[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1151, June 17, 1954]

AN ACT CREATING THE LAND REGISTRATION COMMISSION, AND AUTHORIZING AND APPROPRIATING THE NECESSARY FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. Land Registration Commission.—In order to have a more efficient execution of the existing laws relative to the registration of lands, there is created a commission to be known as the Land Registration Commission, under the executive supervision of the Secretary of Justice. Said Commission shall have supervision and control over all Registers of Deeds, as well as the clerical and archival system of the Courts of First Instance throughout the Philippines in the exercise of the duties and functions conferred upon them with reference to the registration of lands, and shall constitute a central repository of original records in matters connected with land titles and the registration thereof.

SEC. 2. *Chief and Assistant Chief of the Commission.*—The Land Registration Commission shall have a chief and assistant chief, to be known, respectively, as the Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioner of Land Registration who shall be appointed by the President with consent of the Commission on Appointments. The commissioner shall be a duly qualified member of the Philippine Bar with at least five years of practice in the legal profession, and shall be entitled to the same compensation, emoluments and privileges as those of a Judge of the Court of First Instance. The Assistant Commissioner, who shall possess the same qualifications as those required of the Commissioner, shall receive compensation at the rate of seven thousand two hundred pesos *per annum*. He shall act as Commissioner of Land Registration during the absence or disability of the Commissioner, and when there is a vacancy in the position until another person shall have been designated or appointed in accordance with law. The Assistant Commissioner shall also perform such other functions as the Commissioner may assign to him.

SEC. 3. *General functions of the Commission.*—The Commissioner of Land Registration shall take over all the powers and functions as are now conferred upon the Chief of the General Land Registration Office, which position is hereby abolished, as well as the powers and functions of the Judge of the Fourth Branch of the Court of First Instance of Manila, in all matters heretofore submitted to it for resolution under section two hundred of the Administrative Code. The Commissioner shall likewise exercise executive supervision over all the personnel of the Courts of First Instance throughout the Philippines with respect to the discharge of duties and functions conferred by law upon such personnel in relation to registration of lands, and all clerks of said courts acting with inspect to the same shall be deemed to be under the Commissioner. It shall be the duty of said clerks of court to attend, either in person or by deputy, all sessions of their respective courts wherein proceedings