Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

13th CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **986**

Introduced by Honorable J.R. Nereus O. Acosta

EXPLANATORY NOTE

President Decree No. 1308, the law regulating the practice of Environmental Planning in the Philippines, was enacted almost twenty-five years ago, in 1978. This law has now become obsolete since many events and developments have occurred since its enactment. For instance, the existing law does not address the practice of foreign Environmental Planners, who now freely enter the country, despite the existence of other laws relevant thereto. With the emphasis of local governments on the need for planning their cities and municipalities, it is imperative that these planners are qualified and competent.

The proposed bill provides a more responsive and comprehensive regulation for the registration, licensing and practice of Environmental Planning in the light of local and international developments in the field.

Thus, the bill proposes specific provisions as follows, among others:

1. A more precise definition of the practice of Environmental Planning;

2. Regulation of the practice of foreign Environmental Planners, including issuance of Special Temporary Permits, when applicable;

3. Expansion of degrees required for taking the licensure examination;

4. Requirements for firms, partnerships and other entities to practice Environmental Planning;

5. Requirements for incumbent teachers and government officers holding environmental planning positions to enable them to retain such positions until they become licensed; and

6. Provision on Continuing Professional Education (CPE) to make professionals globally competitive.

Approval of this bill is therefore sought.

CONG. J. R. NEREUS O. ACOSTA
First Distrtict, Bukidnon

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AN ACT
REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBERED ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND EIGHT, ENTITLED "LAW REGULATING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING PROFESSION IN THE PHILIPPINES", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Title I
TITLE OF ACT AND SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Section 1. ***Title.*** **-** This ACT shall be known as the "Environmental Planning Practice Act."

Section 2. ***Definition of Terms.*** **-**

(a) Environmental Planning, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING, TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING OR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS PLANNING, refers to activities concerned with the PLANNING AND REGULATION FOR THE management and development of land, as well as, the preservation, conservation, and rehabilitation of human SETTLEMENTS, HABITATS AND THEIR NATURAL environment.

(b) The term "Environmental Planner", as used in this ACT, refers to a person engaged in the practice of Environmental Planning and duly registered with the Board of Environmental Planning in the manner herein provided.

(c) BOARD MEANS THE BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING.

(d) COMMISSION MEANS THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION.

Section 3. ***Scope of Practice.*** **-** The practice of Environmental Planning, within the meaning and intent of this ACT, shall embrace, among others, THE FOLLOWING:

(a) PROVIDING professional COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES in the form of technical consultation, plan preparation, monitoring and REVIEW OF implementation involving the following:

(1) Development, REDEVELOPMENT AND REVITALIZTION of a community, planned unit development, municipality, city, PROVINCE or region;

(2) Development of a site for a particular need, such as housing, center for activities concerned with research, education, culture, TOURISM, recreation, or government, industrial/business/commercial estates, ECOZONES, agriculture, FISHERIES, and water resources, including creating a spatial arrangement of buildings, utilities, TRANSPORT, CIRCULATION and communication routes;

(3) NATIONAL, REGIONAL OR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND/OR PHYSICAL FRAMEWORK PLANNING; AND

(4) Comprehensive land use PLANNING and zoning, ORDINANCE PREPARATION for the management and development, preservation, conservation, rehabilitation, and control of the environment;

(b) PREPARING THE FOLLOWING:

(1) Pre-invest, pre-feasibility, feasibility AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT studies RELATED TO ACTIVITIES ENUMERATED IN (a) above;

(2) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS; and

(3) INSTITUTIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF PLANNING PROJECTS AND SYSTEMS;

(c) TEACHING THE SCIENCE AND ART OR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT AT THE HIGHER EDUCATION LEVELS; AND

(d) RENDERING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AS EXPERT WITNESS, RESOURCE PERSON, JUROR OR ARBITRATOR IN COURT PROCEEDINGS, PUBLIC HEARINGS, COMPETITIONS, EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER FORA.

Title II
BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Section 4. ***Board of Environmental Planning.*** **-** There shall be created a Board of Environmental Planning, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be composed of a chairman and two (2) members. They shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from among those recommended by the Philippine Institute of Environmental Planners, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS PIEP, THE ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS, ENDORSED BY THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE COMMISSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH *EXECUTIVE ORDER 496, SERIES OF 1991.*

Section 5. ***Tenure of the Board Members.*** **-** The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three (3) years after their appointment and until their successors shall have been appointed and shall have duly qualified. Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath of office before assumption to his duties.

