

[Act No. 2489, February 05, 1915]

AN ACT AUTHORIZING SPECIAL COMPENSATION, CREDITS, AND MODIFICATION IN THE SENTENCE OF PRISONERS AS A REWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL CONDUCT AND WORKMANSHIP, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

By authority of the United States, be it enacted by the Philippine Legislature, that:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of encouraging industrial compensation, activity and the earlier release from confinement of those who by their conduct indicate that they have reformed, Insular prisoners who are or become skilled and semiskilled workmen may receive compensation for their work from the profits accruing to the credit of the industrial division of the Bureau of Prisons by the sale of articles manufactured by the prisoners or from payments made for work performed by them: *Provided*, That such compensation does not exceed the difference between the gross cost of the prisoner's maintenance and the amount that his services are reasonably worth with the additional proviso, that all prisoners who are in the same conduct and workmanship classifications, regardless of nature of work, shall receive like compensation.

SEC. 2. At least fifty per centum of any amount that may accumulate to the credit of prisoners under this Act shall be withheld until after final discharge, the remainder to be subject to disbursement upon request of the prisoner for the support of dependent members of his family or for such personal use as may be approved by the Director of Prisons: *Provided*, That for this purpose a larger proportion may be disbursed upon presentation to the Director of Prisons of evidence satisfactory to him of its necessity.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Public Instruction will promulgate suitable rules defining the requirements for eligibility in conduct and workmanship classifications and ratings as well as fixing the amounts and methods for compensation payments. The rules shall also define the methods governing forfeitures of accrued compensation credits for neglect in work or other misconduct.

SEC. 4. Prisoners receiving by executive approval the classification of penal colonists or trustees employed at work without the surveillance of an armed guard, in addition to the regular good conduct time credits authorized by Act Numbered Fifteen hundred and thirty-three, may be credited with five days for each calendar month during which their work and conduct have been exemplary and while they retain this classification.

SEC. 5. Prisoners serving sentences of life imprisonment receiving and retaining the classification of penal colonists or trustees will automatically have the sentence of life imprisonment modified to a sentence of thirty years when receiving the executive approval for this classification upon which the regular credit now authorized by law and special credit authorized in the preceding paragraph, for good conduct, may be made.

SEC. 6. The forfeitures of credits of the special allowance provided in the two preceding sections will be made to accord with the provisions of Act Numbered