

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 897, June 20, 1953]

AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED THREE HUNDRED AND FOUR BY EXTENDING THE BENEFITS OF THE LAW TO MEMBER OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMY AND OF RECOGNIZED GUERRILLA FORCES AND OFFICERS OF THE PHILIPPINE SCOUTS AND BY ALLOWING THE USE OF CERTIFICATES OF INDEBTEDNESS FOR THE PURCHASE OF PUBLIC LANDS AND GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES, AND FOR PAYMENT OF OBLIGATIONS SUBSISTING AT THE TIME OF APPROVAL OF THIS ACT.

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

SECTION 1. Section one of Republic Act Numbered Three hundred and four, as amended by Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred, is further amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. Except as herein provided, the right of all officers, employees and persons under contract with the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, including officers and enlisted men of the Philippine Army and officers of the Philippine Scouts given assimilated ranks and relative seniority in the Philippine Army, who, on the eighth day of December, nineteen hundred and forty-one, or after but not later than the twenty-fifth day of May, nineteen hundred and forty-two in the case of officers and enlisted men of the Philippine Army and officers of the Philippine Scouts hereinabove mentioned, or any time thereafter in the case of those civilians who volunteered to join the resistance movements, who were serving in the classified or unclassified service of the national, provincial, city or municipal governments, including the University of the Philippines and the corporations owned or controlled by the Government, as well as elective provincial and municipal officials who held over in their respective offices after the termination of the term of their office, to such of their respective salaries, emoluments, fees, allowances, *per diems*, compensations or wages as have not been received by them by reason of the war, and those of guerrilla forces duly recognized by the Army of the United States, and of the free local civil governments, provincial and municipal, including military commissions which served as courts of justice thereof, duly organized for purposes of resistance against the enemy, corresponding to the period of January first, nineteen hundred and forty-two, up to and including September twenty-three, nineteen hundred and forty-five, or up to and including September twenty-six, nineteen hundred and forty-five, in the case of members of the Philippine Army or of recognized guerrilla forces and officers of the Philippine Scouts hereinabove mentioned, or any portion of

such period or before and subsequent thereto when they were in operation as hereinabove provided is, under the conditions provided in this Act, hereby recognized. The recognition herein provided shall not extend to the salaries and wages of (a) officers and enlisted personnel of the United States Army or Navy and commissioned officers of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey and the United States Public Health and Quarantine Service on detail with the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, except as otherwise provided in this section; (b) officers and employees found guilty after due trial in such cases made and provided by law, of treason, espionage, or any act constituting disloyalty to the Government of the Philippines or the United States committed at any, time during the enemy or Japanese occupation of the Philippines; and (c) officers and employees who received salaries from the Refugee Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines in the United States of America or elsewhere. Officers or employees who died on or before the date of the liberation of the province or city where assigned on the date of the occupation shall have the right to such salaries or wages under the conditions referred to in this section, up to the time of their death, if determinate, or the date they were last seen alive. The right to salaries or wages herein authorized shall be computed from the day of the occupation of each province or city by the Japanese up to the date of the liberation thereof, the date of occupation or liberation, as the case may be, of the capital to be deemed as the date of the occupation or liberation of the province, respectively: *Provided*, That the right to such salaries and wages shall be computed from the date last paid in the case of members of the Philippine Army and officers of the Philippine Scouts specifically mentioned herein."

SEC. 2. Section two of the said Act, as amended by Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred, is further amended to read:

"SEC. 2. The Treasurer of the Philippines shall, upon application of all persons specified in section one hereof and within one year from the approval of this amendatory Act, and under such rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the Secretary of Finance, acknowledge and file requests for the recognition of the right to the salaries or wages as provided in section one hereof, and notice of such acknowledgment shall be issued to the applicant which shall state the total amount of such salaries or wages due the applicant, and certify that it shall be redeemed by the Government of the Philippines within ten years from the date of their issuance without interest: *Provided*, That upon application and subject to such rules and regulations as may be approved by the Secretary of Finance a certificate of indebtedness may be issued by the Treasurer of the Philippines covering the whole or a part of the total salaries or wages the right to which has been duly acknowledged and recognized, provided that the face value of such certificate of indebtedness shall not exceed the amount that the applicant may need for the payment of (1) obligations subsisting at the time of the approval of this amendatory Act for which the applicant may directly be liable to the Government or to any of its branches or instrumentalities, or the corporations owned or controlled by the Government, or to any citizen of the Philippines, or to any association or corporation organized under the