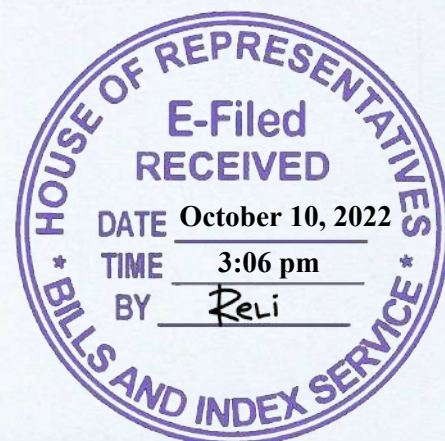


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5507



Introduced by Representative Rex Gatchalian

**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9266, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004”, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As aptly described by Architect Manuel D. C. Noche, “architecture in the Philippines today is the result of a natural growth enriched with the absorption of varied influences. It developed from the pre-colonial influences of our neighboring Malay brothers, continuing on to the Spanish colonial period, the American Commonwealth period, and the modern contemporary times. As a result, the Philippines has become an architectural melting pot– uniquely Filipino with a tinge of the occidental.”¹

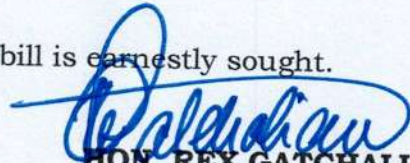
Given the dynamic and evolving nature of the architecture industry, this bill seeks to amend provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 9266 or the Architecture Act of 2004 to:

1. Institutionalize the continuing education and professional standards of architects to ensure their professional growth and stimulate their global competence;
2. Introduce a clear definition of architectural terms to guide the architects, the regulatory agency, and the public in complying and enforcing the requirements in the practice of architecture;
3. Provide additional powers and functions of, and qualifications for membership in, the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture to reinforce and strengthen the regulation of the profession to prevent conflicts of interest,

¹ Manuel Noche, History of the Philippines available at [https://ncca.gov.ph/about-ncca-3/subcommissions/subcommission-on-the-arts-sca/architecture-and-allied-arts-2/history-of-philippine-architecture/\(last visited on 4 October 2022\)](https://ncca.gov.ph/about-ncca-3/subcommissions/subcommission-on-the-arts-sca/architecture-and-allied-arts-2/history-of-philippine-architecture/(last%20visited%20on%204%20October%202022)).

- promote greater competence within, and ensure its responsiveness to the needs of the profession;
4. Revive the provision in the predecessor of RA No. 9266, which requires an applicant to take a one-year break after failing for the third time the architecture licensure examination to provide the applicant ample time to review, study, train, or enroll in review or refresher courses;
 5. Create a "Multipartite Council for Architecture" that will serve as a platform for policy concerns in the education, internship, professional regulation, and continuing professional development for architecture and that will promote collaboration among various stakeholders;
 6. Create an architect's office as well as positions for architects in local government units in recognition of their role and expertise in designing structures and communities which are vital to community and nation building; and
 7. Expand the coverage of unauthorized practices in the Architecture profession by penalizing coercion, aiding, and abetting illegal practice of architecture.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


HON. REX GATCHALIAN
Representative
1st District, Valenzuela City

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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HOUSE BILL NO. 5507

Introduced by Representative Rex Gatchalian

**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9266, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Sec. 3 of Republic Act No. 9266, otherwise known as the "Architecture
2 Act of 2004," is hereby amended to read as follows:
3

4 "SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the following terms
5 shall be defined as follows:
6

7 (1) "Architecture" is the art, science or profession of **RENDERING OR**
8 **OFFERING TO RENDER SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE**
9 planning, designing and constructing [~~buildings in their totality~~] **A**
10 **STRUCTURE OR GROUP OF STRUCTURES WHICH HAVE AS THEIR**
11 **PRINCIPAL PURPOSE HUMAN HABITATION OR USE AND THE**
12 **UTILIZATION OF SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH**
13 **STRUCTURES** taking into account their environment, in accordance with
14 the principles of utility, strength and beauty;
15

16 (2) "Architect" means a person professionally and academically
17 qualified, registered and licensed **TO PRACTICE ARCHITECTURE** under
18 this Act with a Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification
19 Card issued by the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture and the
20 Professional Regulation Commission, and who is responsible for
21 advocating the fair and sustainable development, welfare and cultural
22 expression of society's habitat in terms of space, forms and historical
23 context;
24

