

Republic of the Philippines
Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **4995**



Introduced by Representative Estrellita B. Suansing

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2015, the World Resources Institute issued a warning that the Philippines is vulnerable to severe water shortage in the coming years because of the combined impact of its rapid population growth and the effects of climate change. The water shortage is further aggravated by the fragmented and overlapping functions of water agencies in the country. The enactment of a feasible long term solution for the protection of water is necessary to combat this threat.

This bill seeks to rationalize the management of water resources, sewage, and sanitation through the creation of the Department of Water Resources and Services. It shall set the policy for the preservation of water resources in the country, regulate its supply to ensure optimal use and devise ways and means for the long term safety, protection and preservation of this very important natural resource. It will likewise manage sanitation and the services for the sewerages or drainage. It is also responsible for the building, maintaining and monitoring of water-related infrastructure to ensure quality, accessible and potable water; promoting and pushing for the adoption of acceptable international policies and best practices in water management to achieve universal access to safe water and sanitation.

A study by the World Water Organization shows that water supply in the Philippines is diminishing. The availability of affordable and safe drinking water and a working sanitation system is a basic necessity for all Filipinos which must be addressed. The lack of a holistic program for water resources management creates a perennial problem that seriously affects the lives of our citizens in terms of health, sanitation, food security and livelihood, which are indispensable for social and economic development.

To ensure Filipinos the benefit of this fundamental human right, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING

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AN ACT
CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND SERVICES AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. **Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Water Resources Management and Rationalization Act.*”

SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** – The State shall promote and protect the right of the people to safe, clean and affordable water as a basic human right. Further, the State recognizes that safe, clean and affordable drinking water and proper sanitation are essential to the full enjoyment by the people of life and the protection and sustainability of the environment. Towards this end, the State shall ensure that people have access to safe, clean and affordable drinking water and proper sanitation services and facilities.

In pursuit of this policy, the objectives of this Act are as follows:

a) Establish the basic principles and framework relating to the appropriation, control and conservation of water resources to achieve their optimum development and national utilization;

b) Implement programs for the attainment of universal access to safe, adequate, affordable, and sustainable water supply and sanitation services for all Filipinos, and adopt all necessary measures directed towards this end;

c) Promote international participation in the education and sharing of information to achieve universal access to water and sanitation, and the integration of water, energy, environment, and food security;

d) Strengthen and coordinate water resource planning and policy-making to ensure sustainable and fair allocation and efficient use of water resources between competing water uses and users, including domestic and municipal use, irrigation, power generation, farming, fisheries, commercial and industrial use;

e) Strengthen and coordinate policy and planning in relation to flood control and flood risk management in order to plan, prevent, and reduce the detrimental and catastrophic effects of flood waters;

f) Secure and regulate all public works in order to obtain the highest efficiency and the most appropriate quality in construction and to plan, design, construct and maintain infrastructure facilities in accordance with national development objectives; and

g) Ensure the effective implementation of Republic Act No. 9275 otherwise known as the "*Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004*."

CHAPTER II ORGANIZATION

SEC. 3. ***Department of Water Resources and Services.*** – There is hereby established a Department of Water Resources and Services, hereinafter referred to as the Department, to manage, control and protect water resources for domestic purposes, sanitation, irrigation, hydropower, fisheries, aquaculture, flood control, recreation, and for the enhancement and maintenance of water quality.

The following agencies or corporate entities are hereby transferred to the Department from the authority of their current mother agencies or offices:

a) The National Water Resources Board (NWRB), which is currently under the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

b) The Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA), which is currently under the Office of the President; and

c) The National Irrigation Administration (NIA), which is currently under the Office of the President;

d) The Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), which is currently under the DENR; and

e) The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC), which is currently under the Office of the President.

Likewise, the Department shall be responsible for the enforcement functions of Republic Act No. 9275, otherwise known as the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, as well as all the other water management functions of the Environmental Management Bureau of the DENR.

The Department shall be organized within one hundred eighty (180) days after the approval of this Act.

