



**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**

22 DEC -5 P1 :30

**SENATE
S. No. 1588**

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL PUBLIC PARKS SYSTEM, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Open and green spaces, especially those located within or near urban areas, contribute greatly to public health, beautify our surroundings, and offer potentials for sustainable economic growth to our communities.

These public open spaces are crucial in reducing stress and mental disorders among residents of urban areas. Public parks also diminish health inequalities and increase perception of life quality and self-reported general health. They also provide arenas and opportunities for physical activity, increased social interactions and different modes of recreation. The example of developed countries has also shown that cities and towns become more attractive when they have numerous public parks as part of their tourism plan.

For this reason, developed countries around the world have incorporated public parks in the habitats of their citizens while the United Nations has identified these spaces as integral to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal # 11 which is the creation and maintenance of Sustainable Cities and Communities.

The Philippines, however, lags behind these developed countries. First and foremost, the concept of a park is not clearly defined and the allocation of public spaces in urban areas for such purpose, unmandated on a national level.

Bearing in mind that 54% of the 7.2 billion world population in 2014 reside in urban areas, with a higher concentration in less developed regions of the world, developing public parks and green spaces is an urgent matter. The situation is no different in the Philippines where the urban population increased to more than 50 million in the past five decades. This figure will balloon to 102 million by year 2050, or more than 65% of the Philippines' total population, according to the *Philippines Urbanization Review* by the World Bank Group.

In response to this urgent need, and as a component of the government's "Build Build Build" drive, a "Green Green Green" Program has been launched by the Department of Budget and Management in 2018. The program is a unique assistance program that aims to make cities more livable and sustainable through the development of public open spaces.

Aiming to support this program, this National and Local Public Parks Bill is filed. This Bill seeks to establish the National and Local Public Parks System in the Philippines by identifying the initial 2 National and Local Public Parks to be under the system: the historical Rizal Park and the Paco Park both located in the City of Manila. The Bill also mandates identification and establishment of urban parks, open and green spaces, and recreational areas that shall constitute the National and Local Public Parks System by local government units nationwide.

Lastly, the establishment of the National and Local Public Parks Institute under the supervision of the National Public Parks Board shall also pave way for the training and education of future generations on park development, urban planning, sustainable tourism and environmental protection.

Immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

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

Chapter 1 - Introductory Sections

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** — This Act shall be known as the "*National Parks Act*
2 *of 2022*".

3 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** — It is the policy of the State to protect and
4 maintain the health and well-being of the Filipino people, through the establishment
5 and preservation of parks and open spaces. Towards this end, the State recognizes
6 parks and open spaces as valuable assets, and as such mandates:

- 7 a) the establishment of the Philippine National Public Parks System aimed to
8 conserve the scenery, natural and historic objects, and to provide for their
9 enjoyment in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired
10 for the enjoyment of future generations.
11 b) the recognition that parks and open spaces contribute to human health and
12 wellbeing, social cohesion / identity, tourism, biodiversity, air quality and
13 carbon sequestration, water management, and cooling the environment.

14 **Sec. 3. Definition of Terms.** — As used in this Act, the following words shall
15 mean:

- 16 a) *Administrator* – refers to the Chief Executive Officer and Head of the National
17 and Local Public Parks Authority (NALPA) Secretariat as defined in Sec. of this
18 Act.
19 b) *Board* – refers to the NALPA Board as defined in Sec. 5 of this Act.
20 National and Local Public Parks refer to any land laid out as a public garden and/or
21 used for the purpose of public recreation. This does not refer to national shrines
22 administered by the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office.

- 1 c) *National and Local Public Parks System* or *the System* – refers to the system of
 2 parks and open spaces as defined under Chapter 4 of this Act.
 3 d) *NIPAS* – refers to the National Integrated Protected Areas System as defined
 4 in Republic Act No. 7586, as amended, or the NIPAS Act.
 5 e) *NPDC* – refers to the National Parks Development Committee created by
 6 Executive Order 30 series of 1963.
 7 f) *NPF* or *NPFI* – refers to the Nayong Pilipino Foundation Inc., a government
 8 owned and controlled corporation registered with the Securities and Exchange
 9 Commission on May 7, 1969, as a non-stock, non-profit corporation.
 10 Presidential Decree No. 37 established the Nayong Pilipino Foundation on
 11 November 6, 1972.
 12 g) *Protected Areas* – refers to the Protected Areas as defined under the NIPAS
 13 Act.
 14 h) *Secretariat* – refers to the NALPA Secretariat as defined under Sec. 7 of this
 15 Act.

