

## REPUBLIC ACTS

### Republic Act No. 722

AN ACT TO EXEMPT THE HOLDING OF OPERAS, CONCERTS, RECITALS, DRAMAS, PAINTING AND ART EXHIBITIONS, FLOWER SHOWS, AND LITERARY, ORATORICAL OR MUSICAL PROGRAMS FROM THE PAYMENT OF ANY NATIONAL OR MUNICIPAL AMUSEMENT TAX.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. The holding of operas, concerts, recitals, dramas, painting and art exhibitions, flower shows, and literary, oratorical or musical programs, except film exhibitions and radio or phonographic records thereof, shall be exempt from the payment of any national or municipal amusement tax on the receipts derived therefrom.

Sec. 2. All laws or parts of laws which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved, June 6, 1952.

### Republic Act No. 826

AN ACT CREATING THE COMMISSION ON PARKS AND WILDLIFE, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS, AND DUTIES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. *Creation of Commission on Parks and Wildlife.*—In order to promote effectual planning, development, maintenance, and conservation of national parks, monuments and wildlife in said parks, of game and fish, and of provincial, city and municipal public parks, to provide for the enjoyment of the same, and to carry out the provisions of this Act, there is hereby created a commission to be known as the Commission on Parks and Wildlife, hereinafter referred to as the Commission. The Commission shall be composed of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, who shall be the Chairman of the Commission, the Secretary of Public Works and Communications, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Health and the Social Welfare Commissioner, as members. The Chairman and the members of the Commission shall serve as such without additional compensation. A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

The Commission shall be under the executive control and supervision of the President of the Philippines.

Sec. 2. *Duties of the Commission.*—It shall be the duty of the Commission to administer the provisions of this Act and to promote, conserve, maintain, and regulate the use of national parks, national monuments and wildlife in said parks, of game and fish, game refuges, bird sanctuaries, and game farms, and to provide assistance to, and cooperate with, the provinces, chartered cities, municipalities and municipal districts in the establishment and conservation of provincial, city, municipal and municipal district parks and monuments by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purpose of the said parks, monuments, and game and fish, game refuges, bird sanctuaries, and game farms, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, including birds, fishes, mammals, and other animals and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. The Commission is also charged with the administration of Acts Numbered Twenty-five hundred and ninety, entitled "An Act for the protection of game and fish," and Numbered Thirty-nine hundred and fifteen, entitled "An Act providing for the establishment of National Parks, declaring such parks as game refuges, and for other purposes," both as amended.

Sec. 3. *Powers of the Commission.*—The Commission shall have power to:

(a) Adopt rules and regulations for the administration of this

Act, and the transaction of the business of the Commission.

(b) Make expenditures for the care, supervision, improvement, development, extension and maintenance of all parks, parkways, and monuments under the control of the Commission and for the protection and conservation of wildlife and game fish, game refuges, bird sanctuaries and game farms.

(c) Make rules and regulations governing the proper use and protection of park areas, game refuges, bird sanctuaries and game farms and to protect property and preserve the peace therein.

(d) Cooperate with the local governments for the purpose of securing improvement, development, or maintenance of lands which are designated as parks or pleasure grounds and to secure agreements between the local governments for the accomplishment of the purposes of this Act.

(e) Delegate to the Director of Parks and Wildlife or other employees of the Commission, to foresters, rangers and forest guards of the Bureau of Forestry; to land inspectors of the Bureau of Lands; to agricultural agents, plant inspectors or other suitable employees of the Bureau of Agricultural Extension Service or of the Bureau of Plant Industry; and to members of the Philippine Constabulary and of the local police force and other suitable persons any duty or authority relative to the administration, or protection of national parks, wildlife, game and fish, game refuges, bird sanctuaries and game farms.

Said Director of Parks and Wildlife and employees and persons shall comply with the duty and exercise the authority delegated to them pursuant to this subsection. They shall, in addition, be peace officers and as such they may arrest any person within the premises of national parks found under suspicious circumstances and reasonably tending to show that such person has committed or is about to commit an offense against the laws or regulations concerning national parks, wildlife, game and fish, game refuges, bird sanctuaries and game farms.

Sec. 4. *Director of Parks and Wildlife—other employees.*—The Commission shall have a Director of Parks and Wildlife who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines with the consent of the Commission on Appointments and who shall have active charge and administration of all national parks and national monuments and of the laws relating to the protection of game and fish, game refuges, bird sanctuaries and game farms. He shall, under the direction of the Commission, cooperate with local boards of park commissioners and local officials in the establishment and conservation of provincial, city, municipal and municipal district public parks. He shall perform such other duties as may from time to time be required by the Commission. Said Director shall be selected solely upon the basis of executive ability and special training in park matters. He shall receive an annual compensation of seven thousand two hundred pesos.