Section 6. Qualifications of Board Members.- Each member of the Board shall, at the time of his appointment, possess the following qualifications:

(a) A citizen and resident of the Philippines;

(b) At least FORTY (40) years of age and of good moral character;

(c) A registered Environmental Planner duly qualified to practice Environmental Planning in the Philippines AND WITH AT LEAST TEN YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING EXPERIENCE.

Section 7. Causes of Removal from Office.- Any member of the Board may be removed from the office for neglect of duty, incompetence, malpractice, unprofessional, unethical immoral or dishonorable conduct, after given the opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation, the President of the Philippines shall suspend such member under investigation and shall appoint a temporary member in his place. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled for the unexpired term only.

Section 8. Powers and Functions of the Board. - The Board shall have the following powers and functions:

(a) Issue AND REISSUE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 23, Certificates of Registration for the practice of Environmental Planning and suspend and revoke the same for cause provided herein;

(b) Issue Certificates of Recognition to REGISTERED Environmental Planners for specialized training undertaken in physical planning, social planning, economic planning, administrative planning or planning law, TRANSPORT PLANNING, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANNING, ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENTS, or in any other branch of Environmental Planning, subject to the approval of the Commission;

(c) Determine and prepare the contents of licensure examinations; score and rate the examination papers and submit the results thereof to the Commission within TEN (10) days after the last examination day;

(d) Adopt a Code of Ethics AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS, INCLUDING A SCHEDULE OF PROFESSIONAL FEES IN COORDINATION WITH PIEP;

(e) Adopt an official seal to authenticate its official documents;

(f) Inspect, in coordination with the COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED),at least once a year, educational institutions offering courses in Environmental Planning in the Philippines to ensure that these institutions maintain a high standard of planning education;

(g) Look from time to time into the conditions affecting the practice of environmental planning profession and adopt measures necessary for the enhancement of the profession;

(h) Investigate violations of this ACT and the rules and regulations thereunder as may come to its knowledge and, for this purpose issue *subpoena* and *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the appearance of witnesses and exhibition of the documents and other evidences necessary in connection with the performance of its functions;

(i) Delegate the conduct the conduct of hearing or investigation of administrative cases filed before the Board; and impose administrative fines as herein provided in this ACT;

(j) Promulgate decisions on such administrative cases subject to the review by the Commission;

(k) Issue, with the approval of the Commission, such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this ACT;

(l) Discharge such other powers and duties as may affect professional, ethical and technological standards of the environment planning profession in the Philippines;

(m) ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION/LICENSE AND SPECIAL TEMPORARY PERMITS TO FOREIGN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 19 OF THIS ACT; AND

(n) PERFORM SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF *REPUBLIC ACT 8981* OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ACT MODERNIZING THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION ENACTED IN 2000.

Section 9. ***Fees and Compensation of the Board.*** **-**

(a) FEES FOR APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND COMPENSATION OF THE BOARD SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF *REPUBLIC ACT 8981.*

(b) All authorized expenses of the Board, including the compensation provided for herein, shall be paid by the collecting and disbursing officer of the Commission out of such appropriation as may be made for the purpose.

Title III
EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION

Section 11. ***Registration Required.*** - Upon the effectivity of this [Decree] ACT, no person shall practice or offer to practice Environmental Planning in the Philippines without having obtained the proper Certificate of Registration from the Board.

Section 12. ***Examination Requirements.*** - All applicants for registration for the practice of Environmental Planning shall be required to pass the required professional examination as herein provided.

Section 13. ***Holding of Examination.*** - Examination for candidates desiring to practice Environmental Planning in the Philippines shall be given AT LEAST once a year in Metro Manila OR OTHER PLACES AND at such dates to be determined BY THE Board AND APPROVED by the Commission.

Section 14. ***Subjects of Examination.*** - Applicants for Certificates of Registration as Environmental Planners shall be examined on the following subjects:

(a) HISTORY, SCOPE AND THEORY OF URBAN AND REGIANL PLANNING
(b) Physical Planning
(c) Economic Planning
(d) Social Planning
(e) Planning Law and Administration
(f) Special Studies IN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT PROVIDED THAT, SUBJECTS NOT ENUMERATED HEREIN SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED AS EXCLUDED IN THE ABOVE LISTING IF, IN THE OPINION OF THE BOARD, SUCH INCLUSIONS ARE [IS] NECESSARY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SYLLABI OR TABLES OF SPECIFICATIONS OF SUBJECTS FOR EXAMINATIONS PREPARED BY THE BOARD IN

CONSULTATION WITH THE ACADEME AND PIEP, PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, SUBJECT GROUPINGS WITH CORRESPONDING PERCENTAGE RATINGS SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD AND APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION.