**Chapter 2 –
 Establishment of the National and Local Public Parks Authority**

16 **Sec. 4. Creation of the National and Local Public Parks Authority.** —
 17 There is hereby created the National and Local Parks Authority hereinafter referred
 18 to as the "*Authority*". The Authority shall primarily be responsible for the National
 19 and Local Public Parks System including the establishment of policies, plans and
 20 programs taking into consideration the following:

- 21 a) the State policy declared herein of giving due consideration to the
 22 establishment and maintenance of national and urban parks, open and green
 23 spaces, and recreational facilities;
 24 b) the implementation of the above-mentioned policy requires the coordination
 25 and cooperation of policies, plans, and programs of different concerned sectors
 26 of Philippine society; and
 27 c) equal and active participation of the national government and its appropriate
 28 agencies, the LGUs, the academe, and the private sector shall be made the
 29 rule in order to ensure that the National and Local Public Parks System shall be
 30 fully established and maintained.

31 **Sec. 5. Governing Board of the National and Local Parks Authority . -**
 32 In the exercise of its powers and functions, the Authority shall be governed by a Board
 33 to be composed of the following:

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| 34 | Secretary of Tourism | : | Chairperson |
| 35 | Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources | : | Co-Chairperson (who |
| 36 | | | shall be officially represented by the Director of the Biodiversity Management |
| 37 | | | Bureau) |
| 38 | Secretary of Public Works and Highways | : | Member |
| 39 | Secretary of the Agriculture | : | Member |
| 40 | Secretary of Interior and Local Government | : | Member |

1 Chairperson of the Commission of Higher Education : Member
2 Director-General of the TESDA Secretariat : Member

3 In addition, the President of the Philippines shall appoint the following
4 members from the private sector:

5 Two representatives, from a recognized professional architectural
6 organization; and

7 Two representatives, from the academe, preferably in urban planning
8 and development.

9 As soon as all the members of the private sector are appointed, they
10 shall so organize themselves that the term of office of one-third (1/3) of their
11 number shall expire every year. The member from the private sector appointed
12 thereafter to fill vacancies caused by expiration of terms shall hold office for
13 three (3) years.

14 The President of the Philippines may, however, revise the membership
15 of the NALPA Board, whenever the President deems it necessary for the
16 effective performance of the Board's functions through an administrative
17 order.

18 The NALPA Board shall meet at least twice a year, or as frequently as
19 may be deemed necessary by its Chairperson. In the absence of the
20 Chairperson, a Co-Chairperson shall preside. The internal rules of the NALPA
21 Board shall be promulgated during its first organizational meeting.

22 In the exercise of its functions, the NALPA Board shall be assisted by the
23 NALPA Secretariat as provided for in Section 7 of this Act.

24 The benefits, privileges and emoluments of the Board shall be consistent
25 with existing laws and rules.

26 **Sec. 6. Powers and Functions of the Board.** — The Board, shall have the
27 following powers:

- 28 a) Establish minimum quotas for all LGUs for the designation of municipal and city
29 lands for public parks, where applicable.
30 b) manage the country's National and Local Public Parks System, and in doing so
31 shall guide and assist other government agencies and entities, and the LGUs in
32 the planning, establishment, and management of parks that will be included in
33 the System;
34 c) promulgate, after due consultation with concerned groups and entities, policies,
35 plans, programs and guidelines as may be necessary for the effective
36 implementation of this Act and the establishment of the National and Local
37 Public Parks System;

- 1 d) establish and manage the National and Local Public Parks Institute which shall
- 2 serve as the national center for park administration, management, and
- 3 maintenance training, research and development;
- 4 e) in coordination with the Biodiversity Management Bureau, shall make Protected
- 5 Areas accessible to the public for recreational purposes;
- 6 f) organize and constitute standing committees, subsidiary groups, or technical
- 7 working groups for the efficient integration and coordination of local open
- 8 spaces and urban parks;
- 9 g) exact reasonable fees and charges for such services provided and trainings
- 10 conducted and retain such earnings for its own use, subject to guidelines
- 11 promulgated by the Authority;
- 12 h) create, when deemed necessary, an Advisory Committee which shall provide
- 13 expert and technical advice to the Board to be chosen from the academe and
- 14 the private sector: Provided, that in case the Advisory Committee is created,
- 15 the Board is hereby authorized to set aside a portion of its appropriation for its
- 16 operation; and
- 17 i) carry out any and all other functions characteristic of public institutions of
- 18 similar mandate and national scope, in line with prevailing international
- 19 principles and best practices.

