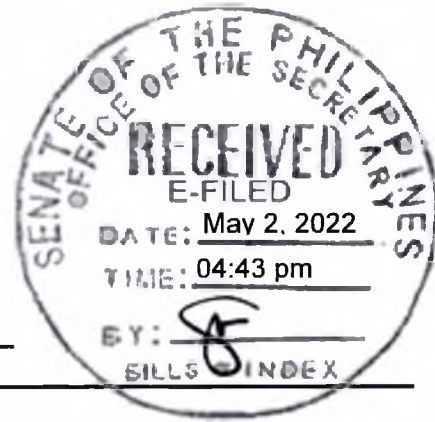


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2518



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Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

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**AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING THE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, AMENDING FOR THE  
PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED NINE  
THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX (R.A. NO. 9266), OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE "ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004"**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The profession of architecture is about its profound impact on the built environment of civilizations all over the world. It is justified by its strong material presence that serves as proof of societal change.

The evolution of available technologies and its integration into the profession, challenges the practice and industry as it influences the development of the human race.

The intention is to make the practice of architecture purposeful, predictive, and effective in the society in which we live. Thus, architects' continuing education and professional standards must always be in check to ensure not only their professional growth but stimulate their competence to be *at par* with the world's best.

Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9266 or "The Architecture Act of 2004" provides that the State recognizes the invaluable contribution of architects in nation building, to wit:

"The State recognizes the importance of architects in nation building and development. Hence, it shall develop and nurture competent, virtuous, productive and well-rounded professional architects whose standards of practice and service shall be excellent, qualitative, world-class and globally competitive through inviolable, honest, effective and credible licensure examinations and through regulatory measures, programs and activities that foster their professional growth and development."

The architectural industry has invaluable contribution to nation-building. In order to establish a healthy and sustainable built environment, there is a need to strengthen the practice of the architecture profession by amending the Architecture Act of 2004 and harmonizing it with other laws.

In the proposed law, a clear definition of architectural terms was proposed to avoid vagueness and promote accuracy in the implementation of the provisions of the Republic Act No. 9266 or "The Architecture Act of 2004," and the proposed amendments. Further, additional requirements in the qualification of the members of the Professional Regulatory Board ("Board") was proposed to ensure that the leaders have the qualification in driving

the profession towards greater competence. The additional qualifications likewise aim to professionalize the Board by preventing instances of conflict of interest and "politicization" of the profession.

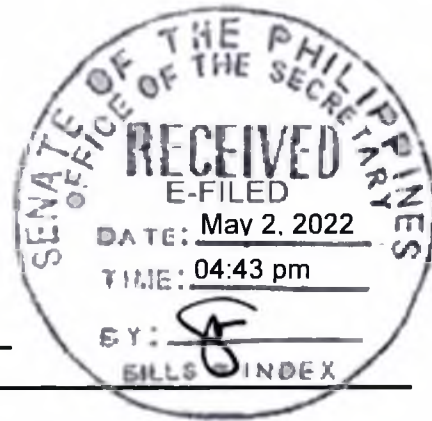
In addition, the proposed law intends to ensure the qualifications and competence of our new and future architects by setting standards that are relevant for the development of the practice and the industry.

It is for the reasons stated above that the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

  
**RICHARD J. GORDON**  
Senator

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

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AS THE "ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004"**

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

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

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

19           xxx

20           (11) "Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization OF ARCHITECTS  
21 (IAPOA)" means the official national organization of all architects of the  
22 Philippines in which all registered Filipino architects shall be members without  
23 prejudice to membership in other voluntary professional associations;

