejection, declaration of 1 2 failure of bidding or refusal to award the contract are clearly specified. 3 SEC. 34. Rules and Guidelines for Contract Implementation and 4 Termination. - The rules and guidelines for the implementation and 5 termination of contracts awarded pursuant to this Article shall be provided 6 in the IRR. 7 **ARTICLE VIII** DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN PROCUREMENT 8 SEC. 35. Procurement of Domestic and Foreign Goods/ 9 Supplies/Materials. - In all government procurement of goods, supplies 10 11 and materials, the procuring entity is encouraged to give priority to the 12 purchase of domestically-produced and manufactured goods, supplies and materials that meet the specified or desired quality. 13 14 ARTICLE IX 15 **BIDDING OF PROVINCIAL PROJECTS** 16 SEC. 36. Bidding of Provincial Projects. - Priority programs and infrastructure projects funded out of the annual General Appropriations Act 17 which are intended for implementation within the province shall be subject 18 19 to the same public bidding and to the procurement processes prescribed 20 under this Act. For purposes of this Article, Engineering District civil 21 works projects, subject to consultation with the concerned Members of 22 Congress, are included and subsumed in the term "provincial projects" and 23 shall be governed by this Section and Section 37 hereof. 24 SEC. 37. Provincial Bidders. - Within five (5) years from the effectivity of this Act, a contractor who participates in the bidding of 25 provincial priority programs and infrastructure projects, whose principal 26 office is within the same province, and who submits the lowest bid among 27 the provincial bidders which is higher than the lowest bid made by a 28 contractor with principal office outside the said province, shall be granted 29 the privilege to match the bid made by the latter: Provided, however, That 30

the release of funds for said projects shall be published in a local

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1	newspaper with the widest circulation and in the website of the DBM, the
2	mechanisms of which shall be spelled-out in the IRR.
3	ARTICLE X
4	LEASE OF COMPUTERS, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION
5	AND OTHER EQUIPMENT
6	SEC. 38. Lease Contracts Lease of construction and office
7	equipment, including computers, communication and information
8	technology equipment are subject to the same public bidding and to the
9	processes prescribed under this Act.
10	ARTICLE XI
11	CONTRACT PRICE ADJUSTMENTS AND WARRANTIES
12	SEC. 39. Contract Price Adjustments For the given scope of
13	work in the contract as awarded, all bid prices shall be considered as fixed
14	prices, and therefore not subject to price adjustments during contract
15	implementation, except under extraordinary circumstances and upon prior
16	approval of the GPPB.
17	For purposes of this Section, "extraordinary circumstances" shall
18	refer to events that may be determined by the National Economic and
19	Development Authority in accordance with the Civil Code of the
20	Philippines, and upon the recommendation of the procuring entity
21	concerned.
22	SEC. 40. Warranty (a) For the procurement of goods/
23	supplies/materials, to assure that manufacturing defects shall be corrected
24	by the supplier, manufacturer or distributor, as the case may be, for a fixed
25	time after performance of the contract, a warranty shall be required from
26	the contract awardee for such period of time as may be provided in the
27	IRR, the obligation for which shall be covered by either retention moneys
28	in the amount equal to a percentage of every progress payment, or a special
29	bank guarantee equivalent to a percentage of the total contract price, to be
30	provided in the IRR. Such amounts shall only be released after the
31	warranty period, provided that the goods supplied and/or the works

performed are free from defects and all the conditions imposed under the
 contract are fully met.

3 (b) For the procurement of infrastructure projects, the contractor 4 shall assume full responsibility for the contract work from the time project 5 construction commenced until five (5) years from its final acceptance by 6 the government and shall be held responsible for any damage or destruction 7 of works except those occasioned by force majeure. Except likewise for 8 force majeure, the contractor shall be fully responsible for the safety, protection, security, and convenience of his personnel, third parties, and the 9 10 public at large, as well as the works, equipment, installation and the like to 11 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 upon demand by the Secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways. 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 therein upon demand.

19 Any contractor who fails to comply with the preceding paragraph 20 shall suffer perpetual disqualification from participating in any public 21 bidding and his property or properties shall be subject to attachment or 22 garnishment proceedings to recover the costs.

