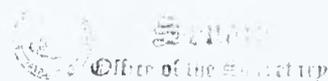


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



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SENATE  
S. B. No. 778

RECEIVED OF

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Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

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**AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING THE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, AMENDING FOR THIS  
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9266, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
"ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Through the years, architecture has been a symbol of power, strength, development, and progress of a nation. A lot can be learned and discovered from a nation's history by merely studying its architecture as it reflects a nation's character, values, and ideal. Architecture encompasses everything in the designed and built environment.

As the architecture profession grows, the role of architects in designing and building structures and communities likewise grows. The invaluable contribution of architects in nation-building and development is undeniable. It is thus the duty of the State to ensure that every architect meets the minimum requirements to promote and safeguard the health, safety, and general welfare of the people. Thus, architects' continuing education and professional standards must always be in check to ensure not only their professional growth, but to stimulate their competence to be at par with the world's best.

The passage of Republic Act No. 9266, otherwise known as the "Architecture Act of 2004", was a very welcome development for the field of architecture. It was a significant step of the State in protecting and assuring the public of its policy in developing and nurturing competent, virtuous, productive, and well-rounded architects.

However, there appears to be areas which needed consideration and improvement to further strengthen the architecture profession. As a matter of fact, since 2013, several bills have been filed in Congress calling for the amendment of several provisions of Republic Act No. 9266.

Thus, the proposed measure seeks to emphasize the call for the amendment of Republic Act No. 9266, incorporating additional provisions, while harmonizing the same with other prevailing laws. Among others, the bill intends to provide for a clearer definition

of several architectural terms in order to avoid vagueness and to promote accuracy in the implementation of the provisions of RA 9266, in relation to the proposed amendments. Further, the bill intends to provide additional requirements to the qualifications for membership to the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture ("Board") in order to ensure that the leaders enforcing our regulatory law have greater and more considerable qualifications in driving the profession towards competence, while preventing instances of conflict of interests and "politicization" of the profession. Lastly, the bill intends to ensure the qualifications and competence of future architects by imposing as a requirement upon applicants a one (1)-year break, after failing the third time in the architecture licensure examination.

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



**SONNY ANGARA**  
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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



SENATE  
S. B. No. 778

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Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

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**AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING THE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, AMENDING FOR THIS  
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9266, OTHERWISE KNOWN 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.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9266, otherwise known as the  
2 Architecture 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**  
6       **OFFERING TO RENDER SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE**  
7       planning, designing and constructing [~~buildings in their totality~~] **A**  
8       **STRUCTURE OR GROUP OF STRUCTURES WHICH HAVE AS THEIR**  
9       **PRINCIPAL PURPOSE HUMAN HABITATION OR USE AND THE**  
10       **UTILIZATION OF SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH**  
11       **STRUCTURES** taking into account their environment, in accordance with the  
12       principles of utility, strength and beauty;

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

20       "xxx

21       (11) "Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization **OF ARCHITECTS**  
22       **(IAPOA)**" means the existing official national organization of all architects of

1 the Philippines in which all registered Filipino architects shall be members  
2 without prejudice to membership in other voluntary professional associations;

3 "xxx

4 **(15) "ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN," ALSO REFERRED TO AS "DESIGN" AS**  
5 **USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE ILLUSTRATED CONCEPT THAT**  
6 **FOCUSES ON THE FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF BUILDINGS OR**  
7 **STRUCTURES AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE**  
8 **WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES**  
9 **AND UNIFIES THEM INTO A COHERENT AND FUNCTIONAL WHOLE,**  
10 **FOLLOWING A GENERALLY ACCEPTED APPROACH TO ACHIEVE THE**  
11 **OBJECTIVES, ABIDING BY SET NORMS AND CONSIDERING THE**  
12 **ARCHITECTURAL PRINCIPLES OF UTILITY, STRENGTH, AND**  
13 **BEAUTY, EXCLUSIVELY PREPARED BY AN ARCHITECT;**

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

20 **(17) "ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT" MEANS A DOCUMENT DULY ISSUED BY**  
21 **ANY REGULATING GOVERNMENT ENTITY BASED ON**  
22 **ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION**  
23 **OF BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE**  
24 **SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS**  
25 **OR STRUCTURES;**