24           xxx

- 1 15) "ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN," ALSO REFERRED TO AS "DESIGN(S)" AS USED  
2 IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE ILLUSTRATED CONCEPT THAT FOCUSES ON THE  
3 FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) AND THE  
4 UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH  
5 BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) AND UNIFIES THEM INTO A COHERENT  
6 AND FUNCTIONAL WHOLE, FOLLOWING A GENERALLY ACCEPTED  
7 APPROACH TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE(S), ABIDING BY SET NORMS AND  
8 CONSIDERING THE ARCHITECTURAL PRINCIPLES OF UTILITY, STRENGTH,  
9 AND BEAUTY, EXCLUSIVELY PREPARED BY AN ARCHITECT;
- 10 16) "ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS,"ALSO REFERRED TO AS "DOCUMENTS" AS  
11 USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS,  
12 ARCHITECTURAL PLANS, DRAWINGS, SPECIFICATIONS, TECHNICAL  
13 DOCUMENTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF SERVICE PREPARED, SIGNED,  
14 AND SEALED, EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT;
- 15 17) "ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT"MEANS A DOCUMENT DULY ISSUED BY ANY  
16 REGULATING GOVERNMENT ENTITY BASED ON ARCHITECTURAL  
17 DOCUMENTS AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDING(S) OR  
18 STRUCTURE(S) AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN  
19 AND SURROUND SUCH BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S);
- 20 18) "ARCHITECTURAL PLANS,"ALSO REFERRED TO AS "PLANS" AS USED IN THIS  
21 ACT, MEANS THE LATERAL SECTION OR DIMENSIONAL REPRESENTATIONS  
22 OF A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OR REDEVELOPMENT OF BUILDING(S) OR  
23 STRUCTURE(S) AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN  
24 AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDING(S) OR STRUCTURE(S) SHOWING  
25 FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SUCH AS THE  
26 FLOOR PLANS, ELEVATIONS, CROSS AND LONGITUDINAL SECTIONS,  
27 PERSPECTIVE, REFLECTED CEILING PLAN, SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN,  
28 ARCHITECTURAL INTERIORS, AND OTHER ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS  
29 PREPARED, SIGNED, AND SEALED, EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT.
- 30 19) "MULTIPARTITE COUNCIIL"REFERS TO A BODY COMPOSED OF  
31 REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF  
32 ARCHITECTURE, THE INTEGRATED AND ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL  
33 ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS (IAPOA), THE ACADEME, PRIVATE  
34 PRACTITIONERS AND GOVERNMENT PRACTITIONERS."

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

36 "SEC. 4. Creation and Composition of the Professional Regulatory Board. - There  
37 is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture, hereinafter referred to  
38 as the Board, a collegial body under the supervision and administrative control of the  
39 Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, to be  
40 composed of a chairman and [two (2)] FOUR (4) members appointed by the President of  
41 the Philippines from a list of three (3) recommendees chosen from a list of five (5)  
42 nominees for each position submitted to the Commission by the integrated and the  
43 accredited professional organization of architects. The Board shall be organized not later  
44 than six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act."

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

1 "SEC. 5. Qualifications of Members of the Professional Regulatory Board. - Each  
2 member shall have at the time of his/her appointment, possess the following  
3 qualifications:

- 4 (a) be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- 5 (b) be a holder of a degree in Bachelor of Science in Architecture,  
6 PREFERRABLY WITH A POST-BACCALAUREATE DEGREE IN  
7 ARCHITECTURE, conferred by a school, college or university in the  
8 Philippines or abroad, WHOSE PROGRAM is accredited by the Commission  
9 on Higher Education (CHED);
- 10 (c) be an architect with a valid Certificate of Registration and Professional  
11 Identification Card and active practitioner of architecture for at least [ten  
12 (10)] FIFTEEN (15) years on the date of his/her appointment;
- 13 (d) not be a member of the faculty of any school, college, university or review  
14 institution where a regular course or review course in architecture is taught,  
15 nor have pecuniary interest in such institution. No former member of the  
16 faculty of any school, institute, university or review center where architecture  
17 is taught can become a member of the Board unless he/she had officially  
18 FILED A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR resigned from such an institution and has  
19 completely stopped teaching, advising or reviewing activities [for at least five  
20 (5) years prior to the nomination; and] ON THE DATE OF HIS/HER  
21 APPOINTMENT;
- 22 (e) has never been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude[.];
- 23 (F) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE OFFICER OF THE INTEGRATED AND ACCREDITED  
24 PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS AND OTHER  
25 PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS ON THE DATE OF HIS/HER  
26 APPOINTMENT;
- 27 (G) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE NOR APPOINTIVE LOCAL OFFICIAL UNLESS HE/SHE  
28 RELINQUISHES HIS INCUMBENT OFFICE ON THE DATE OF HIS/HER  
29 APPOINTMENT;
- 30 (H) NOT BE A CANDIDATE WHO HAS LOST IN ANY ELECTION, WITHIN ONE (1)  
31 YEAR PRIOR TO THE DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT.