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# ARTICLE XII ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF PROCUREMENT

SEC. 41. Alternative Methods. – When justified by extraordinary conditions as provided in this Act and its IRR, and subject to the prior approval of the head of the procuring entity, in the interest of economy, efficiency and national security, the head of the procuring entity may adopt any of the following alternative methods of procurement to be defined further in the IRR:

31 (a) Limited source bidding, otherwise known as selective bidding –
32 a method of procurement that involves direct invitation to bid by the

concerned procuring entity from a set of pre-selected suppliers with known
 experience and proven capability on the requirements of the particular
 contract;

4 (b) Direct contracting, otherwise known as single source 5 procurement – a method of procurement that does not require elaborate 6 bidding documents, because the supplier is simply asked to submit a price 7 quotation or a pro-forma invoice together with the conditions of sale, which 8 offer may be accepted immediately or after some negotiations;

9 (c) Repeat Order – a method of procurement that involves a direct 10 procurement of goods from the previous winning bidder, whenever there is 11 a need to replenish goods procured under a contract previously awarded 12 through public bidding;

(d) Shopping - a method of procurement whereby the procuring
entity simply requests for the submission of price quotations for the goods
to be procured directly from suppliers of known qualification; or

(e) Negotiated Procurement – a method of procurement that may be
resorted under the extraordinary circumstances provided for in Section 27
of this Act and other instances that shall be specified in the IRR.

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# ARTICLE XIII PROTESTS MECHANISM

SEC. 42. *Protests on Decisions of the BAC*. – Decisions of the BAC in all stages of procurement may be protested to the head of the procuring entity and shall be in writing. Decisions of the BAC may be protested by filing a verified position paper and paying a non-refundable protest fee. The amount of the protest fee and the periods during which the protests may be filed and resolved shall be specified in the IRR.

SEC. 43. *Resolution of Protests.* – The protests shall be resolved strictly on the basis of records of the BAC. Up to a certain amount to be specified in the IRR, the decisions of the head of the procuring entity shall be final.

31 SEC. 44. Non-interruption of the Bidding Process. - In no case
32 shall any protest taken from any decision treated in this Article stay or

delay the bidding process. Protests must first be resolved before any
 award is made.

3 SEC. 45. *Report to Regular Courts; Certiorari.* – Court action may 4 be resorted to only after the protests contemplated in this Article shall have 5 been completed. Cases that are filed in violation of the process specified in 6 this Article shall be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction. The regional trial 7 court shall have jurisdiction over final decisions of the head of the 8 procuring entity. Court actions shall be governed by Rule 65 of the 1997 9 Rules of Civil Procedure.

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# ARTICLE XIV

11 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

12 SEC. 46. Arbitration. - Any and all disputes arising from the 13 implementation of a contract covered by this Act shall be submitted to 14 arbitration in the Philippines according to the provisions of Republic Act 15 No. 876, otherwise known as the "Arbitration Law": Provided, however, 16 That disputes that are within the competence of the Construction Industry 17 Arbitration Commission to resolve shall be referred thereto. This shall be 18 incorporated as a provision in the contract that will be executed pursuant to 19 the provisions of this Act: Provided, further, That by mutual agreement, 20 the parties may agree in writing to resort to alternative modes of dispute 21 resolution.

SEC. 47. *Appeals.* – The arbitral award and any decision entered in accordance with the foregoing section shall be appealable by way of a petition for review to the Court of Appeals. The petition shall raise purely questions of law and shall be governed by the Rules of Court.

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# ARTICLE XV THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT POLICY BOARD

SEC. 48. Organization and Functions. – A Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB) is hereby established to: (a) protect national interest in public procurement matters, having due regard to the country's regional and international obligations; (b) formulate and amend as necessary the IRR and the corresponding standard forms for

procurement; (c) ensure that procuring entities regularly conduct 1 2 procurement training programs and prepare a procurement operations 3 manual: and (d) conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of this Act 4 and recommend any amendments thereto as may be necessary. The GPPB 5 shall convene within fifteen (15) days from the effectivity of this Act for 6 the purpose, among others, of formulating the IRR. The GPPB shall 7 absorb the functions of the Procurement Policy Board created under 8 Executive Order No. 359, series of 1989, which is hereby abolished, as 9 well as the relevant functions of the Infrastructure Committee of the 10 National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board.