SEC. 4. ***Powers and Duties of the Department.*** – The Department shall exercise the following powers and duties:

a) Formulate and develop policies to promote universal access to safe, adequate, affordable and sustainable water supply, and sanitation services;

b) Manage, protect and preserve the water resources to ensure the optimal use thereof for domestic water supply, sanitation, irrigation, hydropower, navigation, flood control and recreation, including the enhancement and maintenance of water quality, conservation of watersheds, control of water pollution and environmental restoration, without compromising the natural ecosystem functions and services;

c) Manage the ownership, appropriation, utilization, exploitation, development, conservation and protection of water resources;

- 1 d) Formulate and enforce rules and regulations in the administration and
2 management of the water resources and implement rules and guidelines for the
3 enforcement of the laws on water;
- 4 e) Coordinate with relevant entities to provide policy directions, strategies
5 and targets to meet the goals and objectives of water supply, and sanitation
6 management by integrating the issues of safe water and sanitation;
- 7 f) Conduct continuing surveys and studies of renewable water supply with
8 a view towards formulating long-term policies to balance the sustainability and optimal
9 use of water resources, defining the hydrologic boundaries of basins of the existing
10 water supply sources, and creating and implementing countrywide masterplans for
11 water resources management and development;
- 12 g) Undertake and coordinate with other agencies and government entities
13 in data gathering, scientific research and studies on water resources management and
14 development, and conduct nationwide hydrologic surveys to determine the annual
15 renewable water available per region;
- 16 h) Classify water quality standards for surface and ground water, including
17 establishing national standards for drinking water and wastewater;
- 18 i) Effect inter-sectoral, inter-agency, and inter-departmental planning,
19 data gathering, research and developmental studies on safe water and sanitation
20 and compel submissions of statistic and data on water management with the aim of
21 operationalizing the integrated approach to water resources management;
- 22 j) Regulate and control the utilization, exploitation, abstraction, diversion
23 and development of water resources, taking into consideration its equitable
24 distribution, and determine the standards of beneficial and priority uses of water in
25 times of crisis and national emergencies;
- 26 k) Assist and provide the National Economic and Development Authority
27 (NEDA) with required data and inputs from and for the water sector in the formulation
28 of the short-term and long-term strategic development plans and actions;
- 29 l) Coordinate with other relevant agencies and develop policies and plans
30 in respect of water resources used for farming, including sustainable mechanisms for
31 irrigation;
- 32 m) Study all plans, programs, or development projects, that affect water
33 resources, its diversion or abstraction, and the construction of hydraulic facilities,
34 including plans and projects in watershed or basin areas of water supply sources,
35 which have direct or indirect impact on the affected locality's water resources;
- 36 n) Review from time to time regulations prescribed by any government
37 agency pertaining to water use, exploitation, development, conservation, or protection
38 of waters, water resources and watershed or basin areas;
- 39 o) Authorize its representatives or any deputized agent to enter any
40 property of public dominion or any private land, building or enclave, whether inhabited
41 or not, for the purpose of conducting hydrologic surveys and investigations, including
42 assessing and evaluating the conditions of water facilities installed and determining
43 compliance with water laws and standards;
- 44 p) Require local government units (LGUs) and national agencies to submit

1 zoning and land use plan shall become effective and enforceable unless and until a
2 certification of integration of water, and sanitation resource management plan has
3 been issued by the Department;

4 q) Provide technical assistance to water, sewer and sanitation users,
5 including farmers and LGUs, whether directly or in coordination with other agencies,
6 to assist them in applying for water permits and providing data on water and
7 sanitation resource usage;

8 r) Provide integrated planning for flood control, flood risk management
9 and water resource development and management systems, and other public works;

10 s) Issue and promulgate rules, regulations and guidelines as may be
11 necessary to implement and enforce its powers and functions under this Act;

12 t) Appoint, hire and maintain adequate staff and personnel, advisers or
13 consultants with suitable qualifications and experience, as may be necessary; and

14 u) Exercise such other powers and functions necessary or incidental or
15 that which the President may, from time to time assign to the Department to carry
16 out the objectives of this Act and for the effective administration and management of
17 water and sanitation.

18 **SEC. 5. *Department Secretary; Powers and Functions.*** – The authority
19 and responsibility for the exercise of the mandate of the Department and for the
20 discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in the Secretary of the
21 Department, hereinafter referred to as the Secretary, who shall be appointed by the
22 President of the Philippines.

23 The Secretary shall exercise the following powers and functions:

24 a) Advise the President on the promulgation of executive or administrative
25 orders, regulations, proclamations and other issuances relative to matters under the
26 jurisdiction of the Department;

27 b) Establish the policies and standards for the operation of the
28 Department pursuant to the President's guidelines; and

29 c) Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out the objectives,
30 policies and functions of the Department.