Section 15. ***Qualifications for Examinations.*** - Any person applying for admission to the environmental planning examination as herein provided shall, prior to the dates of examination, establish to the satisfaction of the Board that he has the following qualifications:

(a) A citizen of the Philippines;
(b) At least twenty-one (21) years of age; and
(c) A holder of any of the following

(1) Master's degree in Environmental Planning, URBAN/city and regional planning, or any town and country planning or its equivalent;
(2) Bachelor's degree in Environmental Planning, city and regional planning, town and country planning, or its equivalent, and with TWO (2) years of urban and regional planning experience certified by a registered Environmental Planner;
(3) Master's degree in either architecture, ECOLOGY, [civil] engineering, LAW, economics, geography, public administration, BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION, SOCIAL SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT, DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT or sociology AND RELATED DISCIPLINES ACCEPTABLE TO THE BOARD, and with [one (1)] THREE (3) years of environmental planning experience certified by a registered ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER AND/OR THE HEAD OF THE GOVERNMENT AGENCY WHERE APPLICANT HAS BEEN EMPLOYED; or
(4) Bachelor's degree in either architecture, engineering, economics, public administration, or sociology, and with FIVE (5) years of environmental experience certified by a registered Environmental Planner.

Section 16. ***Grounds for Non-Issuance of Certificate.*** - The Board shall not issue a Certificate of Registration to any person who suffers from any of the following disqualification:

(a) Conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction of any criminal offense involving moral turpitude;
(b) Conviction in an administrative case of any offense involving immorality or notoriously undesirable conduct; and
(c) POSSESSION OF unsound mind, AS CONFIRMED BY COMPETENT AUTHORITY. In case of refusal to issue a certificate, the Board shall issue to the applicant a written statement setting forth the reason for such action.

Section 17. ***Oath of Environmental Planners.*** - All successful candidates in the examination shall take the prescribed professional oath before the Board or before any other government official authorized to administer such oath prior to entering the practice of the profession.

Section 18. ***UNLAWFUL PRACTICES UNDER THIS ACT.*** -

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to render planning services as defined in *Section 3, Title I* hereof, unless the plans, designs and programs have been prepared under, and signed and sealed by a registered Environmental Planner;

(b) It shall unlawful for any Environmental Planner to sign his name, affix his seal, or use any other method of signature on plans, specifications or other documents prepared by another Environmental Planner or made under the supervision of another Environmental Planner. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person, except the Environmental Planner in charge, to sign for any branch of the work, or any function on environmental planning practice, not actually performed by him. The Environmental Planner in charge hsll fully responsible for all plans, specifications and other documents issued under his seal or authorized signature;

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person, without the written consent of the Environmental Planner or author of said documents, to amend, revise, duplicate or make copies of said documents for use in the repetition of and for other projects, whether executed partly or in whole.

Section 19. SPECIAL/TEMPORARY PERMITS FOR FOREIGN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS. - THE PRACTICE OF FOREIGN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS IN THE PHILIPPINES SHALL BE GOVERNED BY THE PROVISIONS OF *RA 8981*, PROVIDED, THAT ANY FOREIGN NATIONAL WHO HAS GAINED ENTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES TO PERFORM PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AS ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER OR CONSULTANT IN FOREIGN-FUNDED OR ASSISTED PROJECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OR EMPLYED OR ENGAGED BY FILIPINO OR FOREIGN CONTRACTORS OR PRIVATE FIRMS SHALL, BEFORE ASSUMING THE DUTIES, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER OR CONSULTANT, SECURE A SPECIAL/TEMPORARY PERMIT FROM THE BOARD SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE), TO PRACTICE HIS PROFESSION IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROJECT TO WHICH HE WAS COMMISSIONED: PROVIDED, THAT THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS ARE SATISFIED:

(a) THAT HE IS A CITIZEN OR SUBJECT OF A COUNTRY WHICH SPECIFICALLY PERMITS FILIPINO PROFESSIONALS TO PRACTICE THEIR PROFESSION WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL LIMITS ON THE SAME BASIS AS THE SUBJECTS OR CITIZENS OF SUCH FOREIGN COUNTRY OR STATE;

(b) THAT HE IS LEGALLY QUALIFIED TO PRACTICE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING IN HIS OWN COUNTRY, AND THAT HIS EXPERTISE IS NECESSARY AND ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE PHILIPPINES, PARTICULARLY IN THE ASPECTS OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND SPECIALIZATION;

(c) THAT HE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO WORK WITH A FILIPINO COUNTERPART AND PROFESSIONAL FEES AND SERVICES AND EXPENSES OF DOCUMENTATION PERTAINING TO THE PFOJECT SHALL BE PROPORTIONATELY SHARED BY BOTH FOREIGN AND FILIPINO ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS, INCLUDING LIABILITIES AND TAXES DUE TO THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, IF ANY, RELATIVE TO HIS PARTICIPATION THEREIN, OR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED TO THE PROJECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ESTABLISHED RULES AND REGULATIONS; AND

(d) THAT HE SHALL OBTAIN AN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT FROM DOLE: PROVIDED, THAT THE EMPLOYMENT PERMIT MAY BE ISSUED TO A

NON-RESIDENT ALIEN OR TO THE APPLICANT - EMPLOYER AFTER A DETERMINATION OF THE NON-AVAILABILITY OF A PERSON IN THE PHILIPPINES WHO IS COMPETENT, ABLE AND WILLING AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION TO PERFORM THE SERVICES FOR WHICH THE ALIEN IS DESIRED: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE APPLICANT'S COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY OBSERVE RECIPROCAL CONDITIONS FOR FILIPINO NATIONALS.

Section 20. ***Consulting Firms, PARTNERSHIPS, Corporations, ASSOCIATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS Engaged in Environmental Planning Practice.*** **-** A consulting firm, partnership, corporation, association or foundation may engage in the practice of Environmental Planning in the Philippines: *Provided,* That is complies with the following requirements:

(a) The consulting firm, partnership, corporation, association or foundation is registered as such with the Board and approved by the Commission to engage in the practice of environmental planning in the Philippines: Provided, That THE MAJORITY of the board MEMBERS THEREOF shall be registered Environmental Planners; and

(b) The practice of the consulting firm, partnership, corporation, ASSOCIATION OR FOUNDATION in Environmental Planning shall be carried out by duly registered Environmental Planners.

Section 21. ***Roster of Environmental Planners.*** **-** A roster showing the names and places of business of all registered Environmental Planners or of those holding Certificates of Recognition along special branches of Environmental Planning, shall be prepared and kept UPDATED by the Board and by the Secretary of the Commission. Copies of this roster shall be furnished to all PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT, ZONING and building officials and ALL government agencies, including government-owned and controlled corporations and local GOVERNMENT UNITS, involved IN ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING and/or approval of environmental plans. THE ROSTER shall be made available to the public upon request AND PAYMENT OF CORRESPONDING FEE.

Section 22. ***Suspension and Revocation of Certificate.*** **-** Subject to the approval of the Commission, The Board shall the power, after due notice and hearing, to suspend or revoke the Certificate of Registration for any cause mentioned in Section [16] 17 of this Title.

Section 23. ***Re-Issuance and Replacement of Certificate.*** **-** The Board may, after the expiration of one (1) year from the date of Certificate of Registration is revoked and for valid reason, entertain an application for a new certificate of registration..

Section 24. ***Use of Seal.*** **-** All registered Environmental Planners shall obtain a seal of such design as the Board shall authorize and direct: *Provided,* however, That the serial number of the certificate issued by the board shall be included in the design of the seal. Plans, design and programs prepared by or under direct supervision of a registered Environmental Planner shall be stamped with the said seal during the life of the registrant's certificate, and it shall be unlawful to any one to stamp or seal any documents with the said seal after the Certificate of the registrant named thereon has expired or has been revoked, unless said Certificate shall have been renewed or re-issued.

TITLE IV
ENFORCEMENT OF ACT AND PENAL PROVISIONS

Section 25. ***Enforcement by Government Officials and Officers of the Law.*** - It shall be the duty of all government officials and duly constituted law officers of the national, provincial, city or municipal government, to assist the Board and the Commission in enforcing the provisions of this ACT and to prosecute any person violating the same.