11 SEC. 49. Membership. - The GPPB shall consist of the Secretary of 12 the Department of Budget and Management as chairperson, the Director 13 General of the NEDA as co-chairperson and as members, the Secretaries of 14 Public Works and Highways, Trade and Industry, Health, National 15 Defense, Education, Interior and Local Government, Science and 16 Technology, and at least one (1) representative from the private sector. 17 The GPPB may invite a representative from the Commission on Audit as 18 resource person.

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### ARTICLE XVI

### PENAL CLAUSE

SEC. 50. 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) month but not more than fifteen (15) years:

(1) Opening of 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; and

31 (2) Delaying without any justifiable cause the screening process for32 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.

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The persons involved, both public and private shall, in addition, suffer the penalty of temporary disqualification from public office or be permanently disqualified from transacting business with the government. as the case may be.

7 (b) Private individuals who commit any of the following acts, and 8 any public officer conspiring with them, shall suffer the penalty of 9 imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1) month but not more 10 than fifteen (15) years:

(1) When two (2) or more bidders agree and submit different bids
as if they were bona fide, when they knew that one (1) 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
(2) or more persons, corporations, partnerships or any other business entity
in which he has interest to create the appearance of competition which does
not in fact exist so as to be adjudged as the winning bidder.

(3) When two (2) 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 anyone 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.

The persons involved, both public and private shall, in addition, suffer the penalty of temporary or perpetual disqualification from public office or be permanently disqualified from transacting business with the government.

31 (c) Private individuals who commit any of the following acts, and
32 any public officer conspiring with them, shall suffer the penalty of

imprisonment of not less than six (6) years and one (1) month but not more than fifteen (15) years:

3 (1) Submitting eligibility requirements of whatever kind and nature 4 that contain false information or falsified documents calculated to influence 5 the outcome of the eligibility screening process or concealing such 6 information in the eligibility requirements when the information will lead to 7 a declaration of ineligibility from participating in public bidding.

8 (2) Submission of bidding documents of whatever kind and nature 9 that contain false information or falsified documents or concealing such 10 information in the bidding documents, in order to influence the outcome of 11 the public bidding.

(3) Participating in a public bidding using the name of another or
allowing another to use one's name for the purpose of participating in a
public bidding.

15 (4) Withdrawing a bid, after it shall have qualified as the lowest 16 calculated bid/highest rated bid, or refusing to accept an award, without 17 just cause or for the purpose of forcing the procuring entity to award the 18 contract to another bidder. This shall include the non-submission, without 19 justifiable cause within the prescribed time, or delaying the submission of 20 requirements such as, but not limited to, performance security, preparatory 21 to the final award of the contract.

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

SEC. 51. Jurisdiction. - Jurisdiction over the offenses under this
 Article shall belong to the proper courts, according to laws existing at the
 time of the commission of the offenses.

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# ARTICLE XVII CIVIL LIABILITY

30 SEC. 52. Civil Liability in Case of Conviction. - Without prejudice
31 to administrative sanctions that may be imposed in the proper cases, a
32 conviction under this law or Republic Act No. 3019 shall carry with it civil

liability which may, at the discretion of the courts, consist of restitution for
 the damage done or the forfeiture in favor of the government of any
 unwarranted benefit derived from the acts in question or both.

4 SEC. 53. Liquidated Damages. – All contracts which will be 5 executed in accordance with this Act shall contain a provision on liquidated 6 damages which shall be payable in case of breach thereof. The amount 7 thereof shall be specified in the IRR.

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# ARTICLE XVIII

**ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS** 

10 SEC. 54. Imposition of Administrative Penalties. – (a) In addition to 11 the provisions of Articles XVI and XVII of this Act, the BAC shall impose 12 on bidders or prospective bidders the administrative penalties of suspension 13 for one (1) year for the first offense and two (2) years for the second 14 offense, as well as disqualification from further participating in the public 15 bidding currently being undertaken by the procuring entity concerned, 16 where applicable, for the following violations:

17 (1) Submitting eligibility requirements containing false information18 or falsified documents.

(2) Submitting 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.

23 (3) Allowing the use of one's name, or using the name of another,24 for purposes of public bidding.

(4) Withdrawing a bid of refusal to accept an award or enter into
contract with the Government without just cause, after it shall have been
determined to have submitted the Lowest Calculated Responsive
Bid/Highest Rated Responsive Bid.

(5) Refusing or failing to post the required performance securitywithin the prescribed time.

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(6) Terminating the contract due to the default of the bidder.