25 xxx

26 (11) "Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization **OF**
27 **ARCHITECTS (IAPOA)**" means the official national organization of all
28 architects of the Philippines in which all registered Filipino architects shall
29 be members without prejudice to membership in other voluntary
30 professional associations;

(15) "ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN," ALSO REFERRED TO AS "DESIGN(S)" AS USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE ILLUSTRATED CONCEPT THAT FOCUSES ON THE FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) AND UNIFIES THEM INTO A COHERENT AND FUNCTIONAL WHOLE, FOLLOWING A GENERALLY ACCEPTED APPROACH TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE(S), ABIDING BY SET NORMS AND CONSIDERING THE ARCHITECTURAL PRINCIPLES OF UTILITY, STRENGTH, AND BEAUTY, EXCLUSIVELY PREPARED BY AN ARCHITECT;

(16) "ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS," ALSO REFERRED TO AS "DOCUMENTS" AS USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, ARCHITECTURAL PLANS, DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS, TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF SERVICE PREPARED, SIGNED, AND SEALED, EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT;

(17) "ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT" MEANS A DOCUMENT DULY ISSUED BY ANY REGULATING GOVERNMENT ENTITY BASED ON ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUND SUCH BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S);

(18) "ARCHITECTURAL PLANS," ALSO REFERRED TO AS "PLANS" AS USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE LATERAL SECTION OR DIMENSIONAL REPRESENTATIONS OF A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OR REDEVELOPMENT OF BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) SHOWING FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SUCH AS THE FLOOR PLANS, ELEVATIONS, CROSS AND LONGITUDINAL SECTIONS, PERSPECTIVE, REFLECTED CEILING PLAN, SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL INTERIORS, AND OTHER ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS PREPARED, SIGNED, AND SEALED, EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT;

(19) "MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL" REFERS TO A BODY COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, THE INTEGRATED AND ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS (IAPOA), THE

1 **ACADEME, PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS AND GOVERNMENT**
2 **PRACTITIONERS."**
3

4 **SEC. 2.** Sec. 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
5

6 "SEC. 4. Creation and Composition of the Professional Regulatory Board.
7 - There is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture,
8 hereinafter referred to as the Board, a collegial body under the supervision
9 and administrative control of the Professional Regulation Commission,
10 hereinafter referred to as the Commission, to be composed of a chairman
11 and ~~[two (2)]~~ **FOUR (4)** members appointed by the President of the
12 Philippines from a list of three (3) recommendees chosen from a list of five
13 (5) nominees for each position submitted to the Commission by the
14 integrated and the accredited professional organization of architects. The
15 Board shall be organized not later than six (6) months from the effectivity
16 of this Act."
17

18 **SEC. 3.** Sec. 5 (c) of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
19

20 "SEC. 5. Qualifications of Members of the Professional Regulatory Board.
21 - Each member shall have at the time of his/her appointment, possess the
22 following qualifications:
23

24 (a) be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
25

26 (b) be a holder of a degree in Bachelor of Science in Architecture,
27 **PREFERABLY WITH A POST-BACCALAUREATE DEGREE IN**
28 **ARCHITECTURE**, conferred by a school, college or university in the
29 Philippines or abroad, **WHOSE PROGRAM** is accredited by the
30 Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
31

32 (c) be an architect with a valid Certificate of Registration and
33 Professional Identification Card and active practitioner of architecture for
34 at least ~~[ten (10)]~~ **FIFTEEN (15)** years on the date of his/her appointment;
35

36 (d) not be a member of the faculty of any school, college, university or
37 review institution where a regular course or review course in architecture
38 is taught, nor have pecuniary interest in such institution. No former
39 member of the faculty of any school, institute, university or review center
40 where architecture is taught can become a member of the Board unless
41 he/she had officially **FILED A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR** resigned from
42 such an institution and has completely stopped teaching, advising or
43 reviewing activities ~~[for at least five (5) years prior to the nomination;~~
44 **and] ON THE DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT;**
45

46 (e) has never been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude[-];
47

1 (F) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE OFFICER OF THE INTEGRATED AND
2 ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS AND
3 OTHER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS ON THE
4 DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT;

5
6 (G) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE NOR APPOINTIVE LOCAL OFFICIAL
7 UNLESS HE/SHE RELINQUISHES HIS INCUMBENT OFFICE ON THE
8 DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT;

9
10 (H) NOT BE A CANDIDATE WHO HAS LOST IN ANY ELECTION,
11 WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR PRIOR TO THE DATE OF HIS/HER
12 APPOINTMENT.”