Section 26. ***POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT WITH DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A LICENSED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER.*** - WITHIN ONE YEAR AFTER APPROVAL OF THIS ACT, ONLY LICENSED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS SHALL BE APPOINTED TO POSITIONS IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES, DEPARTMENTS, BUREAUS, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, PROVINCES, CITIES, AND MUNICIPALITIES, REQUIRING THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS FOR THIS PURPOSE, AN INTER-DEPARTAMENTAL COMMITTEE HEADED BY AN UNDERSECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM), SHALL PREPARE THE NECESSARY GUIDELINES, RULES AND REGULATIONS. THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE A COMMISSIONER OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC) AND UNDERSECRETARY-LEVEL OFFICIALS OF THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA), DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH), DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR), HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COUNCIL (HUDCC), AND, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING, AND THE PRESIDENT OF PIEP.

Section 27. Transitory Provisions. -

(a) INCUMBENT PLANNING OFFICERS IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES WHO ARE NOT DULY REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS MAY BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THE BOARD EXAMINATION NOTWITHSTANDING THE LACK OF ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD TO ENABLE THEM TO RETAIN THEIR PRESENT POSITIONS AND REMAIN IN SERVICE.

(b) THE INCUMBENT CHAIRMAN AND TOW (2) MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SHALL SERVE THE TERMS FOR WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN APPOINTED WITHOUT NEED OF NEW APPOINTMENTS.

Section 28. ***Penal Provisions.*** - Any person committing any of THE UNLAWFUL PRACTICE UNDER SECTION 18 HEREOF and/or the following acts shall, upon conviction, be sentenced by imprisonment of not less than six (6) months, nor more than five (5) years or a fine not less than ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP100,000) nor more than FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP500,000) or both, in the discretion of the Court:

(a) Engaging in the practice of environmental planning in the Philippines without having been registered or without having conformed to the provisions of this ACT;

(b) Presenting or attempting to use as his own the Certificate of Registration of registered Environmental Planner;

(c) Giving any false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board, or impersonating any registered Environmental Planner;
(d) Using a revoked or suspended Certificate of Registration;
(e) Using a connection with his name or otherwise assuming, using or advertising any title or description tending to convey the impression that he is an Environmental Planner without holding a valid Certificate or Registration; or
(f) Violating any of the provisions of this ACT.

In case the offender is a corporation, partnership, ASSOCIATION, FOUNDATION or juridical person, the penalty of imprisonment shall be imposed on the officer or officers responsible for permitting or causing the violation.

TITLE V
MISCELLANOUS PROVISIONS

Section 29. ***TEACHING OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SUBJECTS.*** - ENGAGEMENT IN THE TRASFER OF THE KNOWLEDGE AND TECHNOLOGY OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING IN ANY INSTIRUTION OF HIGHER LEARNING IS A PRACTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING. HENCE, ONLY REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS SHALL BE ALLOWED TO TEACH SUBJECTS WHICH ARE COVERED BY THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNERS IN COMPLIANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF *RA 8981.*

Section 30. ***CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION.*** - THE BOARD, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE ACADEME AND THE PIEP SHALL PRESCRIBED GUIDELINES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (CPE) PROGRAMS, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE COMMISSION.

Section 31. ***APPROPRIATIONS.*** - FOR THE INITIAL IMPLEMENTAION OF THIS ACT, SAVINGS FROM ANY ITEM OF THE COMMISSIONS'S CURRENT APPROPRIATION SHALL BE UTILIZED. THEREAFTER, SUCH AMOUNT AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE CONTINUED IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE SUCCEEDING ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

Section 32. ***Separability Clause.*** - If any part or section of this ACT shall be declared unconstitutional, such declaration shall not invalidate the other provisions hereof.

Section 33. ***Act Not Affecting Other Professions.*** - THIS ACT SHALL NOT BE CONSTITUTED TO AFFECT OR PREVENT THE PRACTICE OF ANY OTHER LEGALLY RECOGNIZED PROFESSION.

Section 34. ***Repealing Clause.*** - All other laws, orders, rules and regulations or resolutions and all parts thereof inconsistent with the provision of this ACT are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 35. ***Effectivity.*** - This ACT shall take effect AFTER FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FOLLOWING ITS PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OR IN TWO (2) NEWSPAPERS OR GENERAL CIRCULATION, WHICH EVER IS EARLIER.