

[Act No. 3540, November 22, 1929]

AN ACT CREATING A COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE WAYS AND MEANS OF PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF MINDANAO AND SULU AND OTHER ESPECIALLY ORGANIZED PROVINCES, AND DEFINING ITS DUTIES AND POWERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Legislature assembled and by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1. The Governor-General is hereby authorized to appoint, with the consent of the Philippine Senate, a committee of five members to study the ways and means of promoting the development of Mindanao and Sulu and the other especially organized provinces, which shall be known as Advisory Committee on Mindanao-Sulu and Special Provinces. The Director of the Bureau of Non-Christian Tribes may be designated by the Governor-General to act as Secretary and Executive Officer of the said Committee.

SEC. 2. The duties of this committee shall be:

- (a) To recommend a comprehensive system of highways or and railways which ever may best suit the needs of the region;
- (b) To advise ways and means of encouraging the movement of population to Mindanao and Sulu by establishing agricultural colonies where needed and by assisting home seekers in every legitimate way;
- (c) To recommend adequate reservations for the use of (1) non-Christian natives; (2) homesteaders and small capitalists; and (3) Government purposes;
- (d) To recommend ways and means of providing universal elementary education for children of school age;
- (e) To recommend appropriate action that would place, as rapidly as conditions may warrant, the especially organized provincial and municipal governments on the same basis as the regularly organized provincial and municipal governments; and
- (f) To recommend proper coordination of the functions of the different offices in charge of the Government activities in Mindanao and Sulu and especially organized provinces to the end that the Government machinery dealing with the so-called non-Christian problem may function efficiently.

SEC. 3. The committee herein created shall have authority to call upon any official or employee of the Government, through the proper Department Head, for assistance in complying with the duties imposed upon it by this Act, and any expense that said officials or employees may incur in connection with the work performed by them upon request of the committee shall be charged to the appropriations for their respective offices: *Provided*, That such members of the Legislature as may be appointed to this committee shall be entitled to actual and