13
14 **SEC. 4.** Sec. 6 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
15

16 “SEC. 6. Term of Office. – The members of the Board shall hold office for a
17 term of three (3) years after appointment or until their successors shall
18 have been appointed and duly qualified. Any vacancy occurring within the
19 term of a member shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term only.
20

21 Each member of the Board may be reappointed for one full term of three
22 (3) years. Of the members of the Board first appointed under this Act, one
23 (1) member shall be appointed and hold office as chairman for three (3)
24 years, ~~[ONE (1)]~~ **TWO (2) MEMBERS** for two (2) years, and ~~[ONE (1)]~~ **TWO**
25 **(2) MEMBERS** for one (1) year.
26

27 Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath prior to
28 the performance of their duties. Provided, That the incumbent members of
29 the Board shall continue to serve for the remainder of their term as
30 members of the herein created Professional Regulatory Board of
31 Architecture until a new Board shall have been properly organized.”
32

33 **SEC 5.** Sec. 7 (f) of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
34 “SEC. 7. Power and Functions of the Board.
35

36 xxx
37

38 (f) Monitor **LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS AND**
39 conditions affecting the practice of architecture and adopt such measures
40 as may be deemed proper for the enhancement and maintenance of high
41 professional, ethical and technical standards of the profession;
42

43 xxx
44

45 (N) **KEEP, MAINTAIN, PUBLISH, AND ANNUALLY UPDATE A**
46 **ROSTER OF ARCHITECTS, A ROSTER OF PRACTICING ARCHITECTS,**

1 **ROSTER OF FOREIGN ARCHITECTS WITH VALID TEMPORARY**
2 **PERMITS, AND A ROSTER OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS;**
3

4 **(O) KEEP A RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS AND MAKE AN**
5 **ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF THE**
6 **PRESIDENT, THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE HOUSE OF**
7 **REPRESENTATIVES, THE CHED, AND THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL;**
8 **AND**
9

10 **[(a)] (P)** Discharge such other duties and functions as may be deemed
11 necessary for the enhancement of the architecture profession and the
12 upgrading, development and growth of the architecture education.”
13

14 **SEC. 6.** Sec. 9 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
15

16 “SEC. 9. Grounds for Suspension or Removal of Members of the Board. –
17

18 xxx

19 **(D) SOLICITING AND/OR ACCEPTING, DIRECTLY OR**
20 **INDIRECTLY, ANY GIFT, GRATUITY, FAVOR, ENTERTAINMENT, LOAN**
21 **OR ANYTHING OF MONETARY VALUE FROM ANY SOURCE, IN THE**
22 **COURSE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY**
23 **OPERATION BEING REGULATED BY, OR ANY TRANSACTION WHICH**
24 **MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE FUNCTIONS OF THEIR OFFICE;**

25 **(E) Final judgment [~~of crimes involving moral turpitude~~] FOR**
26 **OFFENSES UNDER THE REVISED PENAL CODE, THE ANTI-GRAFT**
27 **AND CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT, AND OTHER LAWS; [and]**
28

29 **(F) Manipulation or rigging of the architecture licensure examination**
30 **results, disclosure of secret and confidential information in the**
31 **examination questions prior to the conduct of the said examination or**
32 **tampering of grades[.]; AND**
33

34 **(G) ENGAGED IN UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE.”**
35

36 **SEC. 7.** Sec. 11 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
37

38 “SEC. 11. Annual Report. - The Board shall submit an annual report to
39 the Commission after the close of each year giving a detailed account of its
40 proceedings during the year and making such recommendations as it may
41 deem proper.
42

43 **EVERY OTHER YEAR, THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL BE**
44 **SUPPLEMENTED BY A COMPETITIVENESS REPORT ASSESSING**
45 **FILIPINO PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTS, ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS,**
46 **THE BOARD, AND THE IAPOA VIS À VIS THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN**