20 **Sec. 7. The NALPA Secretariat.** — The NALPA Secretariat, an independent
21 agency of the executive department, shall have the primary mission of providing pro-
22 active leadership in the continuous development of systematic approaches as well as
23 measures to maintain and manage the National and Local Public Parks System, and
24 shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- 25 a) to establish and maintain a planning process and formulate a national parks
- 26 development plan in which all concerned groups and entities at various levels
- 27 participate;
- 28 b) to provide analytical inputs to policy decision-making of the Authority on
- 29 allocation of resources and institutional roles and responsibilities as shall be
- 30 embodied in the annual national parks plans;
- 31 c) to recommend measures, and implement the same upon approval by the
- 32 Authority, for the effective and efficient implementation of the national parks
- 33 development plan;
- 34 d) to propose to the Authority the specific allocation of resources for the programs
- 35 and projects it shall undertake pursuant to approved national parks
- 36 development plan;
- 37 e) to submit to the Authority periodic reports on the progress and accomplishment
- 38 of work programs of implementation of plans and policies; and
- 39 f) to perform such other functions and duties as may be assigned by the Board.

40 **Sec. 8. The NALPA Administrator and Chief Executive Officer.** — The
41 NALPA Secretariat shall be headed by an Administrator, who shall likewise be a
42 member of the Board. The Administrator shall be appointed by the President of the
43 Philippines and shall enjoy the benefits, privileges and emoluments equivalent to the
44 rank of Undersecretary.

1 As Chief Executive Officer of the Secretariat, the Administrator shall exercise
2 general supervision and control over its technical and administrative personnel. The
3 Administrator shall have the power to recommend to the Authority the structural
4 organization and the personnel complement of the Secretariat. Furthermore,
5 Administrator shall appoint such personnel necessary to carry out the objectives,
6 policies and functions of the Authority subject to Civil Service laws, rules and
7 regulations.

8 The Administrator may call upon other instrumentalities or entities of the
9 government and nongovernment and civic organizations for assistance in terms of the
10 use of their facilities and resources for the management and administration of any
11 park in the System. This authority includes the power to call on the Philippine National
12 Police to maintain peace and order in any park in the System.

13 The performance of the functions of the Administrator under this Act shall, in
14 no case, result in the diminution of the powers of the LGUs to establish their own
15 parks or develop their own open or green spaces.

16 **Sec. 9. Deputy Administrators.** — The Administrator shall be assisted by
17 four (4) Deputy Administrators for: (i) Research and Development, (ii) National and
18 Local Public Parks Operations, (iii) Local Public Parks Operations, and
19 Park Architecture & Planning.

20 The Deputy Administrators shall enjoy the benefits, privileges and emoluments
21 equivalent to the rank of Assistant Secretary.

22 **Sec. 10. Regional Administrators.** — The Regional Administrators shall be
23 under the direct control of the Administrator and shall oversee the operations of
24 National and Local Public Parks at the regional level.

25 The Regional Administrators shall enjoy the benefits, privileges and
26 emoluments equivalent to the rank of a Regional Director, and shall provide technical
27 assistance particularly to local government units for effective supervision,
28 coordination, and monitoring of national and local parks within their localities, and
29 their integration to the National Public Park System.

30 **Sec. 11. Organizational Divisions.** — The Secretariat shall have the
31 following Divisions which shall be headed by Division Chiefs:

32 Administrative Division

- 33 a) Finance Division
- 34 b) Programs and Public Affairs Division
- 35 c) Internal Audit Division
- 36 d) Security and Safety Division
- 37 e) Information and Communications Technology Division
- 38 f) Cultural & Heritage Preservation Division

39 The following Divisions shall be headed by the Deputies Administrators:

- 1 a) National Public Park Operations & Management
- 2 b) Local Public Park Operations & Management
- 3 c) Research & Development
- 4 d) Park Architecture & Planning

5 **Sec. 12. Personnel Training, Development and Performance**
6 **Incentives.** — The Authority shall undertake training and development programs to
7 upgrade the capabilities of its personnel in its various functions. Personnel shall be
8 allowed to train or study outside the Institute, in the Philippines or abroad, on official
9 time, subject to the needs of the service, upon approval of the Administrator.