32 **SECTION 4.** SEC. 6 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

37 Each member of the Board may be reappointed for one full term of three (3) years.  
38 Of the members of the Board first appointed under this Act, one (1) member shall be  
39 appointed and hold office as chairman for three (3) years, [ONE (1)] TWO (2) MEMBERS  
40 for two (2) years, and [ONE (1)] TWO (2) MEMBERS for one (1) year.

41 Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath prior to the  
42 performance of their duties. Provided, That the incumbent members of the Board shall

1 continue to serve for the remainder of their term as members of the herein created  
2 Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture until a new Board shall have been properly  
3 organized.”

4 **SECTION 5.** SEC. 7 (f) of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 “SEC. 7. Power and Functions of the Board.

6 xxx

7 (f) Monitor LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS AND conditions  
8 affecting the practice of architecture and adopt such measures as may be  
9 deemed proper for the enhancement and maintenance of high professional,  
10 ethical and technical standards of the profession;

11 xxx

12 (N) KEEP, MAINTAIN, PUBLISH, AND ANNUALLY UPDATE A ROSTER OF  
13 ARCHITECTS, A ROSTER OF PRACTICING ARCHITECTS, ROSTER OF  
14 FOREIGN ARCHITECTS WITH VALID TEMPORARY PERMITS, AND A ROSTER  
15 OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS;

16 (O) KEEP A RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS AND MAKE AN ANNUAL REPORT  
17 TO THE COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
18 PHILIPPINESENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIIVES, THE CHED, AND THE  
19 MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL; AND

20 [(n)] (P) Discharge such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary  
21 for the enhancement of the architecture profession and the upgrading,  
22 development and growth of the architecture education.

23 **SECTION 6.** SEC. 9 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

25 xxx

26 (D) SOLICITING AND/OR ACCEPTING, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, ANY GIFT,  
27 GRATUITY, FAVOR, ENTERTAINMENT, LOAN OR ANYTHING OF MONETARY  
28 VALUE FROM ANY SOURCE, IN THE COURSE OF THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES  
29 OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY OPERATION BEING REGULATED BY, OR ANY  
30 TRANSACTION WHICH MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE FUNCTIONS OF THEIR  
31 OFFICE;

32 (E) Final judgment [of crimes involving moral turpitude] FOR OFFENSES UNDER  
33 THE REVISED PENAL CODE, THE ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT PRACTICES  
34 ACT, AND OTHER LAWS; [and]

35 (F) Manipulation or rigging of the architecture licensure examination results,  
36 disclosure of secret and confidential information in the examination questions  
37 prior to the conduct of the said examination or tampering of grades[.]; AND

38 (G) ENGAGED IN UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE.”  
39

1           **SECTION 7.** SEC. 11 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

2           "SEC. 11. Annual Report. - The Board shall submit an annual report to the  
3           Commission after the close of each year giving a detailed account of its  
4           proceedings during the year and making such recommendations as it may  
5           deem proper.

6           EVERY OTHER YEAR, THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY A  
7           COMPETITIVENESS REPORT ASSESSING FILIPINO PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTS,  
8           ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS, THE BOARD, AND THE IAPOA VIS À VIS THEIR  
9           COUNTERPARTS IN COUNTRIES WITH WHOM THE PHILIPPINES HAS, IS NEGOTIATING,  
10          OR DESIRES TO NEGOTIATE MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENTS.