1 COUNTRIES WITH WHOM THE PHILIPPINES HAS, IS NEGOTIATING,
2 OR DESIRES TO NEGOTIATE MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENTS.
3

4 COPIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND COMPETITIVENESS REPORT
5 SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO THE FOLLOWING:
6

- 7 (1) OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES;
8 (2) SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES;
9 (3) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;
10 (4) THE CHED; AND
11 (5) THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL.”
12

13 **SEC. 8.** Sec. 13 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
14

15 “SEC. 13. Qualifications of Applicant for Examination. –
16

17 xxx

18 (c) He/she is a holder of a degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture
19 conferred by a school, college, academy or institute **IN THE PHILIPPINES**
20 **OR ABROAD, WHOSE PROGRAM IS** duly accredited by the Commission
21 on Higher Education (CHED) and in addition has a specific record of at
22 least two (2) years or equivalent of diversified architectural experience duly
23 certified by a registered/licensed architect: Provided, however, That an
24 applicant holding a Master's Degree in Architecture from a school, college,
25 university or institute **IN THE PHILIPPINES OR ABROAD DULY**
26 **ACCREDITED BY THE CHED,** shall be credited one (1) year in his/her
27 practical experience; **PROVIDED, THAT, FOR AN APPLICANT THAT**
28 **HOLDS A DEGREE FROM A SCHOOL, COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OR**
29 **INSTITUTE, WHOSE PROGRAM IS NOT CURRENTLY ACCREDITED, THE**
30 **APPLICANT SHALL SUBMIT SAID PROGRAM FOR ACCREDITATION BY**
31 **THE CHED; PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT AN APPLICANT WHO HAS**
32 **OBTAINED DIVERSIFIED EXPERIENCE FROM AN ARCHITECT**
33 **REGISTERED/LICENSED ABROAD SHALL PROVE THAT THE**
34 **COUNTRY WHERE HE OBTAINED SUCH EXPERIENCE HAS**
35 **RECIPROCITY AGREEMENTS WITH THE PHILIPPINES, AND SHALL**
36 **SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION FOR EQUIVALENCY ASSESSMENT BY THE**
37 **PRC; and**

38 (d) He/she has not been convicted of any criminal offensive involving moral
39 turpitude.”
40

41 **SEC. 9.** Sec. 14 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
42

43 “SEC. 14. Subjects for Examination. –
44

45 Xxx

46 The Board, subject to the approval of the Commission, **AND UPON**
47 **CONSULTATION WITH THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL,** may revise or

1 exclude any of the subjects and their syllabi, and add new ones as the
2 need arises to conform to technological changes brought about by
3 continuing trends in the profession.”
4

5 **SEC. 10.** A new section shall be inserted to read as follows:
6

7 **“SECTION 16-A. RE-EXAMINATION. - AN APPLICANT WHO FAILS TO**
8 **PASS THE EXAMINATION FOR THE THIRD TIME SHALL BE ALLOWED**
9 **TO TAKE ANOTHER EXAMINATION ONLY AFTER THE LAPSE OF ONE**
10 **YEAR.”**
11

12 **SEC. 11.** Sec. 19 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
13

14 “SEC. 19. Roster of Architects. - A roster showing the names and place of
15 business of all registered professional architects, **PRACTICING**
16 **ARCHITECTS, FOREIGN ARCHITECTS WITH VALID TEMPORARY**
17 **PERMIT, AND ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS**, shall be prepared and updated
18 by the Board and copies thereof shall be made available to any party as
19 may be deemed necessary.”
20

21 **SEC. 12.** Sec. 20 (2) of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
22

23 “SEC. 20. Seal, Issuance and Use of Seal. -
24

25 xxx
26

27 No officer or employee of this Republic, chartered cities, provinces and
28 municipalities, now or hereafter charged with the enforcement of laws,
29 ordinances, or regulations, relating to the construction or alteration of
30 buildings, shall accept or approve any architectural plans or specifications
31 which have not been prepared **BY AN ARCHITECT** and submitted in full
32 accord with all the provisions of this Act. Nor shall any payments be
33 approved by such officer for any work, the plans and specifications which
34 have not been so prepared and signed by an Architect.