31 No person shall be appointed Secretary unless the appointee possesses
32 extensive knowledge of public administration and has a minimum seven (7) years of
33 experience in the administration of water resources or sanitation programs,
34 preferably in a public agency.

35 **SEC. 6. *Office of the Secretary.*** – The Office of the Secretary shall be
36 composed of the Secretary and immediate staff.

37 **SEC. 7. *Undersecretaries.*** – The Secretary shall be assisted by not more
38 than three (3) Undersecretaries, who shall be appointed by the President upon the
39 recommendation of the Secretary. The Secretary is hereby authorized to delineate
40 and assign the respective functional areas of responsibility of the Undersecretaries
41 with respect to the mandate and objectives of the Department.

42 Within the functional area of responsibility, an Undersecretary shall have the
43 following functions:

44 a) Advise and assist the Secretary in the formulation and implementation

1 of Department policies, plans, programs and projects;

2 b) Supervise all the operational activities of the assigned units for which
3 the Undersecretary is responsible to the Secretary; and

4 c) Perform such other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned or
5 delegated by the Secretary to promote efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of
6 public services or as may be required by this Act or other laws.

7 One (1) of the Undersecretaries shall be the Undersecretary for Planning who
8 shall have primary responsibility, in coordination with the Planning Service, for
9 advancing domestic efforts in the pursuit of the ultimate goal of universal access to
10 water supply and sanitation systems, and sustainable management of water
11 resources. The Undersecretary for Planning shall also have primary responsibility
12 for knowledge sharing and advancement of efforts around the integration of water,
13 energy, environment and food security.

14 The Undersecretaries must possess a working knowledge of public
15 administration and must have a minimum of five (5) years of experience in the
16 administration of water or sanitation programs, preferably in a public agency or with
17 legal or financial knowledge of such programs.

18 The Undersecretaries shall exercise the powers and functions as provided
19 under Section 10, Chapter 2, Book IV of the Administrative Code of 1987.

20 **SEC. 8. Assistant Secretaries.** – The Secretary shall also be assisted by
21 five (5) Assistant Secretaries appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the
22 recommendation of the Secretary: one (1) for the Monitoring and Information
23 Service; one (1) for the Planning Service; one (1) for the Comptrollership and
24 Financial Management Service; and one (1) for the Administrative and Human
25 Resource Management Service.

26 The Assistant Secretaries must possess a working knowledge of public
27 administration and must have a minimum of three (3) years of experience in the
28 administration of water or sanitation programs, or other public works programs.

29 The Assistant Secretaries shall perform such duties and functions as may be
30 assigned by the Secretary or provided for by law.

31 **SEC. 9. Organizational Structure.** – The Department shall be composed of
32 the following organizational units:

33 a) Department proper consisting of the Office of the Secretary, the Offices
34 of the Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries, the Administrative and Human
35 Resource Management, Monitoring and Information Service, Planning Service, and
36 Comptrollership and Financial Management;

37 b) The National Water Resources Board, whose mandate, powers and
38 functions are found in Presidential Decree No. 424, as amended;

39 c) The Local Water Utilities Administration, whose mandate, powers and
40 functions are defined in Presidential Decree No. 198, as amended;

41 d) The National Irrigation Administration, whose mandate, power and
42 functions are stated in Republic Act No. 3601, as amended and Presidential Decree
43 No. 552, as amended;

44 e) The Laguna Lake Development Authority, whose mandate, powers and
45 functions are laid out in Republic Act No. 4850, as amended;

f) The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission, which was created by Executive Order No. 54, Series of 1999, as amended;

g) The Water Management Bureau, which is tasked to enforce and implement Republic Act No. 9275 and all environmental laws related to water management and conservation;

h) Any other agency exercising water resources management, conservation and protection functions which the President may order to be transferred to the Department; and

i) Regional offices, as deemed appropriate and necessary by the Secretary.