11          COPIES OF THE ANNUAL REPORT AND COMPETITIVENESS REPORT SHALL BE  
12          SUBMITTED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- 13          (a)   OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES;
- 14          (b)   PHILIPPINE SENATE;
- 15          (c)   HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;
- 16          (d)   THE CHED; AND
- 17          (e)   THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL."

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

19          "SEC. 13. Qualifications of Applicant for Examination. –

20          xxx

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

37          (d) He/she has not been convicted of any criminal offensive involving moral  
38          turpitude."

39          **SECTION 9.** SEC. 14 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

40          "SEC. 14. Subjects for Examination. –

41          xxx

1 The Board, subject to the approval of the Commission, AND UPON CONSULTATION  
2 WITH THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL, may revise or exclude any of the subjects and their  
3 syllabi, and add new ones as the need arises to conform to technological changes brought  
4 about by continuing trends in the profession."

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

6 "SECTION 16-A. RE-EXAMINATION. - AN APPLICANT WHO FAILS TO PASS THE  
7 EXAMINATION FOR THE THIRD TIME SHALL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE ANOTHER  
8 EXAMINATION ONLY AFTER THE LAPSE OF ONE YEAR."

9 **SECTION 11.** SEC. 19 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 "SEC. 19. Roster of Architects. - A roster showing the names and place of business  
11 of all registered professional architects, PRACTICING ARCHITECTS, FOREIGN  
12 ARCHITECTS WITH VALID TEMPORARY PERMIT, AND ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS, shall be  
13 prepared and updated by the Board and copies thereof shall be made available to any  
14 party as may be deemed necessary."

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

16 "SEC. 20. Seal, Issuance and Use of Seal. -

17 xxx

18 (2) No officer or employee of this Republic, chartered cities, provinces and  
19 municipalities, now or hereafter charged with the enforcement of laws,  
20 ordinances, or regulations, relating to the construction or alteration of buildings,  
21 shall accept or approve any architectural plans or specifications which have not  
22 been prepared EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT and submitted in full accord  
23 with all the provisions of this Act. Nor shall any payments be approved by such  
24 officer for any work, the plans and specifications which have not been so  
25 prepared EXCLUSIVELY and signed by an Architect.

26 UPON APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS, THE  
27 CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT SHALL BE ISSUED; PROVIDED,  
28 HOWEVER, THAT NO BUILDING PERMIT OR OTHER DOCUMENT OF SIMILAR  
29 IMPORT SHALL BE ISSUED WITHOUT THE CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL  
30 DESIGNS, PLANS, AND DOCUMENTS PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY AND SIGNED BY  
31 AN ARCHITECT."

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

33 "SEC. 25. Registration of Architects Required. -No person shall practice  
34 architecture in this country, or engage in preparing architectural plans, specification or  
35 preliminary data for the erection or alteration of any building located within the  
36 boundaries of this country or use the title "Architect", [or display or use any title, sign,  
37 card, advertisement, or other device] "ARCH.", "ARCH'T.", "AR.", INCLUDING  
38 "ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN", "ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS", "ARCHITECTURAL  
39 SERVICES", OR ANY OF THEIR DERIVATES OR TRANSLATIONS INTO OTHER  
40 LANGUAGES OR DIALECTS, IN CONNECTION WITH HIS OR HER NAME, STYLE,  
41 BUSINESS DESIGNATION, BUSINESS NAME, LOGO, OR ON PLANS, DRAWINGS, OR  
42 SPECIFICATIONS FOR BUILDINGS OR PARTS OF BUILDINGS to indicate THAT such  
43 person practices or offers to practice architecture, or is an architect, unless such person



1 shall have received from the Board a Certificate of Registration and be issued a  
2 Professional Identification Card in the manner hereinafter provided and shall thereafter  
3 comply with the provisions of this Act.

