

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3927, June 18, 1964]

**AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF AGRICULTURAL
ENGINEERING IN THE PHILIPPINES.**

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

SECTION 1. *Title of Act.*—This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Agricultural Engineering Law."

SEC. 2. *Definitions of terms.*—(a) *Agricultural Engineering* as a profession consists in the application of the fundamental and known principles of mechanical, civil and electrical engineering to the peculiar conditions and requirements of agriculture as an industry and as a field of science. The practice of agricultural engineering shall embrace the following activities: (1) farm power and machinery, (2) farm buildings and structures, (3) farm electrification and farm processing, (4) soil and water conservation which includes farm irrigation and drainage. land clearing, flood control, soil erosion control and related problems, and (5) education and research.

(b) *Agricultural engineer* is a graduate of agricultural engineering course from a school, institution, college or diversity duly recognized by the government.

(c) *Registered professional agricultural engineer* shall mean a person duly registered with the Board of Examiners for Agricultural Engineers in the manner herein provided.

SEC. 3. *Creation and Composition of Board.*—Within thirty days after the approval of this Act, there shall be created a Board of Examiners for Agricultural Engineers, herein referred to as the Board, to be composed of a Chairman and two members, who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines with the consent of the Commission on Appointments. The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three years and until their successors shall have been appointed and shall have qualified. Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath of office before entering upon the performance of his duties. Any member of the Board may be removed by the President of the Philippines for neglect of duty, incompetence, malpractice, unprofessional, unethical, immoral or dishonorable conduct, after having been given opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation: *Provided*, That the President of the Philippines may suspend such member under investigation and appoint a temporary member in his place. Temporary vacancies in the Board shall filled for the unexpired term only.

SEC. 4. *Functions and duties of the Board.*—The Board of Examiners for Agricultural Engineers is vested with authority, conformable with the provisions of

this Act, to administer oaths; issue, suspend and revoke certificates of registration for the practice of agricultural engineers, issue certificates of recognition to agricultural engineers already registered under this Act, for advanced studies, research, and/or specialized training in any division of agricultural engineering, subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines; prescribe the curriculum for the academic course leading to degrees in agricultural engineering, subject to the policies of the Board of National Education, and to investigate such violations of this Act and the regulations issued there] under as may come to the knowledge of the Board and, for this purpose issue *subpoena* and *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the appearance of witnesses and production of documents in any investigation conducted by the Board. All *subpoena* and other communications shall be issued under the signature of the Chairman and seal of the Board. If any person shall refuse to obey any *subpoena* so issued or .shall refuse to testify or produce any document or other pertinent evidence, the Board shall present its petition to the Court of First Instance setting forth the facts and thereupon the Court shall, in a proper case, issue its *subpoena* to such person requiring his appearance before such Court and there to testify or produce such documents or other pertinent evidence as may be deemed necessary by the Board. Any person failing or refusing to obey the *subpoena* or order of the court may be prosecuted in the same manner as for refusal to obey any other *subpoena* or order of the Court.

SEC. 5. *Rules and regulations.*—The Board shall, with the advise of the Commissioner of Civil Service and subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines, adopt such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. Penal provisions may be included in said rules and regulations, the violations of which shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred pesos, or imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

SEC. 6. *Qualifications of Board Members.*—Each member of the Board shall, at the time of his appointment—

- (a) Be a citizen of the Philippines and a resident thereof;
- (b) Be at least thirty years of age and of good moral character;
- (c) Be a graduate of agricultural engineering or agriculture with a major in agricultural engineering from a recognized and legally constituted school, institute, college or university;
- (d) Be a registered agricultural engineer duly authorized to practice agricultural engineering in the Philippines: *Provided*, That this qualification shall not be required of the first appointees to the Board;
- (e) Have practiced agricultural engineering for a period of not less than five years prior to his appointment; and
- (f) Not a member of the faculty of any school, institute, college or university where agricultural engineering course is taught, nor have a pecuniary interest in such institutions.

