

[**PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 35, October 31, 1972**]

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FIFTY-FOUR HUNDRED AND NINETY-NINE, ENTITLED "AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE UPPER PAMPANGA RIVER PROJECT, PROVIDING FOR THE FINANCING THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

WHEREAS, there were pending before Congress prior to the promulgation of Proclamation No. 1081, dated September 21, 1972, certain priority measures vital to the national development program of the Government, and which were duly certified by the President as urgent measures;

WHEREAS, one of these priority measures is a proposed amendment to Republic Act No. 5499, entitled "An Act Authorizing the Construction of the Upper Pampanga River Project, providing for the financing thereof and for other purposes";

WHEREAS, there is a need to grant authority to the National Irrigation Administration to undertake studies for bankable proposals to extend the benefits of the Upper Pampanga River Project to the Provinces of Pangasinan, Tarlac, Pampanga and Bulacan by harnessing tributaries of the Pampanga River, ground water resources and other river basins; and

WHEREAS, to achieve this end, and in order to alleviate the plight of the inhabitants who will be adversely affected by reservoir inundation of the Project, including the construction of this multi-purpose development project, additional funds need to be appropriated for lending to the displaced inhabitants, and the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) should be authorized to administer such loans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution as Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Forces of the Philippines and pursuant to Proclamation Order No. 1081, dated September 21, 1972, and General Order No. 1, dated September 22, 1972, as amended, do hereby adopt and make as part of the law of the land the following amendments to Republic Act No. 5499:

SECTION 1. Section one of Republic Act Numbered Fifty-four hundred and ninety-nine is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION. 1. The construction of the Upper Pampanga River Project (hereinafter referred to as the 'Project', is hereby authorized for the purpose of furnishing water for irrigation, generating electric power and energy, regulating floods, providing water supply, and for other related uses. The Project shall include the preparation of feasibility studies which shall be undertaken with the end in view of extending its benefits to the Provinces of Pangasinan, Tarlac, Pampanga and Bulacan, by harnessing tributaries of the Pampanga River, ground water sources, and other river basins." SEC. 2. Section four of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows: "SEC. 4. There is hereby appropriated for the National Irrigation Administration, out of any funds in the National Treasury not