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1 (7) Any documented unsolicited attempt by a bidder to unduly 2 influence the outcome of the bidding in his favor.

3 (8) All other acts that tend to defeat the purpose of the public4 bidding.

5 (b) In addition to the above administrative penalties, the bid 6 security or the performance security posted by the concerned bidder or 7 prospective bidder shall also be forfeited, where applicable.

SEC. 55. Preventive Suspension. - The head of the procuring entity 8 9 may preventively suspend any member of the Technical Working Group or 10 the Secretariat, or the BAC if there are strong reasons or prima facie evidence showing that the officials or employees concerned are guilty of 11 the charges filed against them under Articles XVI and XVII of this Act or 12 13 for dishonesty as defined by the Civil Service Laws. In all cases, procedural and substantive due process as mandated by the Constitution 14 and Civil Service Laws, rules and regulations, shall be strictly observed. 15

16 SEC. 56. Lifting of Suspension and Removal of Administrative 17 Disabilities. – Lifting of preventive suspension pending administrative 18 investigation as well as removal of administrative penalties and disabilities 19 shall be in accordance with the provisions of Sections 52 and 53, Chapter 6 20 (Civil Service Commission), Book V of Executive Order No. 292, the 21 Administrative Code of 1987.

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### ARTICLE XIX

LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION OF BAC MEMBERS

SEC. 57. *Private Legal Assistance.* – All members of the BAC are hereby authorized to engage the services of private lawyers or extend counsel immediately upon receipt of Court Notice that a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding is filed against them. The lawyer's fee shall be part of the indemnification package for the BAC members, subject to the provisions of Section 58 hereof.

30 SEC. 58. Indemnification of BAC Members. - The GPPB shall
31 establish an equitable indemnification package for public officials
32 providing services in the BAC, which may be in the form of free legal

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1 assistance, liability insurance, and other forms of protection and 2 indemnification for all costs and expenses reasonably incurred by such 3 persons in connection with any civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding 4 to which they may be, or have been made, a party by reason of the 5 performance of their functions or duties, unless they are finally adjudged in 6 such action or proceeding to be liable for gross negligence or misconduct 7 or grave abuse of discretion.

### ARTICLE XX

### FINAL PROVISIONS

10 SEC. 59. Implementing Rules and Regulations and Standard 11 Forms. – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the 12 necessary rules, regulations and guidelines for the implementation of the 13 provisions thereof shall be formulated by the GPPB. Within thirty (30) 14 days from the effectivity of the implementing rules and regulations, the 15 standard forms for procurement shall be formulated and approved.

SEC. 60. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is
 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected
 thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

19 SEC. 61. Repealing Clause. - This law repeals Executive Order No. 20 40, Series of 2001, entitled "Consolidating Procurement Rules and 21 Procedures for All National Government Agencies, Government-Owned or 22 -Controlled Corporations and Government Financial Institutions, and 23 Requiring the Use of the Government Electronic Procurement System"; 24 Executive Order No. 262, Series of 2000, entitled "Amending Executive 25 Order No. 302, series of 1996, entitled "Providing Policies, Guidelines, 26 Rules and Regulations for the Procurement of Goods/Supplies by the 27 National Government" and Section Three (3) of Executive Order No. 201, 28 series of 2000, entitled "Providing Additional Policies and Guidelines in 29 the Procurement of Goods/Supplies by the National Government"; 30 Executive Order No. 302, series of 1996, entitled "Providing Policies, 31 Guidelines, Rules and Regulations for the Procurement of Goods/Supplies 32 by the National Government"; and Presidential Decree No. 1594 dated

1 June 11, 1978, entitled "Prescribing Policies, Guidelines, Rules and 2 Regulations for Government Infrastructure Contracts." This law amends 3 Title Six. Book Two (2) of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the "Local Government Code of 1991"; the relevant provisions of Executive 4 5 Order No. 164, Series of 1987, entitled "Providing Additional Guidelines 6 in the Processing and Approval of Contracts of the National Government"; 7 and the relevant provisions of Republic Act No. 7898 dated February 23. 1995, entitled "An Act Providing for the Modernization of the Armed 8 Forces of the Philippines and for Other Purposes." Any other law, 9 10 presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, 11 administrative order, proclamation, charter, rule or regulation and/or parts 12 thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby 13 repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 62. *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.

Approved,

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