

# [ Act No. 310, December 04, 1901 ]

## **AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY IN THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.**

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

SECTION 1. The Commissioner of Public Health for the Philippine Islands shall appoint a Board of Medical Examiners for the Philippine Islands, with the advice and consent of the Board of Health for the Philippine Islands, consisting of three physicians, who shall be graduates of a legally chartered and reputable medical college and shall hold the degree of doctor of medicine. They shall hold office for three years after their appointment and until their successors are appointed and qualified: *Provided*, That the first appointees shall be appointed for a period of one, two, and three years, respectively, as specified in their respective certificates of appointment from the Commissioner of Public Health: *And provided further*, That no member of the faculty of any school, college, or university where medicine or surgery is taught shall be eligible for appointment on said Board. Each person appointed to the Board shall qualify by taking and subscribing the following oath of office:

"I, \_\_\_\_\_, having been appointed a member of the Board of Medical Examiners for the Philippine Islands, do hereby solemnly swear that I am a graduate in good standing of the legally chartered medical college or university at \_\_\_\_\_, in the city of \_\_\_\_\_, that I will well and truly perform all the duties of said office, that I will faithfully account for all moneys coming into my hands as such officer, that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Government of the United States, and that I take this oath without any mental reservation whatsoever; so help me God."

The oath shall be recorded and filed in the office of the secretary of the Board of Health for the Philippine Islands. The Commissioner of Public Health shall fill any vacancy which may occur on the Board within one month after the vacancy occurs, and may remove any member of said board for continued neglect of duty, incompetency, or for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct, with the advice and consent of the Board of Health for the Philippine Islands.

SEC. 2. The Board of Medical Examiners shall appertain to the Department of the Interior, so far as executive action may be required in connection with it. It shall organize, immediately after the appointment of its members, and annually thereafter on the anniversary of its first organization, by electing from its members a president, who shall be its chief executive officer, and a secretary-treasurer. It shall procure and keep a seal with which to attest its official acts. The members of the Board, except the secretary-treasurer, shall receive as compensation the sum of two dollars and fifty cents each for each candidate examined for registration as doctor or licentiate of medicine, and one dollar each for each candidate examined for registration as undergraduate of medicine or midwife. The secretary-treasurer shall receive compensation at the rate of two hundred dollars per year, one-half of

which amount shall be paid on the thirtieth of June and one-half on the thirty-first of December of each year. The amounts due the members of the Board of Examiners for compensation shall be paid from insular funds and disbursed by the disbursing officer of the Board of Health for the Philippine Islands. The secretary-treasurer shall execute a bond for five hundred dollars, with good and sufficient sureties, which shall be approved by the Treasurer of the Philippine Archipelago, conditioned that he will pay to the Treasurer of the Philippine Archipelago all moneys received by him as treasurer, and that he will faithfully discharge all the duties of his office. He shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board and a register of all persons to whom certificates of registration as doctors of medicine, licentiates of medicine, undergraduates in medicine, or midwives have been granted under the provisions of this Act, setting forth the name, age, sex, and place of business of each, his post-office address, the name of the medical college or university from which he graduated or in which he has studied, if any, and the date of such graduation or term of study, together with the time spent in the study of medicine elsewhere, if any, and the names and locations of all institutions which have granted to him degrees or certificates of clinics or lectures in medicine and surgery, and all other degrees granted to him from institutions of learning.

SEC. 3. The Board of Medical Examiners shall meet in the city of Manila for the purpose of examining candidates desiring to practice medicine in the Philippine Islands on the second Tuesdays of January, April, July, and October of each year after giving date who has filed his name and address with the secretary-treasurer of the board. The Board of Medical Examiners shall issue a certificate of registration to any person who furnishes satisfactory proof of having received a diploma as doctor of medicine from a chartered medical school or college in good standing or a degree as licentiate of medicine and surgery from the Saint Thomas University in the city of Manila, or who has received permission to appear before a medical board for examination with a view to obtaining a license to practice medicine, in accordance with the provisions of Special Order of the Military Governor Number Six, issued February same authority, issued April first, nineteen hundred, and who shall pass a successful examination before the board as hereinafter described. The Board shall issue four forms of certificates of registration to persons who have been examined and favorably passed upon by the Board: One, for persons holding the degree of doctor of medicine; another, for persons holding the degree of doctor of medicine; a third, for undergraduates in medicine, or "cirujanos ministrantes;" and a fourth, for midwives. Each certificate shall be signed by a majority of the members of the Board. The secretary-treasurer of the Board shall collect a fee of fifteen dollars for each certificate of registration as doctor or licentiate of medicine, and a fee of five dollars for each certificate of registration as "cirujano ministrate," or as midwife, issued by the Board.

SEC. 4. The Board shall, on or before the thirtieth of June of each year, make a report to the Secretary of the Interior of its proceedings during the past year, and of all moneys received and disbursed by it within that period.

SEC. 5. After March first, nineteen hundred and two, it shall be unlawful for any person to practice medicine, surgery, or midwifery in any of its branches in the Philippine Islands unless he holds a certificate of registration from the Board or has otherwise complied with the provisions of this Act. Any person in continuous practice of medicine, surgery, and midwifery in any of their branches in the Philippine Islands prior to the passage of this Act may become a registered practitioner by submitting