10 A system of monetary incentives shall be established to reward the superior
11 performance and milestones of professional development on the part of management
12 and administrative and technical personnel, subject to approval of the Department
13 of Budget and Management and, where applicable, to the Civil Service
14 Commission.

15 **Sec. 13. Consultants and Technical Assistance, Publication and**
16 **Research.** — In pursuing its objectives, the Authority is hereby authorized to set
17 aside a portion of its appropriation for the hiring of services of qualified consultants,
18 and private organizations for research work and publication in the field of national and
19 urban parks, and open and green spaces. It shall avail itself of the services of other
20 agencies of the Government as may be required.

21 **Sec. 14. Privileges of the Authority.** — In line with the declared policy
22 and the avowed purposes of this Act, and to ensure its independence and autonomy,
23 the NALPA Secretariat shall be attached solely for budgetary coordination and related
24 purposes to the Office of the President. The Secretariat shall:

- 25 a) be classified as a National Government Agency, primarily for administrative
26 purposes, including receiving its annual budget from the general appropriations
27 of the National Government to cover appropriately the entirety of its mandated
28 operations and activities;
- 29 b) be considered as higher in level than a Bureau or Bureau-level agency but
30 beneath that of a Department or Department-level agency, primarily for
31 administrative purposes as to staffing pattern and compensation scales; and
- 32 c) enjoy such privileges and special rules characteristic of both a Government-
33 Owned or -Controlled Corporation and a State University or College wherever
34 possible and which, in any and all cases, promote the objectives of this Act;
35 and that special rule as may be necessary to this effect be formulated and
36 appropriately promulgated by the NALPA, the Department of Budget and
37 Management, the Commission on Audit, and other concerned agencies.

38 **Sec. 15. The Dissolution of NPDC and NFC and Transfer to NALPA**
39 **Secretariat.** — The NPDC and NFC are hereby dissolved and all their powers,
40 functions, responsibilities, all applicable funds and appropriations, records, assets, and
41 properties are hereby transferred to the NALPA Secretariat.

Chapter 3 – The National Parks Institute

1 **Sec. 16. *The Creation of the National Parks Institute.*** — There is hereby
2 created the National Parks Institute of the Philippines which shall be under the
3 supervision of the Board. The Institute shall serve as the training and development
4 arm of Authority. The Institute shall be headed by a Director.

5 In coordination with CHED and state universities and colleges, and other private
6 universities and institutions, the Institute shall establish a unique training course
7 aimed at supporting the purposes of this Act, and shall:

- 8 a) formulate and implement training programs for all personnel of NALPA, and of
9 LGUs, and other agencies, and private entities and institutions who wish to train
10 with the Institute;
- 11 b) formulate and implement select mandatory and specialized courses, and for
12 that purpose shall be allowed to issue diplomas and technical certificates under
13 such rules as will be coordinated with CHED and TESDA;
- 14 c) develop and implement research and development to support NALPA and for
15 educational training programs; and
- 16 d) perform such other related functions as may be prescribed by NALPA and the
17 Board.

Chapter 4 – The National Parks System

18 **Sec. 17. *Study and Planning of National Parks, Urban Parks, Open***
19 ***Spaces, and Recreational-Area Facilities.*** — Within 3 years from the effectivity
20 of this Act, the Authority shall make a comprehensive study of the National Parks,
21 Urban Parks, Open Spaces, and Recreational-Area Facilities programs of the national
22 government and the LGUs and of areas of land throughout the Philippines that are or
23 may be chiefly valuable as National Parks, Urban Parks, Open Spaces, and
24 Recreational-Area Facilities.

25 The report shall be submitted to the Board who shall be empowered to declare
26 specifically identified areas as either National Parks, Urban Parks, Open Spaces, or
27 Recreational-Area Facilities.

