

[Act No. 1128, April 28, 1904]

**AN ACT PRESCRIBING REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE
PROCEDURE FOR ACQUIRING TITLE TO PUBLIC COAL LANDS IN
THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF
SECTIONS FIFTY-THREE, FIFTY-FOUR, FIFTY-FIVE, FIFTY-SIX,
AND FIFTY-SEVEN OF THE ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED JULY
FIRST, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWO, ENTITLED "AN ACT
TEMPORARILY TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
AFFAIRS OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."**

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

SECTION 1. Any person above the age of twenty-one years, who is a citizen of the United States or of the Philippine Islands, or who has acquired the rights of a native of said Islands under and by virtue of the Treaty of Paris, or any association of persons severally qualified as above, may purchase any unreserved, unappropriated public land which is chiefly valuable for coal by proceeding as hereinafter directed: *Provided*, That no individual person shall be entitled to purchase more than sixty-four hectares and no association more than one hundred and twenty-eight hectares: *And provided further*, That this Act shall be held to authorize but one entry by the same person or association of persons, and no association of persons, any member of which shall have taken the benefit of this Act, either as an individual or as a member of any other association, shall enter or hold any other lands under the provisions hereof, and no member of any association which shall have taken the benefit of this Act shall enter or hold any other lands under the provisions hereof: *And provided further*, That such lands, if previously surveyed by the Government, shall be taken by legal subdivisions, but if unsurveyed shall be taken, wherever possible, in the form of squares which shall contain at least sixteen hectares each.

SEC. 2. A coal claim may be initiated either by filing a declaration of location with the mining recorder of the province in which the land is located, or by actually taking possession of the land and making improvements thereon: *Provided, however*, That where claims are initiated by occupation, a proper declaration of location must be filed with the mining recorder within sixty days after the date of actual possession and commencement of improvements.

SEC. 3. The declaration of location above mentioned must be executed under oath, and must describe the land occupied in as definite a manner as practicable, and must contain all necessary allegations to show that applicant has the qualifications required under section one of this Act, and that the land is of the character therein mentioned. In case a right to purchase is based on prior occupation and improvement, that fact must be set out, and the date of occupation and amount of improvements stated.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the mining recorder to record declarations of locations of coal claims in the same manner that declarations of locations of mining claims are recorded and for such services he shall require the payment of a fee of two pesos, Philippine currency, which shall be paid to the provincial or district treasurer as provided in section five of Act Numbered Six hundred and twenty-four, as amended