26 **(18) "ARCHITECTURAL PLANS" ALSO REFERRED TO AS "PLANS" AS USED**  
27 **IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE LATERAL SECTION OR DIMENSIONAL**  
28 **REPRESENTATIONS OF A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OR**  
29 **REDEVELOPMENT OF BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AND THE**  
30 **UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND**  
31 **SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES SHOWING**  
32 **FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SUCH**  
33 **AS THE FLOOR PLANS, ELEVATIONS, CROSS AND LONGITUDINAL**  
34 **SECTIONS, PERSPECTIVE, REFLECTED CEILING PLAN, SITE**  
35 **DEVELOPMENT PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL INTERIORS, AND OTHER**

1           **ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS PREPARED, SIGNED, AND SEALED,**  
2           **EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT.**

3           **(19) "MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL" REFERS TO A BODY COMPOSED OF**  
4           **REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY**  
5           **BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, THE INTEGRATED AND ACCREDITED**  
6           **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS (IAPOA), THE**  
7           **ACADEME, PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS AND GOVERNMENT**  
8           **PRACTITIONERS."**

9           **SEC. 2.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
10          "SEC. 4. Creation and Composition of the Professional Regulatory Board. - There is  
11          hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture, hereinafter referred  
12          to as the Board, a collegial body under the supervision and administrative control of  
13          the Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission,  
14          to be composed of a chairman and [~~two (2)~~] **FOUR (4)** members appointed by the  
15          President of the Philippines from a list of [~~three (3)~~] **FIVE (5)** recommendees  
16          chosen from a list of [~~five (5)~~] **EIGHT (8)** nominees for each position submitted to  
17          the Commission by the integrated and the accredited professional organization of  
18          architects. The Board shall be organized not later than six (6) months from the  
19          effectivity of this Act."

20          **SEC. 3.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
21          "SEC. 5. Qualifications of Members of the Professional Regulatory Board. - Each  
22          member shall have at the time of his/her appointment, possess the following  
23          qualifications:

- 24          (a) be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- 25          (b) be a holder of a degree in Bachelor of Science in Architecture,  
26                 **PREFERRABLY WITH A POST-BACCALAUREATE DEGREE IN**  
27                 **ARCHITECTURE,** conferred by a school, college or university in the  
28                 Philippines or abroad, **WHOSE PROGRAM** is accredited by the Commission  
29                 on Higher Education (CHED);
- 30          (c) be an architect with a valid Certificate of Registration and Professional  
31                 Identification Card and active practitioner of architecture for at least [~~ten~~  
32                 ~~(10)~~] **FIFTEEN (15)** years on the date of his/her appointment;
- 33          (d) not be a member of the faculty of any good school, college, university or  
34                 review institution where a regular course or review course in architecture is  
35                 taught, nor have pecuniary interest in such institution. No former member of  
36                 the faculty of any school, institute, university or review center where

1 architecture is taught can become a member of the Board unless he/she had  
2 officially **FILED A LEAVE OF ABSENCE OR** resigned from such an institution  
3 and has completely stopped teaching, advising or reviewing activities [~~for at~~  
4 ~~least five (5) years prior to the nomination]~~ **ON THE DATE OF HIS/HER**  
5 **APPOINTMENT;** [~~and]~~

6 (e) has never been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude[.];

7 **(F) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE OFFICER OF THE INTEGRATED AND**  
8 **ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS AND**  
9 **OTHER PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF ARCHITECTS ON THE**  
10 **DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT;**

11 **(G) NOT BE AN ELECTIVE NOR APPOINTIVE LOCAL OFFICIAL UNLESS**  
12 **HE/SHE RELINQUISHES HIS/HER OFFICE ON THE DATE OF**  
13 **HIS/HER APPOINTMENT; AND**

14 **(H) NOT BE A CANDIDATE WHO HAS LOST IN ANY ELECTION, WITHIN**  
15 **ONE (1) YEAR PRIOR TO THE DATE OF HIS/HER APPOINTMENT."**

16 **SEC. 4.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 "SEC. 6. Term of Office. – The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of  
18 three (3) years after appointment or until their successors shall have been appointed  
19 and duly qualified. Any vacancy occurring within the term of a member shall be filled  
20 for the unexpired portion of the term only. Each member of the Board may be  
21 reappointed for one full term of three (3) years. Of the members of the Board first  
22 appointed under this Act, one (1) member shall be appointed and hold office as  
23 chairman for three (3) years, [~~ONE (1)]~~ **TWO (2)** members for two (2) years, and  
24 [~~ONE (1)]~~ **TWO (2)** members for one (1) year. Each member of the Board shall  
25 qualify by taking the proper oath prior to the performance of their duties. Provided,  
26 That the incumbent members of the Board shall continue to serve for the remainder  
27 of their term as members of the herein created Professional Regulatory Board of  
28 Architecture until a new Board shall have been properly organized."