35 **UPON APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS, THE**
36 **CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT SHALL BE ISSUED**
37 **SUBJECT TO REASONABLE FEES AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE**
38 **REQUIREMENTS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11032, OTHERWISE KNOWN**
39 **AS THE “EASE OF DOING BUSINESS AND EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT**
40 **SERVICE DELIVERY ACT”;** PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO
41 BUILDING PERMIT OR OTHER DOCUMENT OF SIMILAR IMPORT
42 SHALL BE ISSUED WITHOUT THE CORRESPONDING
43 ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, PLANS, AND DOCUMENTS PREPARED
44 AND SIGNED BY AN ARCHITECT, EXCEPT ON CERTAIN INSTANCES
45 AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD.”
46

47 **SEC. 13.** Sec. 25 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

1
2 "SEC. 25. Registration of Architects Required. -No person shall practice
3 architecture in this country, or engage in preparing architectural plans,
4 specification or preliminary data for the erection or alteration of any
5 building located within the boundaries of this country or use the title
6 "Architect", ~~[or display or use any title, sign, card, advertisement, or~~
7 ~~other—device]~~ "ARCH.", "ARCH'T.", "AR.", INCLUDING
8 "ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN", "ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS",
9 "ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES", OR ANY OF THEIR DERIVATES OR
10 TRANSLATIONS INTO OTHER LANGUAGES OR DIALECTS, IN
11 CONNECTION WITH HIS OR HER NAME, STYLE, BUSINESS
12 DESIGNATION, BUSINESS NAME, LOGO, OR ON PLANS, DRAWINGS,
13 OR SPECIFICATIONS FOR BUILDINGS OR PARTS OF BUILDINGS to
14 indicate **THAT** such person practices or offers to practice architecture, or
15 is an architect, unless such person shall have received from the Board a
16 Certificate of Registration and be issued a Professional Identification Card
17 in the manner hereinafter provided and shall thereafter comply with the
18 provisions of this Act.

19 A foreign architect or any person not authorized to practice architecture in
20 the Philippines, who shall stay in the country and perform any of the
21 activities mentioned in Sections 3 and 4 of this Act, or any other activity
22 analogous thereto, in connection with the construction of any
23 building/structure/edifice or land development project, shall be deemed
24 engaged in the unauthorized practice of architecture."
25

26 **SEC. 14.** Sec. 29 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
27

28 "SEC. 29. Prohibition in the Practice of Architecture and Penal Clause. -
29 Any person who shall practice or offer to practice architecture in the
30 Philippines without being registered/licensed and who are not holders of
31 temporary or special permits in accordance with the provisions of this Act;
32 or any person presenting or attempting to use as his/her own the
33 Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card or seal of
34 another or temporary or special permit; or any person who shall give any
35 false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board or to any member thereof
36 in obtaining a Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card
37 or temporary or special permit; or any person who shall falsely
38 impersonate any registrant of like or different name, or any person who
39 shall attempt to use a revoked or suspended Certificate of
40 Registration/Professional Identification Card or cancelled
41 special/temporary permit; or any person who shall use in connection with
42 his/her name or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title or description
43 tending to convey the impression that he/she is an architect when he/she
44 is not an architect; or any person whether Filipino or foreigner, who
45 knowingly allows the use, adoption, implementation of plans, designs or
46 specification made by any person, firm, partnership or company not duly
47 licensed to engage in the practice of architecture; **OR ANY GOVERNMENT**

1 **EMPLOYEE CONNECTED WITH PERMITTING AUTHORITIES, WHO**
2 **PREPARES, SIGNS AND SEALS ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS FOR**
3 **THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR GOVERNMENT-ISSUED PERMITS,**
4 **CLEARANCES AND LICENSES, SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,**
5 **ARCHITECTURAL PERMITS, BUILDING PERMITS, OCCUPANCY**
6 **PERMITS AND ZONING/LOCATIONAL CLEARANCES, BUSINESS**
7 **PERMITS;** or any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this
8 Act, its implementing rules and regulations, the Code of Ethical Conduct
9 and Standards of Professional Practice, or any policy of the Board and the
10 Commission, shall be guilty of misdemeanor and charged in court by the
11 Commission and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to a fine of not less
12 than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five
13 Million pesos (P5,000,000.00) or to suffer imprisonment for a period not
14 less than six (6) months or not exceeding six (6) years, or both, at the
15 discretion of the Court.”
16