SEC. 10. **Administrative and Manpower Management Service.** – The Administrative and Manpower Management Service of the Department is responsible for providing the Department with services relating to human resources development, personnel, records, facilities maintenance, medical and dental, security, and property and procurement services. For such purposes, it shall have the following functions:

a) Advise the Secretary on all matters relating to internal administration and human resources management;

b) Prepare and implement an integrated personnel plan that includes provisions on merit promotions, performance evaluation, job rotation, suggestions and incentive awards systems, and health and welfare services;

c) Provide services related to human resources training, education, and development, including manpower, career planning and forecasting, and development of indigenous training materials;

d) Develop, establish, and maintain an efficient and cost-effective property procurement system and facilities and coordinate or otherwise interface with relevant agencies, whether government or private, for the purpose of developing or upgrading the system;

e) Secure and maintain necessary Department facilities, and develop, establish, and maintain an efficient and effective security system covering, among others, personnel, physical installations, equipment, documents, and materials, including the conduct of security investigations;

f) Coordinate with the appropriate government agencies for a more efficient conduct of administrative processes;

g) Develop, establish, and maintain an efficient records system;

h) Provide assistance in its area of specialization to the Department proper, bureaus, and regional offices and, when requested, the government agencies and corporations attached to the Department; and

i) Perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be assigned or delegated by the Secretary or as may be required by law.

SEC. 11. **Monitoring and Information Service.** – The Monitoring and Information Service is responsible for providing the Secretary timely reports on the status of various Department projects and activities and develop and implement information programs for mass dissemination in coordination with the appropriate government agencies.

1 The Monitoring and Information Service shall have the following functions:

2 a) Advise the Secretary on all matters relating to monitoring and public
3 information;

4 b) Develop and maintain a system for retrieving and processing
5 monitoring information on all projects and activities of concern to the Secretary;

6 c) Provide accurate and timely status and exception reports to the
7 Secretary;

8 d) Generate monitoring reports for the President, the Cabinet, or for any
9 other purpose as required by the Secretary;

10 e) Develop and supervise the implementation of communications
11 programs to have relevant policies, programs, and plans of the Department
12 understood by the public;

13 f) Produce and supervise the dissemination of media materials in line
14 with national government public information programs;

15 g) Coordinate with the appropriate national government agencies tasked
16 with public information affairs; and

17 h) Perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be
18 assigned or delegated by the Secretary or as may be required by law.

19 SEC. 12. **Planning Service.** – The Planning Service is responsible for
20 providing the Department with the capability to undertake infrastructure development
21 planning and programming. For this purpose, it shall have the following functions:

22 a) Advise the Secretary on all matters relating to infrastructure planning;

23 b) Assist the Undersecretary for Planning on all matters related to the
24 specific functions of the position;

25 c) Formulate strategies and priorities for infrastructure development
26 consistent with national development objectives and initiate or undertake relevant
27 surveys for development planning;

28 d) Formulate long-range, medium-term, and annual development plans
29 and programs for infrastructure, including flood control, water resource development
30 systems, and other public works projects, including phasing of implementation and
31 review and integrate land use plans with these water development plans;

32 e) Identify priority packages for infrastructure development, including flood
33 control, water resource development systems, and other public works projects, and
34 undertake or supervise and evaluate the conduct of feasibility studies and project
35 preparation thereof;

36 f) Prioritize project implementation and the allocation of funds and other
37 resources and package project proposals for funding and implementation;

38 g) Evaluate and appraise all regional interregional infrastructure
39 development plans and programs as to their feasibility and consistency with
40 approved strategies and long and medium-term plans;

41 h) Initiate regular Department-wide planning exercises and act as the
42 secretariat thereof;

43 i) Gather, analyze, and organize needed statistical data and information;

44 j) Provide technical assistance related to its functions to the other
45 services, bureaus, and the regional offices as needed; and

1 k) Perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be
2 assigned or delegated by the Secretary or as may be required by law.

3 SEC. 13. **Comptrollership and Financial Management Service.** – The
4 Comptrollership and Financial Management Service is responsible for providing the
5 Department with coordinated services relating to financial systems and procedures,
6 budget, cash, accounting, and all financial housekeeping matters. For such
7 purposes, it shall have the following functions:

8 a) Advise the Secretary on all matters relating to the accounting of
9 government expenditures and receipts, budgeting and cash management, project
10 finances, and financial systems and procedures;

11 b) Prepare budget proposals and pursue formal budget authorizations,
12 undertake budget execution, and prepare and submit all appropriate reports to the
13 proper offices;

14 c) Develop and maintain accounting, financial, and assets management
15 systems, procedures, and practices in the Department proper, bureaus, and regional
16 offices;

17 d) Provide assistance in its area of specialization to any unit of the
18 Department and, when requested, to government corporations and councils attached
19 to the Department; and

20 e) Review and appraise systems and procedures, organizational
21 structure, assets management practices, accounting, and other records, reports, and
22 performance standards such as budgets and standard costs of the Department
23 proper, bureaus, and regional offices;

24 f) Perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be
25 assigned or delegated by the Secretary or as may be required by law.

