

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2912, June 19, 1960]

**AN ACT TO CREATE A BOARD OF TECHNICAL SURVEYS AND
MAPS, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. Title.-This Act shall be known as the Surveying and Mapping Act of 1960.

SEC. 2. Policy.-It is hereby declared as the policy of the State: (1) That there shall be independence from the United States of America in the making of economic maps, topographical maps, special maps, aeronautical charts and/or maps of the Philippines and functions of the government in this field up-dated so that the necessary machinery be established; (2) that in order to promote and/or improve efficiency among the different mapping and surveying agencies of the government, their activities must be systematized and coordinated and that research be instituted; (3) that economic maps, large scale topographical maps which conform with modern standards, special geological maps needed for economic development, and aeronautical charts be produced in this country and made available for its economic development; and (4) that this Act shall not be construed to prevent the logical expansion of offices now in mapping and surveying but rather to coordinate expansion for the sake of economy and efficiency and no map or chart now produced or contemplated to be Educued by any authorized surveying and/or mapping agency of the Government shall be duplicated as a result of this Act.

SEC. 3. Board of Technical Surveys and Maps; Powers, Functions and Duties.-There is hereby created a Board of Technical Surveys and Maps hereinafter called the Board with the following functions, powers and duties:

1. To promulgate and adopt a set of national mapping and surveying standards which shall include, but shall not be limited to symbols, surveying requirement and specifications, and with due considerations to those already adopted by international organizations of which the Philippines is a member;
2. To adopt and prescribe national survey data which shall include but shall not be limited to horizontal and vertical surveying controls and gravity;
3. To coordinate the activities of such surveying and mapping agencies in the government as well as semi-government corporations which have activities in this field and which may be designated by the Board;
4. To coordinate the budgetary requirements of those agencies designated in accordance with the previous section in so far as the objectives of the Board are affected;
5. To develop and encourage free private enterprise in the field of surveying and mapping;

6. To promote and encourage voluntary coordination and cooperation among the designated government agencies so as to promote the usefulness of every technical survey data and/or map obtained and produced, so that duplication of work shall be reduced to a minimum;
7. To encourage, assist, plan, coordinate and direct within its powers and facilities the early publication for public use economic maps, large scale topographical and special geological maps needed for economic development, aeronautical charts, technical and scientific data;
8. To promote and encourage research and development among the designated agencies, not only for the improvement of production methods but also for the utilization of local instruments, machines and materials;
9. To initiate and formulate measures designed to promote the early attainment of the objectives of this Act;
10. To obtain the necessary data for the compilation, reproduction and publication of any of the maps and charts specified in this Act, unless such function is vested under existing laws to any other government agency;
11. To have all the duties, powers, functions and prerogatives of the Board of Directors which shall function as such, unless otherwise provided for in this Act; to promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the conduct and exercise of its functions, duties and powers under this Act: Provided, That the concurrence of at least six members is required for the approval of any resolution;
12. To submit to the President of the Philippines and to both Houses of Congress, not later than the opening of the regular session each year, an annual report on the status of surveying and mapping efforts of the government; and
13. To do such other things and take such action as may be directly or indirectly incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objectives of this Act.

SEC. 4. Composition of the Board.-The Board shall be composed of a chairman; a vice-chairman who shall concurrently be the Executive Director of the Board; and the following as members: the Budget Commissioner, the Undersecretary of Public Works and Communications whose appointment is to be approved by the President upon the recommendation of the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, the Undersecretary of National Defense, the Undersecretary of Natural Resources of the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the Director of National Planning of the National Economic Council, the Manager of National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority, and one member each, representing the surveying or geodetic, photogrammetric and civil engineering professions who shall be appointed by the President from among those who may be recommended by representative groups or societies, subject to the confirmation of the Commission on Appointments and who shall hold office for a term of three years.

SEC. 5. Chairman of the Board.-The Chairman of the Board shall be the Secretary of National Defense. He shall receive a per diem of fifty pesos per session but not to exceed two hundred pesos a month.

SEC. 6. Vice-Chairman and Executive Director.-The Vice-Chairman and Executive Director shall be appointed by the President subject to the confirmation of the Commission on Appointments. He shall be a citizen of the Philippines with proven executive ability in the field of surveying and mapping and shall have seven years experience as a senior executive with sufficient training and background in the