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

9 **SECTION 14.** SEC. 29 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 "SEC. 29. Prohibition in the Practice of Architecture and Penal Clause. - Any person  
11 who shall practice or offer to practice architecture in the Philippines without being  
12 registered/licensed and who are not holders of temporary or special permits in accordance  
13 with the provisions of this Act; or any person presenting or attempting to use as his/her  
14 own the Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card or seal of another or  
15 temporary or special permit; or any person who shall give any false or forged evidence  
16 of any kind to the Board or to any member thereof in obtaining a Certificate of  
17 Registration/Professional Identification Card or temporary or special permit; or any  
18 person who shall falsely impersonate any registrant of like or different name, or any  
19 person who shall attempt to use a revoked or suspended Certificate of  
20 Registration/Professional Identification Card or cancelled special/temporary permit; or  
21 any person who shall use in connection with his/her name or otherwise assume, use or  
22 advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that he/she is an  
23 architect when he/she is not an architect; or any person whether Filipino or foreigner,  
24 who knowingly allows the use, adoption, implementation of plans, designs or specification  
25 made by any person, firm, partnership or company not duly licensed to engage in the  
26 practice of architecture; OR ANY PERSON, WHO IS A GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE  
27 CONNECTED WITH PERMITTING AUTHORITIES, WHO PREPARES, SIGNS AND SEALS  
28 ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR GOVERNMENT-  
29 ISSUED PERMITS, CLEARANCES AND LICENSES, SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,  
30 ARCHITECTURAL PERMITS, BUILDING PERMITS, OCCUPANCY PERMITS AND  
31 ZONING/LOCATIONAL CLEARANCES, BUSINESS PERMITS; or any person who shall  
32 violate any of the provisions of this Act, its implementing rules and regulations, the Code  
33 of Ethical Conduct and Standards of Professional Practice, or any policy of the Board and  
34 the Commission, shall be guilty of misdemeanor and charged in court by the Commission  
35 and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to a fine of not less than One hundred thousand  
36 pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five Million pesos (P5,000,000,00) or to suffer  
37 imprisonment for a period not less than six (6) months or not exceeding six (6) years, or  
38 both, at the discretion of the Court."

39 **SECTION 15.** SEC. 30 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

40 "SEC. 30. [Prohibition in the Practice] COERCION, AIDING AND ABETTING  
41 ILLEGAL PRACTICE of Architecture.- Any person or entity, whether public or private,  
42 Filipino or foreigner, who/which shall entice, compel, coerce, require or otherwise force  
43 an architect registered and licensed under R.A. No. 9266 to undertake/perform any  
44 service under the general practice of architecture as defined under R.A. No. 9266, without  
45 first executing a written contract/service agreement; OR ANY PERSON WHO FACILITATES  
46 THE ISSUANCE OF A GOVERNMENT PERMIT FOR ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS  
47 PREPARED, SIGNED AND SEALED BY REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS EMPLOYED  
48 IN GOVERNMENT PERMITTING AUTHORITIES; OR ANY PERSON OR ENTITY,  
49 WHO/WHICH SHALL AID AND ABET PERSONS OR ENTITIES IN COMMITTING THE

1 PROHIBITED ACTS RELATIVE TO THE PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE AS DESCRIBED IN  
2 SECTION 29 OF THIS ACT shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction be  
3 sentenced to a fine of not less than Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) or to  
4 suffer imprisonment for a period not exceeding six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of  
5 the Court.”

6 **SECTION 16.** SEC. 35 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

12 ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS CONCERNED SHALL CREATE THE MANDATORY  
13 POSITIONS OF PROVINCIAL ARCHITECT, CITY ARCHITECT, CITY ARCHITECT, AND  
14 MUNICIPAL ARCHITECT, TO BE HELD EXCLUSIVELY BY REGISTERED AND LICENSED  
15 ARCHITECTS, TO OVERSEE AND REVIEW THE PLANNING, DESIGN, AND  
16 IMPLEMENTATION OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES, SUCH AS, BUT NOT  
17 LIMITED, TO OFFICES, COURTS, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, CLINICS, FIREHOUSES, POLICE  
18 STATIONS, MARKETS, PUBLIC HOUSING.

19 ALL OFFICES, AGENCIES, AND INSTRUMENTALITIES IN THE GOVERNMENT,  
20 SHALL HIRE ARCHITECTS IN THE DESIGN OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND  
21 FACILITIES.”