No former members of the faculty of any school, institute, college or university where agricultural engineering course is taught can become a member of the Board unless he stopped teaching for at least two consecutive years prior to his appointment.

SEC. 7. *Compensation of Board Members.*—The members of the Board shall each receive as compensation the sum of twenty-five pesos for each person examined, or registered as agricultural engineer without examination. Any person in the service of the Government of the Philippines appointed as member of the Board shall receive the compensation herein provided in addition to his regular salary.

SEC. 8. *Executive Officer of the Board.*—The Commissioner of Civil Service shall be the Executive Officer of the Board and shall conduct the examinations given by it according to the rules and regulations promulgated in accordance with Section ten of Act Numbered Four thousand seven, as amended. All records of the Board, including examination papers, minutes of deliberations and records of administrative proceedings and investigations, shall be kept by the Bureau of Civil Service.

SEC. 9. *Annual report.*—The Board shall submit an annual report to the President of the Philippines after the close of each fiscal year, giving a detailed account of its proceedings during the year and making such recommendations as it may deem proper.

SEC. 10. *Exemption from registration.*—Registration for practice as agricultural engineers shall not be required of the following:

- (a) Agricultural engineers from other countries called in consultation only and exclusively in specific cases, and those who are attached to international bodies and organizations and assigned to perform certain definite work in the Philippines, provided they do not engage in private practice on their own account as agricultural engineers in the Philippines;
- (b) Agricultural engineers attached to the Armed Forces of the United States stationed in the Philippines while rendering services as such only for the said armed forces and within the limits of their territorial jurisdiction; and
- (c) Foreign agricultural engineers employed as exchange professors or instructors in recognized local schools, institutes, colleges or universities where a regular course in agricultural engineering is taught.

SEC. 11. *Examination required.*—Except as otherwise expressly provided, all applicants for registration for the practice of agricultural engineering shall be required to pass a technical examination as provided for in this Act.

SEC. 12. *Qualification of applicant for examination.*—A person applying for admission to the agricultural engineering examination as herein provided shall, prior to the date of the examinations, establish to the satisfaction of the Board that he is:

- (a) at least twenty-one years of age;
- (b) a citizen of the Philippines;
- (c) of good moral character and reputation; and
- (d) a graduate of an agricultural engineering course from a school, institute, college or university duly recognized by the Government.

SEC. 13. *Holding of examinations.*—Examinations for the practice of agricultural engineering in the Philippines shall be given in the City of Manila beginning on the second Monday of February and of August of each year for four consecutive days: *Provided*, That when such days fall on official holidays, the examination shall be held on the day next following.

SEC. 14. *Scope of examination.*—The examination for the practice of agricultural engineering in the Philippines shall embrace the following subjects with their corresponding weights by percentages:

- (a) Farm mechanization, farm power, farm machinery and equipment..... 20%
- (b) Soil and water conservation, farm irrigation and drainage 20%
- (c) Rural electrification, farm processing and farm structures 20%
- (d) Mathematics (algebra, plane trigonometry, analytics and calculus)..... 10%
- (e) Agronomy and animal husbandry 10%
- (f) Farm economics and farm management.....10%
- (g) Agricultural marketing and farm statistics..10%

SEC. 15. *Report of ratings.*—The Board shall, within one hundred twenty days after the completion of the examination, report the ratings obtained by each candidate to the Commissioner of Civil Service, who shall, with his recommendations, submit such ratings to the President of the Philippines for his approval.

SEC. 16. *Registration without examination.*—Certificates of Registration as agricultural engineers may be issued without examination to applicants of good reputation and moral character who shall file their application within one year from the approval of this Act and who are:

- (a) at least thirty years of age on the date of approval this Act, are holders of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering conferred by a school, institute, college or university duly recognized by the Government and had practised agricultural engineering for a period of not less than six years prior to such date;
- (b) at least thirty-five years of age on the date of approval of this Act, are holders of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture with major