29 **SEC. 5.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

30 "SEC. 7. Powers and Functions of the Board. – The Board shall exercise the following  
31 specific powers, functions and responsibilities:

32 xxx

33 (f) Monitor [~~the~~] **LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS AND**  
34 conditions affecting the practice of architecture and adopt such measures as  
35 may be deemed proper for the enhancement and maintenance of high  
36 professional, ethical and technical standards of the profession;

- 1 (m) To adopt a program for the full computerization of the licensure examination;  
2 [and]
- 3 **(N) KEEP, MAINTAIN, PUBLISH, AND ANNUALLY UPDATE A ROSTER OF**  
4 **ARCHITECTS, A ROSTER OF PRACTICING ARCHITECTS, A ROSTER**  
5 **OF FOREIGN ARCHITECTS WITH VALID TEMPORARY PERMITS, AND**  
6 **A ROSTER OF ARCHITECTURAL FIRMS;**
- 7 **(O) KEEP A RECORD OF BOARD PROCEEDINGS AND MAKE AN ANNUAL**  
8 **REPORT TO THE COMMISSION, THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,**  
9 **PHILIPPINE SENATE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE CHED,**  
10 **AND THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL; AND**
- 11 ~~[(n)]~~ **(P)** Discharge such other duties and functions as may be deemed necessary  
12 for the enhancement of the architecture profession and the upgrading,  
13 development and growth of the architecture education.”

14 **SEC. 6.** Section 9 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

- 16 (a) xxx
- 17 (b) xxx
- 18 (c) Final judgment [of crimes involving moral turpitude] **FOR CRIMES UNDER**  
19 **THE REVISED PENAL CODE, THE ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT**  
20 **PRACTICES ACT, AND OTHER PENAL LAWS; [and]**
- 21 **(d)** Manipulation or rigging of the architecture licensure examination results,  
22 disclosure of secret and confidential information in the examination questions  
23 prior to the conduct of the said examination or tampering of grades[-];
- 24 **(E) SOLICITING AND/OR ACCEPTING, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, ANY**  
25 **GIFT, GRATUITY, FAVOR, ENTERTAINMENT, LOAN OR ANYTHING**  
26 **OF MONETARY VALUE FROM ANY SOURCE, IN THE COURSE OF**  
27 **THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES OR IN CONNECTION WITH ANY**  
28 **OPERATION BEING REGULATED BY, OR ANY TRANSACTION WHICH**  
29 **MAY BE AFFECTED BY THE FUNCTIONS OF THEIR OFFICE;**
- 30 **(F) ENGAGING IN UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF ARCHITECTURE.”**

31 **SEC. 7.** Section 11 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

35 **“THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL BE SUPPLEMENTED BY A**  
36 **COMPETITIVENESS REPORT, WHICH SHALL BE SUBMITTED BIENNIALLY.**

1 THE COMPETITIVENESS REPORT SHALL CONTAIN ASSESSMENT OF  
2 FILIPINO PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTS, ARCHITECTURE SCHOOLS, THE  
3 BOARD, AND THE IAPOA VIS À VIS THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN COUNTRIES  
4 WITH WHOM THE PHILIPPINES HAS NEGOTIATED, IS NEGOTIATING, OR  
5 DESIRES TO NEGOTIATE MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENTS.

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

8 (a) OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES;

9 (b) PHILIPPINE SENATE;

10 (c) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES;

11 (d) THE CHED; AND

12 (e) THE MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL.”

13 **SEC. 8.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14 “SEC. 13. Qualifications of Applicant for Examination. – Any person applying for  
15 examination shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board that:

16 xxx

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

1 (d) He/she has not been convicted of any criminal offense involving moral  
2 turpitude."

3 **SEC. 9.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 "SEC. 14. Subjects for Examination. – xxx

5 "xxx

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

10 **SEC. 10.** A new section designated as Section 16-A is hereby added to read as  
11 follows:

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

15 **SEC. 11.** Section 19 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

21 **SEC. 12.** Section 20 (2) of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as  
22 follows:

23 "SEC. 20. Seal, Issuance and Use of Seal. – xxx

24 xxx

25 (2) No officer or employee of this Republic, chartered cities, provinces and  
26 municipalities, now or hereafter charged with the enforcement of laws,  
27 ordinances or regulations relating to the construction or alteration of buildings,  
28 shall accept or approve any architectural plans or specifications which have not  
29 been prepared **EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT** and submitted in full  
30 accord with all the provisions of this Act; nor shall any payments be approved  
31 by any such officer for any work, the plans and specifications for which have  
32 not been so prepared **EXCLUSIVELY** and signed and sealed by [~~the author~~]  
33 **AN ARCHITECT.**