The Director of Parks and Wildlife shall appoint, in accordance with Civil Service Rules and Regulations and subject to the approval of the Commission, such employees as shall be necessary for the maintenance and conservation of national parks and monuments, and protection and conservation of wildlife and game and for carrying out the functions of the Commission.

Sec. 5. *Acquisition of property by gifts or otherwise.*—The Commission, on behalf of the National Government, and the provincial, city, and municipal or municipal district government, on behalf of the province, city, municipality or municipal district concerned, may acquire lands suitable for park purposes, by gift, donation, contribution or otherwise, and may receive and accept devises, bequests, and other gifts or beneficial transfers of property, money, and other objects for the purpose of the improvement or ornamentation of any national, provincial, city, municipal or municipal district park, pleasure ground, parkway, avenue or road, or for the establishment in said park or pleasure ground of zoological or other gardens, collections of natural history, monuments or works of arts, or for conservation of wildlife, game birds or animals.

Sec. 6. *Restrictions on members and employees of Commission and Boards of Park Commissioners.*—No member or employee

of the Commission or of the local boards of park commissioners shall be interested, directly or indirectly, any contract relating to the establishment or maintenance of any national, provincial, city or municipal public park, pleasure ground or parkway, or in any contract providing for the expenditure of any money in relation thereto.

Sec. 7. *Provincial, city and municipal parks.*—Any province, city, municipality or municipal district may acquire, establish and maintain public parks, pleasure grounds and parkways within the boundaries of said province, city, municipality or municipal district. Lands which may be required for any of such purposes may be set aside by such province, city, municipality, or municipal district and devoted to such purposes, out of any lands or parcels of land owned or possessed by any such province, city, municipality or municipal district; or said lands may be acquired by gift or purchase, in the manner provided by law: *Provided*, That no lands, the purchase price of which exceeds one thousand pesos, shall be acquired by purchase by a province, city, municipality, or municipal district for any of such purposes without the previous approval of the President of the Philippines.

Any province, city, municipality or municipal district establishing public parks, pleasure grounds or parkways under the provisions of this Act shall, by its duly constituted authority, have full power to cultivate, plant and otherwise improve the same; and shall enact resolutions or ordinances for the proper administration, maintenance and use thereof.

Sec. 8. *Cities and towns may unite in establishing parks.*—Any two or more cities, municipalities or municipal districts which are contiguous or adjacent may unite in acquiring, establishing and maintaining public parks, pleasure grounds or parkways for their common benefit upon such terms and conditions as may be mutually agreed upon by ordinance.

Sec. 9. *Board of Park Commissioners.*—Whenever a province, city, municipality or municipal district has established a public park, the provincial governor, city, municipal, or municipal district mayor thereof shall, with the consent of the provincial board, city, municipal or municipal district council, appoint a board of park commissioners, hereinafter called the Board, which shall be composed of three most travelled and civic minded members who shall be residents of the province, city, municipality or municipal district where such park is located, and who shall serve for a term of two years without compensation.

The Board shall elect from among themselves a chairman. A majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and no action of the Board shall be binding unless authorized by a majority of the members of the Board at a regular meeting or duly called special meeting thereof. The Board shall be provided by the province, city, municipality, or municipal district with a convenient office and with such facilities and stationery as may be necessary for the performance of their duties. The provincial governor, city, municipal, or municipal district mayor concerned may, upon recommendation of the Board, appoint a secretary of the Board, who shall keep a record of all proceedings of the Board, have custody of and preserve all its records and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board.

Sec. 10. *Management of local parks.—Rules.*—The Board of Park Commissioners shall have the management and control of public parks, pleasure grounds and parkways of the province, city, municipality, or municipal district wherein it is appointed. It shall establish necessary rules and regulations not in conflict with law or the ordinances of the city, municipality or municipal district for the proper supervision and use of such parks, pleasure grounds and parkways and shall have such additional powers relating thereto as may be prescribed by resolution of the provincial board or ordinance by the city, municipal, or municipal district council. The provincial board, city, municipal, or municipal district council concerned shall, by resolution or ordinance, provide for the enforcement of the rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Park Commissioners. The Board may appoint a park caretaker, who shall be a practical landscape gardener, and who shall, under the direction of the Board, have active charge, control and direction of all the parks, pleasure grounds or park-

ways under the control of said Board, and perform such other duties as may be required by the Board.

