

[Act No. 175, July 18, 1901]

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT OF AN INSULAR CONSTABULARY, AND FOR THE INSPECTION OF THE MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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

SECTION 1. An Insular Constabulary is hereby established under the general supervision of the Civil Governor For the purpose of better maintaining peace, law, and order in the various provinces of the Philippine islands, organized, officered, and governed as hereinafter set forth.

SEC. 2. A corps of inspectors is also hereby created for the purpose of commanding, disciplining, and efficiently directing the Insular Constabulary hereby created and inspecting the municipal police of the various municipalities, which shall consist of not less than one nor more than four provincial police inspectors for each province now or hereafter organized.

SEC. 3. The Insular Constabulary shall consist of not less than fifteen privates, one sergeant, and one corporal, and not more than one hundred and fifty privates, four sergeants, and eight corporals for each province. The sergeants, corporals, and privates to serve in any province shall be selected from the residents of such province. They shall be enlisted for two years unless sooner discharged. The number of privates, sergeants, and corporals, within the above limit, shall be fixed by the Chief of the Insular Constabulary, with the approval of the Civil Governor.

SEC. 4. The office of Chief of Insular Constabulary is hereby created, the incumbent of which shall be appointed by the Civil Governor, by and with the consent of the Commission. He shall be a peace officer, shall be the head of the Insular Constabulary, and shall have general charge and control thereof, and shall see that brigandage, insurrection, unlawful assemblies, and breaches of the peace and other violations of law are prevented or suppressed and the perpetrators of such offenses arrested, and peace, law, and order maintained. He shall be paid an annual salary of four thousand dollars. It shall be his duty to see that the Insular Constabulary hereby created is properly selected and organized, and that it is suitably armed, uniformed, equipped, governed, disciplined, and in all respects made and kept effective for the performance of its duties. He is hereby given authority, and it is made his duty, to appoint at least one provincial inspector, and as many more not exceeding four, as in his judgment the public interest requires, for each province in the Philippine Islands, who shall be citizens of the United States or of the Philippine Islands, or have the rights of natives under the Treaty of Paris. The Insular Chief is also given authority to suspend, and, after due hearing, to remove, any provincial r inspector or other member of the Insular Constabulary for inefficiency, misconduct, or disloyalty to the United States. He is further given authority to fill all vacancies by making temporary or permanent appointments, occurring by reason of the suspension, removal, resignation, death, or disability to act of any provincial inspector, sergeant, corporal, or private of the Insular Constabulary. The Insular Chief is also empowered and directed to make reasonable and proper rules for examination for the appointment of any provincial inspector and for selection and

promotion of the sergeants, corporals, and privates of the Insular Constabulary.

SEC. 5. The offices of First, Second, Third, and Fourth Assistant Chiefs of Constabulary are also hereby created, the incumbents of which offices shall be appointed by the Civil Governor, by and with the consent of the Commission, and shall each be paid an annual salary of two thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, ranking in order of their number. They shall report to and be under the general supervision and direction of the insular Chief, but, subject to such supervision and direction, they shall have all the power and be required to perform all the duties of the Insular Chief in their respective districts. It shall be the duty of the Insular Chief to divide the provinces of the Philippine Islands into four districts as nearly equal in population and size as may be, and he shall assign an Assistant Insular Chief to each of the said districts, but the Insular Chief may, in his discretion, change the territorial limits of such districts and may change such Assistant Insular Chiefs from one district to another as the public interests may seem to require. In the event of the temporary absence of the Insular Chief or of his inability from any cause to perform the duties of his office the same shall be performed by the Assistant Insular Chief highest in rank available for that purpose.

SEC. 6. The Insular Chief shall prescribe for the Insular Constabulary suitable arms, uniforms, and equipment and shall report to the Commission, through the Civil Governor, his action in this regard, together with a statement of the cost, to the end that appropriation may be made to defray the cost thereof. The guns, revolvers, and ammunition needed to equip the insular and municipal police shall be purchased by the Insular Purchasing Agent on the order of the Chief of Insular Constabulary, by whom they shall be distributed to the provinces and municipalities as they may be needed. The Chief of Insular Constabulary shall keep a record of the guns and revolvers distributed, by their numbers, to municipalities and provinces. The Insular Chief may, in his discretion, subject to the approval of the Civil Governor, direct that all or any part of the Insular Constabulary shall be mounted on horses and act as a mounted patrol for their respective provinces. The Insular Chief shall, with the approval of the Civil Governor, prepare a manual of discipline for the provincial and municipal police, and a code of rules defining their lawful powers and duties. Such manual and code shall be translated into Spanish, Tagalog, Visayan, Ilocano, and Bicol, and circulated among all the provincial and municipal police.

SEC. 7. Whenever the insular Chief or Assistant Insular Chief deems it necessary on account of lawlessness or opposition of a lawless nature against the properly constituted authorities, he may unite the Constabulary of two or more provinces under his own command or under the command of a provincial inspector whom he shall name, but such consolidation shall not be permanent nor last longer than the immediate exigency requiring it.

SEC. 8. The payment of the Insular Constabulary is assumed by the Insular Government.

SEC. 9. The provincial inspectors, under the general supervision, direction, and control of the Insular Chief and the Assistant Chiefs of Constabulary, shall have command of the Insular Constabulary of their respective provinces, and are empowered to suspend, and, after hearing, to dismiss, any member of the force under their charge for inefficiency, misconduct, or disloyalty to the United States, subject to the approval of the Assistant Insular Chief in charge. The Insular