28 **Sec. 18. *Identification of National Parks.*** — Notwithstanding any law or
29 proclamation to the contrary, the following parks are hereby considered National Parks
30 and shall be under the jurisdiction of the Authority: (1) the Rizal Park, and (2) the
31 Paco Park.

32 The Administrator, and its Provincial Administrators, are strictly mandated to
33 investigate, study, and continually monitor areas whose over-all circumstances exhibit
34 qualities of national significance and that may have potential to become a NALPA Park.

35 **Sec. 19. *Acquisition of Land.*** — In the exercise of its power under this Act,
36 the Authority through the Administrator shall have the power to acquire land and
37 interests in land within the boundary of any NALPA Park. In the same manner and for

1 the establishment of an identified National Park, the power of eminent domain shall
2 be exercised through the Administrator, or by any of its Deputies or Provincial
3 Administrators.

4 **Sec. 20. Creation of Urban Parks and Open Spaces in LGUs.** – Within
5 the period provided by the Authority, LGUs shall be obliged to identify Urban Parks
6 and Open Spaces within their jurisdictions.

7 Identified areas may either become NALPA Administered Parks or maintain their
8 nature as Local Parks at the discretion of the LGU.

9 The Authority is hereby mandated to enter into cooperative agreements with
10 colleges and universities, in partnership with LGUs and other agencies, to establish
11 cooperative study units to conduct multi-disciplinary research and develop integrated
12 information products on the resources in the NALPA Parks, or the LGU of which the
13 NALPA Park is located for possible commercial production or utilization.

14 **Sec. 21. Delineation of Authority and Coverage.** - Subject to the IRR and
15 dependent on the categorization of the land or an area, a nature reserve or a declared
16 protected area under the NIPAS shall continue to be under the jurisdiction of the
17 DENR. All other parks established or may be established may be covered under this
18 Act.

19 **Sec. 22. Administration, Management, and Funding of NALPA Parks.**
20 – Subject to reasonable restrictions under the IRR, the general public are hereby to
21 be granted free admission to all NALPA Parks. However, the Authority may levy
22 appropriate fees to special activities or programs.

23 **Sec. 23. Retention of Income.** – The Authority is hereby authorized to retain
24 the entirety of its income from all sources of its operations nationwide, and to spend
25 the same for any purpose.

26 **Sec. 24. The NALPA Fund.** – The NALPA Fund is hereby established, to be
27 managed/administered by the Authority, the income from which shall be utilized
28 exclusively in awarding of grants and providing assistance to park development
29 programs, local government units for upgrading their capabilities, and to develop and
30 implement training and training-related activities for park development. The
31 contribution to the fund shall be the following:

- 32 a) a one-time lump sum appropriation from the National Government in the
33 amount of P100,000,000.0;
- 34 b) donations, grants, endowments, and other bequests or gifts of which the
35 Authority is hereby authorized to accept, and
- 36 c) any other income generated by the Authority.

37 The Authority shall be the administrator of the fund, and as such, shall
38 formulate the necessary implementing guidelines for the management of the fund,
39 subject to the following: a) unless otherwise stipulated by the private donor, only

1 earnings of private contributions shall be used; and b) no part of the seed capital of
2 the fund, including earnings, thereof, shall be used to underwrite expenses for
3 administration.

4 The Board shall appoint a reputable government-accredited investment
5 institution as fund manager, subject to guidelines promulgated by the Board.

6 **Sec. 25. Incentives Schemes.** — The Authority shall develop and administer
7 appropriate incentives schemes to encourage the LGUs and private industries and
8 institutions to participate in the development of the National Parks System.

9 **Sec. 26. Parks and Green Spaces Awards.** — To promote parks
10 development in the country and with the view of participating in international park
11 development competitions, the Authority, with the active participation of private
12 industries, shall organize and conduct annual Parks and Green Spaces Awards. The
13 Authority, through the Secretariat, shall promulgate the necessary rules and guidelines
14 for the effective and efficient conduct of Annual National Parks and Green Spaces
15 Competition among the LGUs and for the country's participation in international park
16 development competitions.

17 **Sec. 27. Exemption from Taxes, Duties, Fees and Charges.** — The
18 Authority shall be exempt from the payment of taxes, fees and charges imposed by
19 the National Government and its political subdivisions, agencies and instrumentalities
20 regardless of the nature of its activity.