The provincial board, city, municipal, or municipal district council, as the case may be, shall provide for the salary of the park caretaker and the secretary to the Board of Park Commissioners.

Sec. 11. *Park Commissioners and employees not to be interested in contract.*—No park Commissioner or employee of the Board of Park Commissioners shall be interested, directly or indirectly in any contract relating to the establishment or maintenance of any public park or pleasure grounds under its jurisdiction or in any contract providing for the expenditures of any money in relation thereto.

Sec. 12. *Expenditures for park purposes.*—The Board shall, with the approval of the provincial governor, city, municipal or municipal district mayor concerned, have full, complete and exclusive power and authority to expend, for and on behalf of the province, city, municipality or municipal district wherein it is appointed, all sums of money that may be appropriated for the establishment, maintenance and improvement of public parks, parkways and pleasure grounds therein.

Sec. 13. *Transfer of functions and activities relative to parks, wildlife and game and fish to Commission.*—All the powers, functions and duties vested in, and exercised by, the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the Director of Forestry under Acts Numbered Twenty-five hundred and ninety and Thirty-nine hundred and fifteen, both as amended, relative to the protection of game and fish and the establishment of national parks, are transferred to the Commission on Parks and Wildlife and the Director of Parks and Wildlife, respectively.

The Game and Wildlife Section of the Bureau of Forestry and the positions therein in charge of the work relative to the maintenance, operation and improvement of national parks, together with their corresponding personnel, appropriations, equipment, facilities, records and other property, are hereby likewise transferred to the Commission on Parks and Wildlife.

Sec. 14. *Appropriations.*—Aside from the sums set aside in the General Appropriations Acts for the Game and Wildlife Section of the Bureau of Forestry and for the positions in charge of the work relative to the maintenance, operation and improvement of national parks, which are by virtue of this Act transferred to the Commission on Parks and Wildlife, there is hereby appropriated, out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of five thousand pesos which shall be expended by the Commission on Parks and Wildlife for the establishment, maintenance, conservation and improvement of national parks, monuments, and parkways; for the construction, maintenance and repair of roads, trails, and necessary buildings within the said parks; for the protection and propagation of game birds, mammals, and other useful wild animals protected by law; for the establishment, improvement and maintenance of game refuges, bird sanctuaries and game farms; for the salaries and wages of the necessary personnel; and for sundry and other necessary expenses which the said Commission may incur in carrying out the provisions of this Act for the remainder of the fiscal year nineteen hundred and fifty-two and for the fiscal year nineteen hundred and fifty-three. Hereafter, the necessary funds for the operation of the Commission on Parks and Wildlife and for carrying out its activities shall be included in the Annual General Appropriation Acts.

Sec. 15. *Repeals.*—All Acts and parts of Acts in conflict with the provisions of this Act are repealed.

Sec. 16. *Date of taking effect.*—This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved, August 14, 1952.

Republic Act No. 879

AN ACT REORGANIZING THE MUNICIPAL BOARD OF THE CITY OF SAN PABLO, BY AMENDING SECTION ELEVEN OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NUMBERED FIVE HUNDRED AND TWENTY, AS AMENDED.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. Section eleven of Commonwealth Act Numbered

Five hundred and twenty, as amended by Republic Act Numbered One hundred and sixty-three, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 11. *Constitution and organization of the Municipal Board*—*Composition of members thereof*.—The Municipal Board shall be the legislative body of the city and shall be composed of the Mayor, who shall be its presiding officer, the city treasurer, the city engineer, the city health officer, and five councilor who shall be elected at large by popular vote during every election for provincial and municipal officials in conformity with the provisions of the Revised Election Code. In case of sickness, absence, suspension or other temporary disability of any member of the Board, or if necessary to maintain a *quorum*, the President of the Philippines may appoint a temporary substitute who shall possess all the rights and perform all the duties of a member of the Board until the return to duty of the regular incumbent.

"If any member of the Municipal Board should be candidate for office in any election, he shall be incompetent to act with the Board in the discharge of the duties conferred upon it relative to election matters, and in such case the other members of the Board shall discharge said duties without his assistance, or they may choose some disinterested elector of the city to act with the Board in such matters in his stead.

"The Members of the Municipal Board of the City of San Pablo, who are not officers or employees of the Government receiving a fixed compensation or salary from public funds, shall each receive a compensation of two thousand pesos per annum."