26 SEC. 14. **Legal Service.** – The Legal Service is responsible for providing the
27 Department with services on such legal affairs as contract letting and litigation, legal
28 and legislative research, complaints and investigation, legal counseling, and other
29 matters of law. For such purposes, it shall have the following functions:

30 a) Advise the Secretary on all matters relating to legal affairs;

31 b) Prepare Department contracts and legal instruments, review and
32 interpret all contracts and agreements entered into by the Department, and evaluate
33 all legal proposals;

34 c) Conduct administrative investigation as well as the review of
35 administrative charges against officers and employees of the Department;

36 d) Exercise functional jurisdiction over the legal staffs of regional offices;

37 e) Provide legal assistance to the Department proper, the bureaus, and
38 regional offices and, when requested, the attached corporations; and

39 f) Perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be
40 assigned or delegated by the Secretary or as may be required by law.

41 SEC. 15. **Regional Office.** – Regional offices shall be responsible for flood
42 control, water resource development systems, and other public works within their
43 regional jurisdiction. For this purpose, their duties and responsibilities shall be as
44 follows:

45 a) Undertake and evaluate the planning, design, construction, and works

1 supervision functions of the Department for the infrastructure projects within the
2 region;

3 b) Undertake the maintenance of the infrastructure within the region and
4 supervise the maintenance of such local infrastructure receiving national government
5 financial assistance as the Secretary may determine;

6 c) Ensure the implementation of laws, policies, programs, rules, and
7 regulations regarding the infrastructure as well as all public and private physical
8 structures;

9 d) Provide technical assistance related to their functions to other agencies
10 within the region especially the local government;

11 e) Coordinate with other departments, agencies, institutions, and
12 organizations, especially local government units within the region, in the planning
13 and implementation of infrastructure projects;

14 f) Conduct continuing consultations with the local communities, take
15 appropriate measures to make the services of the Department responsive to the
16 needs of the general public, compile and submit such information to the central
17 office, and recommend such appropriate actions as may be necessary; and

18 g) Perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be
19 assigned or delegated by the Secretary or as may be required by law.

20 The Department shall retain and have such project management offices as
21 may be required, which shall be under the supervision and control of the appropriate
22 regional director, unless otherwise determined by the Secretary for reasons of supra-
23 regional scope, magnitude, and multi-functional coverage.

24 **SEC. 16. *Regional Director.*** – The regional office shall be headed by a
25 regional director who shall be responsible for efficiently and effectively carrying out
26 the duties and responsibilities of the regional office. Towards this end, the regional
27 director shall, within the defined powers, exercise functional and administrative
28 supervision over district offices within the region including the authority to commit
29 their resources and personnel to integrated regional water management and flood
30 control and flood risk management initiatives. The regional director shall also
31 perform such other related duties and responsibilities as may be assigned or
32 delegated by the Secretary or as may be required by law.

33 The regional director shall be assisted by one (1) assistant regional director
34 who shall exercise supervision the planning, project design, evaluation, and
35 technical assistance functions of the regional office.

36 **CHAPTER III** 37 **TRANSITORY PROVISIONS** 38

39 **SEC. 17. *Interface with Other Sector Regulators.*** –

40 a) The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) shall
41 continue to have the primary authority and responsibility for protecting the
42 environment and shall complement the Department's responsibility for the
43 conservation of water and related natural resources, including protecting water
44 bodies from waste and pollution. It shall continue to promulgate rules, regulations,
45 and standards in this regard. The Department shall coordinate with the DENR with

1 respect to the conservation of water resources.

2 b) The Department of Health (DOH) shall have primary authority and
3 responsibility for determining and enforcing drinking water quality and sanitation
4 standards. The Department shall coordinate with the DOH to achieve an integrated
5 approach for sanitation, including collection, treatment, and evaluation of
6 wastewater.

7 c) The Department shall share responsibility with the Department of
8 Public Works and Highways for wholly or primarily water-related public works
9 projects including flood control, water resources development, sewerage, sanitation,
10 and the harnessing and impounding of water. The Secretaries of each department
11 shall coordinate on the development of evaluation criteria, as necessary, to
12 determine proper allocation of public works projects between the two departments.

