

[Act No. 1617, March 20, 1907]

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF TOLL ROADS AND BRIDGES.

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

SECTION 1. Whenever the provincial board of any province shall decide it to be necessary for the proper maintenance of any road or highway within the province, it may designate any such road or highway, or any part of any road or highway, or any bridge, which is maintained, or intended to be built and maintained wholly by provincial funds, as a toll road or toll bridge, and may fix, and from time to time may change, the rates of toll to be paid for the use thereof, which shall be reasonable and shall not be greater than is necessary to produce the revenue requisite for the proper building, maintenance, or improvement thereof during the period while the toll rates are in force. The rates fixed shall be subject to the approval of the Governor-General : *Provided*, That no toll shall be collected from persons passing over such road or bridge on foot: *And provided further*, That officers and enlisted men and civil employees of the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps shall be exempt from the payment of tolls or charges under this Act.

SEC. 2. The provincial board may erect the gates and employ the persons necessary to collect the tolls on any such road or part of road or bridge so designated, the tolls so collected to constitute a special fund for the repair and maintenance of said toll road.

SEC. 3. It shall be unlawful for any person whatever to use any toll road or bridge except as provided in section one hereof without paying the tolls prescribed therefor, and any person who shall make use thereof in violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not to exceed fifty pesos and in default of the payment thereof shall be imprisoned one day for each peso of fine and costs unpaid.

SEC. 4. Whenever either the Governor-General or the provincial board shall decide that the financial situation of a province is such; that the collection of tolls on any road or part of a road or bridge may be discontinued without injury to the welfare of such province, the Governor-General or the provincial board, as the case may be, shall so order and thereafter such road or part thereof shall be free for public use, and in any case no road or highway shall be continued as a toll road or highway for a longer period than five years.

SEC. 5. The public good requiring the speedy enactment of this bill, the passage of the same is hereby expedited in accordance with section two of "An Act prescribing the order of procedure by the Commission in the enactment of laws," passed September twenty-sixth, nineteen hundred.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect on its passage.

Enacted, March 20, 1907.