22  
23 **SECTION 17.** SEC. 37 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 “SEC. 37. Limitation to the Registration of a Firm, Company, Partnership,  
25 Corporation or Association. –

26 xxx

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

30 xxx

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

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

35 “SEC. 40. Integration of the Architecture Profession.- The Architecture profession  
36 shall be integrated into one (1) national organization which shall be accredited by the  
37 Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, as the Integrated and Accredited  
38 Professional Organization of Architects (IAPOA): Provided, however, that such an  
39 organization shall be registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission, as a non-  
40 profit, non-stock corporation, WITH ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION SPECIFYING AS ONE  
41 OF ITS PURPOSES: TO INTEGRATE ALL ARCHITECTS INTO ONE (1) NATIONAL  
42 ORGANIZATION, AND governed by By-laws providing for a democratic election of its  
43 officials[.]; PROVIDED FURTHER THAT SUCH AN ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE A

1 ROBUST NETWORK OF LOCAL AND FOREIGN- BASED CHAPTERS LOCATED IN KEY  
2 CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES; PROVIDED FURTHER THAT an architect duly registered  
3 with the Board shall automatically become a member of the IAPOA and shall receive the  
4 benefits and privileges provided for in this Act upon payment of the required fees and  
5 dues. Membership in the IAPOA shall not be a bar to membership in other associations  
6 of architects; PROVIDED FINALLY THAT, UPON FILING FOR APPLICATION FOR  
7 ACCREDITATION OR RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION, SUCH ORGANIZATION SHALL  
8 HAVE A MEMBERSHIP COMPRISING OF AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT PLUS ONE (50% + 1)  
9 OF REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS POSSESSING CURRENT AND VALID  
10 PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS (PICs.)

11 THE IAPOA SHALL, IN ADDITION TO THE PURPOSES STATED IN ITS BY-LAWS,  
12 HAVE THE FÖLLOWING FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 13 (1) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION FOR WHICH SUCH ORGANIZATION HAS  
14 BEEN ESTABLISHED AND ACCREDITED;
- 15 (2) SUBMIT NOMINEES FOR VACANT POSITIONS IN THE BOARD;
- 16 (3) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION IN THE MONITORING COMMITTEESFOR  
17 MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS (MRA) IN THE ASEAN AND APEC;
- 18 (4) DEFINE THE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF ITS MEMBERS;
- 19 (5) ENSURE THAT ITS MEMBERS ADHERE TO THE CODE OF ETHICS,  
20 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, AND HIGHEST PROFESSIONAL AND  
21 TECHNICAL STANDARDS;
- 22 (6) LOOK INTO THE CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE PRACTICE OF THE  
23 ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, LOCALLY AND ABROAD, AND TO PROPOSE  
24 POLICIES OR MEASURES TO THE BOARD AND/OR THE COMMISSION FOR  
25 ITS IMPROVEMENT;
- 26 (7) ENSURE THE WELFARE, AND BEST INTEREST, AS WELL AS HARMONIOUS  
27 RELATIONSHIP AMONG ITS MEMBERS; AND
- 28 (8) REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT TO THE BOARD AND/OR THE  
29 COMMISSION, THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE LEGAL SERVICE, FOR  
30 POSSIBLE PROSECUTION OR FILING OF COMPLAINT."
- 31 (9) SUBMIT TO THE BOARD, AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR,;  
32 a. YEARLY AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION,  
33 DULY SIGNED BY A CPA AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE ACCOUNTANCY  
34 WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE SUBMISSION MADE TO THE  
35 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC);  
36 b. AUTHENTICATED COPY OF THE LATEST GENERAL INFORMATION  
37 SHEET WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE CONDUCT OF NATIONAL  
38 ELECTION; AND  
39 c. REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS AS A CORPORATE BODY IN  
40 ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ORGANIZATION, IN THE  
41 ENHANCEMENT OF THE WELFARE OF ITS MEMBERS AND THE  
42 STATURE/PRESTIGE OF THE PROFESSION, AS WELL AS TANGIBLE  
43 PROGRAMS (WHICH MAY INCLUDE INSURING ITS MEMBERS;  
44 PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIP; AND CONDUCTING FREE CPD PROGRAMS  
45 FOR THE MEMBERS; LIFE, HEALTH, AND DEATH BENEFITS; AND  
46 OTHER BENEFITS) TO BE SIGNED BY THE BOARD, WITHIN THIRTY  
47 (30) DAYS AFTER THE FISCAL YEAR; AND
- 48 (10) OTHER FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS MAY BE  
49 PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD."