34 "**UPON APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS, THE**  
35 **CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT SHALL BE ISSUED;**  
36 **PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO BUILDING PERMIT OR OTHER**

1           **DOCUMENT OF SIMILAR IMPORT SHALL BE ISSUED WITHOUT THE**  
2           **CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL DESIGNS, PLANS, AND**  
3           **DOCUMENTS PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY AND SIGNED BY AN**  
4           **ARCHITECT.**

5           xxx"

6           **SEC. 13.** Section 25 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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

23          "xxx"

24          **SEC. 14.** Section 29 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25          "SEC. 29. Prohibition in the Practice of Architecture and Penal Clause. - Any person  
26          who shall practice or offer to practice architecture in the Philippines without being  
27          registered/licensed and who are not holders of temporary or special permits in  
28          accordance with the provisions of this Act, or any person presenting or attempting  
29          to use as his/her own the Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card  
30          or seal of another or temporary or special permit, or any person who shall give any  
31          false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board or to any member thereof in  
32          obtaining a Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card or temporary  
33          or special permit, or any person who shall falsely impersonate any registrant of like  
34          or different name, or any person who shall attempt to use a revoked or suspended  
35          Certificate of Registration/Professional Identification Card or cancelled  
36          special/temporary permit, or any person who shall use in connection with his/her

1 name or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title or description tending to  
2 convey the impression that he/she is an architect when he/she is not an architect,  
3 or any person whether Filipino or foreigner, who knowingly allows the use, adoption,  
4 implementation of plans, designs or specifications made by any person, firm,  
5 partnership or company not duly licensed to engage in the practice of architecture,  
6 **OR ANY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE CONNECTED WITH THE PERMITTING**  
7 **AUTHORITIES WHO PREPARES, SIGNS AND SEALS ARCHITECTURAL**  
8 **DOCUMENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPLYING FOR GOVERNMENT-**  
9 **ISSUED PERMITS, CLEARANCES AND LICENSES, SUCH AS, BUT NOT**  
10 **LIMITED TO, ARCHITECTURAL PERMITS, BUILDING PERMITS,**  
11 **OCCUPANCY PERMITS AND ZONING/LOCATIONAL CLEARANCES, AND**  
12 **BUSINESS PERMITS,** or any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this  
13 Act, its implementing rules and regulations, the Code of Ethical Conduct and  
14 Standards of Professional Practice, or any policy of the Board and the Commission,  
15 shall be guilty of misdemeanor and charged in court by the Commission and shall,  
16 upon conviction be sentenced to a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos  
17 (P100,000.00) but not more than Five Million pesos (P5,000,000.00) or to suffer  
18 imprisonment for a period not less than six (6) months or not exceeding six (6)  
19 years, or both, at the discretion of the Court.”

20 **SEC. 15.** Section 30 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
21 “SEC. 30. [~~Prohibition in the Practice~~] **COERCION, AIDING AND ABETTING**  
22 **ILLEGAL PRACTICE** of Architecture. – Any person or entity, whether public or  
23 private, Filipino or foreigner, who/which shall entice, compel, coerce, require or  
24 otherwise force an architect registered and licensed under this Act to  
25 undertake/perform any service under the general practice of architecture as defined  
26 under this Act, without first executing a written contract/service agreement, **OR**  
27 **ANY PERSON WHO FACILITATES THE ISSUANCE OF A GOVERNMENT**  
28 **PERMIT FOR ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS PREPARED, SIGNED AND**  
29 **SEALED BY REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS EMPLOYED IN**  
30 **GOVERNMENT PERMITTING AUTHORITIES, OR ANY PERSON OR ENTITY,**  
31 **WHO/WHICH SHALL AID AND ABET PERSONS OR ENTITIES IN**  
32 **COMMITTING THE PROHIBITED ACTS RELATIVE TO THE PRACTICE OF**  
33 **ARCHITECTURE AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 29 OF THIS ACT** shall be guilty  
34 of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction be sentenced to a fine of not less than  
35 Two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000.00) or to suffer imprisonment for a period  
36 not exceeding six (6) years, or both, at the discretion of the Court.”