Sec. 2. Pending the next election for provincial and municipal officers, the present two appointive Members of the Municipal Board of the City of San Pablo shall continue to occupy the two new elective positions in the said Board.

Sec. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval  
Approved, June 19, 1953.

#### Republic Act No. 838

AN ACT TO CHANGE THE NAME OF KAWIT HIGH SCHOOL TO EMILIANO T. TIRONA MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

Section 1. In recognition of the distinguished services rendered by Emiliano T. Tirona, Filipino statesman and leader and an illustrious son of the Province of Cavite, the name of Kawit High School is changed to Emiliano T. Tirona Memorial High School.

Sec. 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
Approved, March 26, 1953.

#### Republic Act No. 895

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION SEVEN, PART C, TITLE III, OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHT, REGARDING CONVERSION OF CERTAIN POSITIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO POSITIONS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICERS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

Section 1. Section seven, Part C, Title III, of Republic Act Numbered Seven hundred eight, is amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 7. *Conversion of positions*.—To permit rotation of career personnel between the Home Office and the Foreign Service, as contemplated in this Act, the positions of Counselors and the positions of chiefs of division and those of equal rank and responsibility now occupied by graduates of the Foreign Affairs Training Program in the United States Department of State are hereby converted into positions of Foreign Affairs Officers, Class I and Class II, respectively, occupying the rate in each class which the Secretary deems appropriate. The Secretary shall, by regulation, determine the manner and frequency in which Counselors, chiefs of division and occupants of positions of equal rank and responsibility shall be exchanged with Foreign Affairs Officers in the field, subject to the limitations of this Act."

Sec. 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
Approved, June 20, 1953.

#### Republic Act No. 850

AN ACT TO AMEND REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY-THREE IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE ACTIVE DUTY OR ENLISTMENT OF RESERVE OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN OF THE PHILIPPINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE PROVIDED FOR IN SAID ACT.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. Republic Act Numbered Five hundred seventy-three, otherwise known as the "Philippine Military Aid to the United Nations Act," is hereby amended by inserting a new section between sections ten and eleven thereof, to be designated as section ten-A, which shall read as follows:

"SEC. 10-A. The provisions of any law to the contrary notwithstanding, Reserve Officers in the Philippine Expeditionary Force shall remain on active duty as long as the Philippines continues to maintain said force overseas, unless sooner relieved from such active duty or discharged by the President, or dismissed from the service pursuant to the approved sentence of a general court-martial. All enlistments of enlisted men serving with the Philippine Expeditionary Force shall continue in force for a like period, unless sooner terminated by the President or pursuant to the approved sentence of a court-martial."

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
Approved, May 28, 1953.

#### Republic Act No. 915

AN ACT TO MAKE THE CLERK OF THE COURT OF FIRST INSTANCE OF A PROVINCE *EX OFFICIO* SHERIFF NOT ONLY OF SUCH PROVINCE BUT ALSO OF ANY CITY WHICH, BEFORE CONVERSION TO A CITY, FORMED PART OF SUCH PROVINCE.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. The clerk of the Court of First Instance of a province shall be *ex officio* sheriff not only of such province but also of any city, which before conversion to a city, formed part of such province. As *ex officio* sheriff of a city, such clerk shall receive an additional compensation of not exceeding one thousand two hundred pesos, which shall be fixed by the city council or municipal board and payable from city funds.

SEC. 2. Commonwealth Act Numbered Six hundred twenty-nine is repealed.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
Approved, June 20, 1953.

#### Republic Act No. 841

AN ACT TO DESIGNATE THE DISTRICT OR CITY ENGINEERS TO TAKE CHARGE OF RECONSTRUCTING, MAINTAINING, PROTECTING AND CLEANING MONUMENTS AND HISTORICAL MARKERS SITUATED WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS AND REGULATING THE CONSTRUCTION OR MANUFACTURE OF SUCH STRUCTURE OR PLAQUE TO PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF A PERSON OR EVENT.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

Section 1. The district or city engineers are hereby designated to take charge of reconstructing, maintaining, protecting and cleaning monuments and historical markers located within their respective jurisdictions. The district or city engineers shall include a yearly estimate of expenditure for this purpose for appropriate action by the respective provincial or municipal board, or city council. Unexpended appropriation should be reverted to the General Fund.

Sec. 2. In the construction of monuments or manufacture of plaques to perpetuate the memory of a person or event, the party or parties concerned should submit the necessary plans, sketches or inscriptions to the Philippine Historical Committee through the Department of Public Works and Communications for comment and approval.

Sec. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
Approved, April 7, 1953.