

## [ Act No. 1941, May 20, 1909 ]

### **AN ACT CREATING A CODE COMMITTEE TO REVISE AND AMEND THE CIVIL, COMMERCIAL, PENAL, AND PROCEDURE CODES IN FORCE IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS AND TO PREPARE NEW CODES ON SAID SUBJECTS, MAKING NECESSARY APPROPRIATION FOR THE SAME, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

SECTION 1. A code committee composed of a president and four members for the purpose of revising the Civil, Commercial, Penal, and Procedure Codes which have been in force to date and the Mortgage and Land Registration Acts, and to prepare new codes matters in accordance with modern principles of the law and with the customs of the country, is hereby created.

SEC. 2. The Governor-General shall appoint, by and with the Philippine Commission, the president and members created by this Act; said president shall receive of fifteen thousand pesos and said members shall receive an annual salary of twelve thousand pesos each.

SEC. 3. To be appointed president or member of the code committee the following qualifications shall be necessary:

- (a) To be thirty years of age or over.
- (b) To be a citizen of the United States, a native of the Philippine Islands, or to have acquired the political rights of a native of said Islands by virtue of the treaty of Paris, and
- (c) To have practiced law or to have been judge of a court of record in the United States, the Philippine Islands, or Spain, or prior to the date of the ratification of the treaty of Paris, in any Spanish territory, for a period of three years or to have held for an equal period of time any office requiring as an indispensable qualification the title of lawyer in the Philippine Islands, or, prior to the ratification of the treaty of Paris, in any Spanish territory.

SEC. 4. The Attorney-General shall furnish, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Finance and Justice, the subordinate employees which may be necessary in order for the code committee to begin and to carry out its duties.

SEC. 5. The committee shall complete its work not later than five years after the date of its appointment and shall present a Report of all the work performed by it at the beginning of each session of the Legislature.

SEC. 6. The member of said committee shall have all the civil rights and privileges and shall be subject to the same disabilities as are now provided by law for judges of Courts of First Instance and shall be governed by the same civil-service provisions : Provided, That in case any officer or employee of the Philippine Government or any subdivision thereof shall be appointed upon said committee he shall be entitled to communication of all accrued and vacation leave which on the date of his appointment he may be entitled, at any time in connection with actual