1       **SEC. 16.** Section 37 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
2       "SEC. 37. Limitation to the Registration of a Firm, Company, Partnership,  
3       Corporation or Association. – xxx

4       xxx

5       (b) Registered and licensed architects shall compose at least [~~seventy-five percent~~  
6       ~~(75%)~~] **A MAJORITY** of the owners, shareholders, members incorporators,  
7       directors, executive officers, as the case may be;

8       xxx

9       **"A FILIPINO REGISTERED AND LICENSED ARCHITECT MAY PRACTICE AS**  
10       **A ONE PERSON CORPORATION SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF**  
11       **REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11232, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED**  
12       **CORPORATION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES."**

13       **SEC. 17.** Section 40 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:

14       "SEC. 40. Integration of the Architecture Profession.- The Architecture profession  
15       shall be integrated into one (1) national organization which shall be accredited by  
16       the Board, subject to the approval by the Commission, as the [i]Integrated and  
17       [a]Accredited [p]Professional [e]Organization of [a]Architects (**IAPOA**): Provided,  
18       however, That such an organization shall be registered with the Securities and  
19       Exchange Commission, as a non-profit, non-stock corporation, **WITH ARTICLES**  
20       **OF INCORPORATION SPECIFYING AS ONE OF ITS PURPOSES THE**  
21       **INTEGRATION OF ALL ARCHITECTS INTO A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION,**  
22       **AND** to be governed by by-laws providing for a democratic election of its officials[-]:  
23       **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT SUCH ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE A**  
24       **ROBUST NETWORK OF LOCAL AND FOREIGN- BASED CHAPTERS LOCATED**  
25       **IN KEY CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES: PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT**  
26       [A]An architect duly registered with the Board shall automatically become a member  
27       of the [~~integrated and accredited professional organization of architects~~]  
28       **IAPOA** and shall receive the benefits and privileges provided for in this Act upon  
29       payment of the required fees and dues[-]: **PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT**  
30       Membership in the [~~integrated and accredited professional organization of~~  
31       ~~architects~~] **IAPOA** shall not be a bar to membership in other associations of  
32       architects[-]: **PROVIDED FINALLY THAT, UPON FILING FOR APPLICATION**  
33       **FOR ACCREDITATION OR RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION, SUCH**  
34       **ORGANIZATION SHALL HAVE A MEMBERSHIP COMPRISING OF AT LEAST**  
35       **THE MAJORITY OF REGISTERED/LICENSED ARCHITECTS POSSESSING**  
36       **CURRENT AND VALID PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARDS.**

1 "THE IAPOA SHALL, IN ADDITION TO THE PURPOSES STATED IN ITS BY-  
2 LAWS, HAVE THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND  
3 RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 4 (1) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION FOR WHICH SUCH ORGANIZATION  
5 HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND ACCREDITED;
- 6 (2) SUBMIT NOMINEES FOR VACANT POSITIONS IN THE BOARD;
- 7 (3) REPRESENT THE PROFESSION IN THE MONITORING COMMITTEES  
8 FOR MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS (MRA) IN THE  
9 ASEAN AND APEC;
- 10 (4) DEFINE THE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF ITS  
11 MEMBERS;
- 12 (5) ENSURE THAT ITS MEMBERS ADHERE TO THE CODE OF ETHICS,  
13 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, AND HIGHEST PROFESSIONAL AND  
14 TECHNICAL STANDARDS;
- 15 (6) LOOK INTO THE CONDITIONS AFFECTING THE PRACTICE OF THE  
16 ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, LOCALLY AND ABROAD, AND TO  
17 PROPOSE POLICIES OR MEASURES TO THE BOARD AND/OR THE  
18 COMMISSION FOR ITS IMPROVEMENT;
- 19 (7) ENSURE THE WELFARE, AND BEST INTEREST, AS WELL AS  
20 HARMONIOUS RELATIONSHIP AMONG ITS MEMBERS;
- 21 (8) REPORT VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT TO THE BOARD AND/OR THE  
22 COMMISSION, THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE LEGAL SERVICE,  
23 FOR POSSIBLE PROSECUTION OR FILING OF COMPLAINT;
- 24 (9) SUBMIT TO THE BOARD, AT THE END OF EVERY FISCAL YEAR, THE  
25 FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:
  - 26 A. YEARLY AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE  
27 ORGANIZATION, DULY SIGNED BY A CERTIFIED PUBLIC  
28 ACCOUNTANT WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE  
29 SUBMISSION MADE TO THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
30 COMMISSION (SEC);
  - 31 B. AUTHENTICATED COPY OF THE LATEST GENERAL  
32 INFORMATION SHEET WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE  
33 CONDUCT OF NATIONAL ELECTION; AND
  - 34 C. REPORT ON SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS AS A CORPORATE  
35 BODY IN ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE  
36 ORGANIZATION, ON ENHANCEMENT OF THE WELFARE OF ITS