17 **SEC. 15.** Sec. 30 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
18

19 “SEC. 30. ~~[Prohibition in the Practice]~~ **COERCION, AIDING AND**
20 **ABETTING ILLEGAL PRACTICE** of Architecture.- Any person or entity,
21 whether public or private, Filipino or foreigner, who/which shall entice,
22 compel, coerce, require or otherwise force an architect registered and
23 licensed under R.A. No. 9266 to undertake/perform any service under the
24 general practice of architecture as defined under R.A. No. 9266, without
25 first executing a written contract/service agreement; **OR ANY PERSON**
26 **WHO FACILITATES THE ISSUANCE OF A GOVERNMENT PERMIT FOR**
27 **ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS PREPARED, SIGNED AND SEALED BY**
28 **REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS EMPLOYED IN GOVERNMENT**
29 **PERMITTING AUTHORITIES; OR ANY PERSON OR ENTITY,**
30 **WHO/WHICH SHALL AID AND ABET PERSONS OR ENTITIES IN**
31 **COMMITTING THE PROHIBITED ACTS RELATIVE TO THE PRACTICE**
32 **OF ARCHITECTURE AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 29 OF THIS ACT** shall
33 be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to a
34 fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) or to
35 suffer imprisonment for a period not exceeding six (6) years, or both, at the
36 discretion of the Court.”
37

38 **SEC. 16.** Sec. 35 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
39

40 “SEC. 35. Positions in Government Requiring the Services of Registered
41 and Licensed Architects. - Within (3) years from the effectivity of this Act,
42 all existing and proposed positions in the local and national government,
43 whether career, permanent, temporary or contractual and primarily
44 requiring the services of an architect shall be filled only by registered and
45 licensed architects.

46 **ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS CONCERNED SHALL CREATE AN**
47 **ARCHITECT’S OFFICE TO OVERSEE AND REVIEW THE PLANNING,**

DESIGN, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES, SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED, TO OFFICES, COURTS, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, CLINICS, FIREHOUSES, POLICE STATIONS, MARKETS, PUBLIC HOUSING. MANDATORY POSITIONS OF PROVINCIAL ARCHITECT, CITY ARCHITECT, CITY ARCHITECT, AND MUNICIPAL ARCHITECT, SHALL BE CREATED AND HELD EXCLUSIVELY BY REGISTERED AND LICENSED ARCHITECTS. ALL OFFICES, AGENCIES, AND INSTRUMENTALITIES IN THE GOVERNMENT, SHALL HIRE ARCHITECTS IN THE DESIGN OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES."

SEC. 17. Sec. 37 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 37. Limitation to the Registration of a Firm, Company, Partnership, Corporation or Association. -

xxx

(b) Registered and licensed architects shall compose at least ~~[seventy-five percent (75%)]~~ **A MAJORITY** of the owners, shareholders, members incorporators, directors, executive officers, as the case may be;

xxx

A FILIPINO REGISTERED AND LICENSED ARCHITECT MAY PRACTICE AS A ONE PERSON CORPORATION SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS SET FORTH IN THE REVISED CORPORATION CODE."

SEC. 18. Sec. 40 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 40. Integration of the Architecture Profession.- The Architecture profession shall be integrated into one (1) national organization which shall be accredited by the Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, as the Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization of Architects (IAPOA): *Provided*, however, that such an organization shall be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as a non-profit, non-stock corporation, **WITH ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION SPECIFYING AS ONE OF ITS PURPOSES: TO INTEGRATE ALL ARCHITECTS INTO ONE (1) NATIONAL ORGANIZATION, AND** governed by By-laws providing for a democratic election of its officials[-]; **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT SUCH AN ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE A ROBUST NETWORK OF LOCAL AND FOREIGN- BASED CHAPTERS LOCATED IN KEY CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES; PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT** an architect duly registered with the Board shall automatically become a member of the **IAPOA** and shall receive the benefits and privileges provided for in this Act upon payment of the required fees and dues. Membership in the **IAPOA** shall not be a bar to membership in other associations of architects[-]; **PROVIDED, FINALLY THAT, UPON FILING FOR APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION OR RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION, SUCH ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE A MEMBERSHIP COMPRISING OF AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT PLUS ONE**