50 **SECTION 19.** New sections shall be inserted to read as follows:

1 "SEC. 41. MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL FOR ARCHITECTURE. - A MULTI-PARTITE  
2 COUNCIL FOR ARCHITECTURE IS HEREBY CREATED TO BE ATTACHED TO THE  
3 COMMISSION.

4 THE OBJECTIVES OF THE MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL SHALL BE AS FOLLOWS:

5 A. PROVIDE A PLATFORM TO DISCUSS POLICY CONCERNS IN THE  
6 EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, PROFESSIONAL REGULATION AND CONTINUING  
7 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT; AND

8 B. PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE COLLABORATION AMONG THE DIFFERENT  
9 STAKEHOLDERS IN THE REGULATION AND PRACTICE OF THE BUILT  
10 ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONS.

11  
12 THE MULTI- PARTITE COUNCIL SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE:

13 A. CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD;

14 B. PRESIDENT OF THE IAPOA;

15 C. PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION (DEANS AND HEADS OF  
16 SCHOOLS) DULY ACCREDITED BY THE PRC UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF  
17 THE CHED;

18 D. ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM PRIVATE PRACTICE; AND

19 E. ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM GOVERNMENT PRACTICE.

20 "SEC. 42. POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL. -  
21 THE MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL SHALL PERFORM THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS;

22 A. MONITOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS IN PROFESSIONAL  
23 EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND PRACTICE;

24 B. STUDY AND EVALUATE EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS THAT SHALL LEAD  
25 TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT;

26 C. REGULARLY REVIEW OF THE SUBJECTS FOR EXAMINATION;

27 D. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW THE TABLE OF SPECIFICATIONS FOR  
28 THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION;

29 E. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW INTERNSHIP/GUIDELINES IN THE  
30 AREAS SUCH AS DIVERSIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE, DUTIES AND  
31 RESPONSIBILITIES OF MENTORS AND COLLABORATIVE WORK;

32 F. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL  
33 DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES;

34 G. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW OF STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL  
35 PRACTICE IN AREAS SUCH AS SCOPE OF SERVICES, SCHEDULE OF FEES, AND  
36 INTER-PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION; AND

37 H. DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION,  
38 INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND PRACTICE STANDARDS IN REFERENCE TO THE  
39 PHILIPPINE QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT."

40 **SECTION 20.** The following sections of the same Act shall be renumbered as  
41 follows:

42 SECTION 43 [41]. xxx

43 SECTION 44 [42]. xxx

44 SECTION 45 [43]. xxx

1 SECTION 46 [44]. xxx

2 SECTION 47 [45]. xxx

3 SECTION 48 [46]. xxx

4 SECTION 49 [47]. xxx

5 **SECTION 21.** SEC. 44 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 "SEC. 46. Enforcement of the Act.–xxx

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

10 **SECTION 22. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** The Board and the  
11 IAPOA are tasked to prepare the implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) required for  
12 the implementation of this Act. The IRR shall be promulgated within ninety (90) days  
13 upon approval of this act.

14 **SECTION 23. Separability Clause.** If, for any reason, any section or provisions  
15 of this Act is declared unconstitutional, or invalid, the other sections and provisions, which  
16 are not affected by it, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

17 **SECTION 24. Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, executive orders,  
18 agreements, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of  
19 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

20 **SECTION 25. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after is  
21 complete publication in either the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general  
22 circulation.

23 Approved.