1 MEMBERS AND THE STATURE OF THE PROFESSION, AND ON  
2 TANGIBLE PROGRAMS SUCH AS MEMBERS' INSURANCE,  
3 SCHOLARSHIP, AND LIFE, HEALTH, AND DEATH BENEFITS, TO  
4 BE SIGNED BY THE BOARD WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER  
5 THE FISCAL YEAR; AND

6 (10) OTHER FUNCTIONS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS MAY BE  
7 PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD."

8 **SEC. 18.** A new section designated as Section 40-A is hereby added to read as  
9 follows:

10 "SEC. 40-A. MULTIPARTITE COUNCIL FOR ARCHITECTURE. -- THERE IS  
11 HEREBY CREATED A MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL FOR ARCHITECTURE  
12 WHICH SHALL PROVIDE A PLATFORM TO DISCUSS POLICY CONCERNS IN  
13 THE EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, PROFESSIONAL REGULATION AND  
14 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND SHALL PROMOTE AND  
15 ENCOURAGE COLLABORATION AMONG THE DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS  
16 IN THE REGULATION AND PRACTICE OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT  
17 PROFESSIONS.

18 "THE MULTI- PARTITE COUNCIL, WHICH SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THE  
19 COMMISSION, SHALL BE COMPOSED OF:

- 20 A. CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD;
- 21 B. PRESIDENT OF THE IAPOA;
- 22 C. PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION (DEANS AND  
23 HEADS OF SCHOOLS) DULY ACCREDITED BY THE PRC UPON THE  
24 RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHED;
- 25 D. ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM PRIVATE PRACTICE; AND
- 26 E. ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM GOVERNMENT PRACTICE.

27 **SEC. 19.** A new section designated as Section 40-B is hereby added to read as  
28 follows:

29 "SEC. 40-B. POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE MULTI-PARTITE  
30 COUNCIL. -- THE MULTI-PARTITE COUNCIL SHALL PERFORM THE  
31 FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:

- 32 A. MONITOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BENCHMARKS IN  
33 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND  
34 PRACTICE;
- 35 B. STUDY AND EVALUATE EDUCATIONAL INNOVATIONS THAT SHALL  
36 LEAD TO CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT;

- 1           **C.    REGULARLY REVIEW OF THE SUBJECTS FOR EXAMINATION;**  
2           **D.    DEVELOP    AND    REGULARLY    REVIEW    THE    TABLE    OF**  
3           **SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION;**  
4           **E.    DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW INTERNSHIP/GUIDELINES IN**  
5           **AREAS SUCH AS DIVERSIFICATION OF EXPERIENCE, DUTIES AND**  
6           **RESPONSIBILITIES OF MENTORS AND COLLABORATIVE WORK;**  
7           **F.    DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL**  
8           **DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES;**  
9           **G.    DEVELOP    AND    REGULARLY    REVIEW    STANDARDS    OF**  
10           **PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN AREAS SUCH AS SCOPE OF SERVICES,**  
11           **SCHEDULE OF FEES, AND INTER-PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION; AND**  
12           **H.    DEVELOP AND REGULARLY REVIEW PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION,**  
13           **INTERNSHIP, REGULATION AND PRACTICE STANDARDS IN REFERENCE**  
14           **TO THE PHILIPPINE QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK ACT.”**

15           **SEC. 20.** Section 44 of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to read as follows:  
16           “SEC. 46. Enforcement of the Act. – xxx

17           **“FOR CASES OF ILLEGAL PRACTICE LODGED BEFORE IT, [F]**The Board shall  
18           assist the Commission **IN THE PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION AND** in filing  
19           the appropriate charges through the concerned prosecution office in accordance  
20           with law and the Rules of Court ”

21           **SEC. 21. Implementing Rules and Regulations –** The Board and the IAPOA  
22           shall promulgate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act within  
23           ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

24           **SEC. 22. Separability Clause –** If for any reason, any part or provision of this Act  
25           is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall  
26           remain in full force and effect.

27           **SEC. 23. Repealing Clause –** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,  
28           rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
29           repealed or modified accordingly.

30           **SEC. 24. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
31           in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*