21 All donations in any form shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same
22 shall be considered as allowable deduction from the gross income in the computation
23 of the income tax of the donor, in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No.
24 8424, otherwise known as the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

25 Furthermore, importation of supplies and materials for the use of the Authority
26 shall be exempt from customs duties.

27 **Sec. 28. Commercial Operations of and inside of NALPA Parks.** — The
28 Authority shall be authorized to undertake commercial operations, the proceeds of
29 which shall be credited to the NALPA Fund:

- 30 a) The rental of dedicated areas for external events, functions and similar
31 activities;
- 32 b) The lease of dedicated areas for the erection and operation of commercial
33 establishments inside NALPA Parks, which NALPA shall be allowed to award,
34 through public bidding, and giving preference to nonprofit organizations of a
35 nature related to or supportive of its mandate, for a term of up to five (5) years
36 per contract;
- 37 c) The production and/or licensing of official merchandise;
- 38 d) The award of concession contracts when the Authority shall utilize concession
39 contracts to authorize a person, corporation, or other entity to provide
40 accommodations, facilities, and services to visitors or users of NALPA Parks.

1 **Sec. 29. Contracted Services.** – Then Authority is authorized to contract out
2 services for Park Management and Safety and Security Services.

Chapter 5 – Miscellaneous Provisions

3 **Sec. 30. NALPA Budget.** – The amount necessary to finance the initial
4 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the existing appropriations of
5 the NPDC and the NPF, and shall be supported by funds coming from the Office of the
6 President. Thereafter, such funds as may be necessary for the continued
7 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

8 **Sec. 31. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within 180 days from
9 the effectivity of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Board the implementing
10 rules and regulations of this Act upon prior consultation with all concerned groups and
11 entities.

Sec. 32. Transitory Provisions. –

- 12 a) Within two (2) months after the approval of this Act, the President shall, in
13 consultation with the Secretary of Tourism appoint the private sector
14 representatives of the Board.
15 b) Within three (3) months after the appointment of the private sector
16 representatives, the President shall, upon the recommendation of the
17 Board, appoint the Administrator.
18 c) Within four (4) months after the appointment of the Administrator, the
19 Board shall convene to determine the organizational structure and staffing
20 pattern of the Authority.
21 d) Within one (1) year after the organization of the Authority, the Board shall
22 commission an expert group on funding schemes for the NALPA Fund, as
23 provided in Section 24, the results of which shall be used as the basis for
24 appropriate action by the Board.
25 e) Upon the effectivity of this Act, and prior to the appointment of the Board
26 and the Administrator, the heads and personnel of both NPDC and the NPF
27 shall continue to exercise their functions and duties, in holdover capacity,
28 and shall ensure the smooth transition to the Board and the Administrator.
29 f) All personnel of the NPDC and NPF are hereby deemed retired from service.
30 Retirement and separation benefits shall be paid under existing rules and
31 regulations.
32 g) The Authority may on its discretion retain any personnel of NPDC and NPF
33 it deems necessary to carry out its purpose and function.
34 h) The ownership and title to the properties now actually occupied by the NPF
35 and NPDC are hereby transferred in fee simple to the Authority, subject to
36 the following conditions:
37 1) The titles to the land conveyed by this Act shall not be transferred by
38 the Authority to another person or entity without previous authorization by
39 the President of the Philippines.
40

1 2) The Authority is hereby authorized to mortgage any properties referred
2 to above for the purpose of carrying out its objectives and purposes only;
3 and

4 3) In case the Authority is dissolved or ceases, for any reason, to undertake
5 its objectives, or ceases to need any of the lands for any reason, said land
6 shall *ipso facto* revert to the National Government without compensation.

7 **Sec. 33. Automatic Review.** — Every five (5) years, after the effectivity of
8 this Act, an independent review panel composed of three (3) persons appointed by
9 the President shall review the performance of the Authority and shall make
10 recommendations, based on its findings to the President and to both Houses of
11 Congress.

12 **Sec. 34. Repealing Clause.** — All laws, presidential decrees or issuances,
13 executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules or regulation
14 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
15 accordingly.

16 **Sec. 35. Separability Clause.** — If any provision of this Act is declared
17 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
18 remain in full force and effect.

19 **Sec. 36. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the
20 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,