

[REPUBLIC ACT No. 730, June 18, 1952]

**AN ACT TO PERMIT THE SALE WITHOUT PUBLIC AUCTION OF
PUBLIC LANDS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR
RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES TO QUALIFIED APPLICANTS UNDER
CERTAIN CONDITIONS.**

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections sixty-one and sixty-seven of Commonwealth Act Numbered One hundred forty-one, as amended by Republic Act Numbered Two hundred ninety-three, any Filipino citizen legal age who is not the owner of a home lot in the Municipality or city in which he resides and who has in good faith established his residence on a parcel of the public land of the Republic of the Philippines which is no needed for the public service, shall be given preference to purchase at a private sale of which reasonable notice shall be given to him not more than one thousand square meters at a price to be fixed by the Director of Lands with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources. It shall be an essential condition of this sale that the occupant has constructed his house on the land and actually resided therein. Ten per cent of the purchase price shall be paid upon the approval of the sale and the balance may be paid in full, or in ten equal annual installments.

SEC. 2. Except in favor of the Government or any of its branches, units, or institutions, lands acquired under the provisions of this Act shall not be subject to encumbrance or alienation before the patent is issued and for a term of ten years from the date of the issuance of such patent, nor shall they become liable to the satisfaction of any debt contracted prior to the expiration of said period. No transfer or alienation made after the said period of ten years and within fifteen years from the issuance of such patent except those made by virtue of the right of succession shall be valid unless when duly authorized by the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the transferee or vendee is a Filipino citizen. Every conveyance made shall be subject to repurchase by the original purchaser or his legal heirs within a period of five years from the date of conveyance.

Any contract or agreement made or executed in violation of this section shall be void *ab initio*.

SEC. 3. The provisions of the Public Land Act with respect to the sale of lands for residential purposes which are not inconsistent herewith shall be applicable.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved, June 18, 1952.