13 d) The Department shall coordinate with the Department of Agriculture to
14 ensure availability of water for agricultural development, reduce sources of long
15 term pollution for surface water and groundwater, and agricultural and industrial
16 economic development through irrigation, water recycling and treating wastewater.

17 **SEC. 18. *Transfer of Rights and Obligations.*** – The Department shall, by
18 virtue of this Act, be subrogated to all the rights, and assume all the obligations of
19 the relevant parts of any government agency or unit whose powers and functions
20 have been transferred to the Department.

21 The transfer of powers and functions as indicated in the preceding paragraph,
22 as applicable, and agencies attached thereto, as herein provided for, shall take effect
23 within one hundred eighty (180) days after the effectivity of this Act. The foregoing
24 transfer of powers and functions shall include all applicable funds, personnel,
25 records, property, and equipment, as may be necessary. All offices shall continue to
26 function under their present mandates until transition is effected as provided for
27 under this Act.

28 All rights and obligations of said government agencies are hereby transferred
29 to and assumed by the Department and shall be acted upon in accordance with the
30 rules and regulations of the Commission on Audit and other pertinent laws, rules,
31 and regulations.

32 **SEC. 19. *Separation from Service.*** – Employees separated from
33 government service as a result of this Act shall, within six (6) months from their
34 separation from the service, receive the benefits to which they may be entitled under
35 existing laws, rules, and regulations.

36 **SEC. 20. *Funding.*** – The sum of One hundred million pesos
37 (P100,000,000.00) shall be set aside from any available funds of the National
38 Treasury, and is hereby appropriated and authorized to be released, for the
39 organization of the Department and its initial operations.

40 Thereafter, funds sufficient to fully carry out the objectives, powers, and
41 functions of the Department shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
42 Act.

43 The Department shall submit its annual budget, which shall include, among
44 others, detailed information on the compensation and benefits received by their
45 employees, to the Office of the President for approval.

1 SEC. 21. **Periodic Performance Evaluation.** – The Department is hereby
2 required to formulate and enforce a system of measuring and evaluating periodically
3 and objectively the performance of the Department and submit the same annually to
4 the President.

5 SEC. 22. **Prohibition Against Organizational Change.** – No change in the
6 organizational structure herein prescribed shall be valid except upon prior approval
7 of the President for the purpose of promoting efficiency and effectiveness in the
8 delivery of public services.

9 SEC. 23. **Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared
10 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain
11 in full force and effect.

12 SEC. 24. **Repealing Clause.** – The provisions on the charter creating the
13 following agencies which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended or
14 modified accordingly, to wit;

15 a) National Water Resources Board under Presidential Decree No. 424 as
16 amended;

17 b) The Local Water Utilities Administration created by Presidential Decree
18 No. 198 as amended;

19 c) The National Irrigation Administration Republic Act No. 3601 as amended;

20 Furthermore, sub-sections 4(i) and 4(ee) of Republic Act No. 9275, entitled
21 "*Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004*," Section 1 of Executive Order No. 860, entitled
22 "*Redefining the Composition and Powers of the National Water Resources Board*,"
23 Series of 2010, Section 49 of Presidential Decree No. 198, entitled "*Declaring a*
24 *National Policy Favoring Local Operation and Control of Water Systems; Authorizing*
25 *the Formation of Local Water Districts and Providing for the Government and*
26 *Administration of such Districts; Chartering a National Administration to Facilitate*
27 *Improvement of Local Water Utilities; Granting said Administration such Powers as*
28 *are Necessary to Optimize Public Service from Water Utility Operations, and For*
29 *Other Purposes*," as amended, Executive Order No. 165, entitled "*Transferring the*
30 *National Food Authority, National Irrigation Administration, Philippine Authority, and*
31 *Fertilizer and Pesticides Authority to the Office of the President*," Series of 2014,
32 Section 3.3(b) of Executive Order No. 149, entitled "*Streamlining of the Office of the*
33 *President*," Series of 1993, and Section 3(h) of Executive Order No. 54, entitled
34 "*Creating the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission*," Series of 1999, are hereby
35 amended or modified accordingly to be consistent with this Act.

36 Accordingly, all laws, presidential decrees, letters of instructions, executive
37 orders, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are contrary to
38 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are likewise, revoked, repealed,
39 amended or modified accordingly.

40
41 SEC. 25. **Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
42 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

43 Approved,