1 (50% + 1) OF REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS POSSESSING
2 CURRENT AND VALID PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS
3 (PICs.)
4

5 THE IAPOA SHALL, IN ADDITION TO THE PURPOSES STATED
6 IN ITS BY-LAWS, HAVE THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND
7 RESPONSIBILITIES:
8

9 (1) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION FOR WHICH SUCH
10 ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND ACCREDITED;
11

12 (2) SUBMIT NOMINEES FOR VACANT POSITIONS IN THE BOARD;
13

14 (3) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION IN THE MONITORING
15 COMMITTEES FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS
16 (MRA) IN THE ASEAN AND APEC;
17

18 (4) DEFINE THE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF
19 ITS MEMBERS;
20

21 (5) ENSURE THAT ITS MEMBERS ADHERE TO THE CODE OF
22 ETHICS, PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, AND HIGHEST
23 PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS;
24

25 (6) LOOK INTO THE CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE PRACTICE OF
26 THE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, LOCALLY AND ABROAD,
27 AND TO PROPOSE POLICIES OR MEASURES TO THE BOARD
28 AND/OR THE COMMISSION FOR ITS IMPROVEMENT;
29

30 (7) ENSURE THE WELFARE, AND BEST INTEREST, AS WELL AS
31 HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP AMONG ITS MEMBERS; AND
32

33 (8) REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT TO THE BOARD AND/OR
34 THE COMMISSION, THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE LEGAL
35 SERVICE, FOR POSSIBLE PROSECUTION OR FILING OF
36 COMPLAINT."
37

38 (9) SUBMIT TO THE BOARD, AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR,:
39

40 (a) YEARLY AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE
41 ORGANIZATION, DULY SIGNED BY A CPA AUTHORIZED
42 TO PRACTICE ACCOUNTANCY WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS
43 FROM THE SUBMISSION MADE TO THE SECURITIES
44 AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC);
45
46

1 "SEC. 42. POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MULTI-
2 PARTITE COUNCIL. - THE MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL SHALL
3 PERFORM THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:
4

5 (1) MONITOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS IN
6 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND
7 PRACTICE;
8

9 (2) STUDY AND EVALUATE EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS THAT
10 SHALL LEAD TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT;
11

12 (3) REGULARLY REVIEW OF THE SUBJECTS FOR EXAMINATION;
13

14 (4) DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW THE TABLE OF
15 SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION;
16

17 (5) DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW
18 INTERNSHIP/GUIDELINES IN THE AREAS SUCH AS
19 DIVERSIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE, DUTIES AND
20 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MENTORS AND COLLABORATIVE
21 WORK;
22

23 (6) DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW CONTINUING
24 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES;
25

26 (7) DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW OF STANDARDS OF
27 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN AREAS SUCH AS SCOPE OF
28 SERVICES, SCHEDULE OF FEES, AND INTER-PROFESSIONAL
29 COLLABORATION; AND
30

31 (8) DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW PROFESSIONAL
32 EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND PRACTICE
33 STANDARDS IN REFERENCE TO THE PHILIPPINE
34 QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT."

35 **SEC. 20.** Sec. 44 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:
36

37 "SEC. 44. Enforcement of the Act.-
38

39 xxx

40 **FOR CASES OF ILLEGAL PRACTICE LODGED BEFORE IT,** the Board
41 shall assist the Commission **IN THE PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION**
42 **AND** in filing the appropriate charges through the concerned prosecution
43 office in accordance with law and the Rules of Court."
44

45 **SEC. 21. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The Board and the IAPOA are
46 tasked to prepare the implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) required for the

1 implementation of this Act. The IRR shall be promulgated within ninety (90) days
2 upon approval of this act.
3

4 **SEC. 22. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any section or provisions of
5 this Act is declared unconstitutional, or invalid, the other sections and provisions,
6 which are not affected by it, shall continue to be in full force and effect.
7

8 **SEC. 23. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, agreements,
9 rules, and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
10 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
11

12 **SEC. 24. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after is
13 complete publication in either the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
14 circulation.

Approved,