

# [ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 223, June 22, 1973 ]

## CREATING THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION AND PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS.

**WHEREAS**, the regulations of the various professions presently regulated by the Office of the Boards of Examiners is so extensive, practically covering all social and economic life of the country;

**WHEREAS**, the existence of the Boards of Examiners is misconstrued for a number of years now as nothing more than an examining unit, though all the professional laws creating the various Boards have charged them with the supervision and regulation over the professional practice in the Philippines; and

**WHEREAS**, to effectively enforce the laws regulating the various professions, there is an urgent need to create a three-man Commission to administer, implement, coordinate and supervise the various Boards of Examiners;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution as Commander-in-Chief of all the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and pursuant to Proclamation No. 1081, dated September 21, 1972, and General Order No. 1, dated September 22, 1972, as amended, do hereby order and decree:

**SECTION 1.** *Professional Regulation Commission.* — There is hereby created a three-man Commission to be known as the Professional Regulation Commission which shall be attached to the Office of the President for general direction and coordination.

**SEC. 2.** *Composition.* — The Commission shall be headed by one fulltime Commissioner and two fulltime Associate Commissioners, all to be appointed by the President for a term of nine (9) years without reappointment to start from the time they assume office, except the first two Associate Commissioners who shall be appointed, one for six (6) years and the other for three (3) years, and thereafter, any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled for the unexpired term only with the most senior of the Associate Commissioners succeeding the Commissioner at the expiration of his term, resignation or removal. No person shall be appointed chairman or member of the Commission unless he is at least forty (40) years of age, familiar with the principles and methods of professional regulation and/or licensing and has at least (5) years of executive or managerial experience.

**SEC. 3.** Exercise of powers and functions of the Commission. The Commissioner, who shall be the Chairman of the Commission, and the Associate Commissioners as members thereof shall, as a body, exercise general administrative, executive and policy-making functions for the whole agency.

**SEC. 4.** Compensation. The Commissioner shall receive an annual compensation of forty-eight thousand pesos (P48,000) with five hundred pesos (P500) commutable transportation and representation allowances and the Associate Commissioners, thirty-six thousand pesos (P 36,000) each with three hundred and fifty pesos (P350) commutable transportation and representation allowances.

**SEC. 5.** Powers of the Commission. The powers of the Commission are as follows:

- a) To administer, implement and enforce the regulatory policies of the National Government with respect to the regulation and licensing of the various professions and occupation under its jurisdiction including the maintenance of professional and occupational standards and ethics and the enforcement of the rules and regulations relative thereto;
- b) To perform any and all acts, enter into contracts, make such rules and regulations and issue such orders and other administrative issuances as may be necessary in the execution and implementation of its functions and the improvement of its services;
- c) To review, coordinate, integrate and approve the policies, resolutions, rules and regulations, orders or decisions promulgated by the various Boards with respect to the profession or occupation under their jurisdictions including the results of their licensure examinations but their decisions on administrative cases shall be final and executory unless appealed to the Commission within thirty (30) days from the date of promulgation thereof;
- d) To administer and conduct the licensure examinations of the various Boards according to the rules and regulations promulgated by it; determine and fix the places and dates of examinations; appoint supervisors and room examiners from among the employees of the Government or private individuals who have been trained by the Commission for that purpose who shall be entitled to a daily allowance of not less than ten pesos (P10) for every examination day actually attended; use the buildings and facilities of public and private schools for examination purposes; and approve the release of examination results;
- e) To keep and maintain a register of the authorized practitioners of the profession or occupation; issue certificates of registration or licenses signed by all the members of the Board concerned and the Commissioner with the official seal of the Board affixed;
- f) To have custody of all the records of the various Boards including their examination papers, minutes of deliberation, records of administrative cases and investigations and examination results;
- g) To determine, fix and collect the amount to be charged for examination, registration, registration without examination, licenses, annual registration fees, certifications, surcharges and other fees not specified under the provisions of Republic Act No. 6511 or amend the rates *provided* thereunder subject to approval by the Office of the President;
- h) To appoint, subject to the provisions of existing laws, such officials and employees of the Commission as are necessary in the effective performance of its functions and, responsibilities, prescribe their duties and fix their compensation; and to organize or reorganize the structure of the Commission, create or abolish positions, change the designations of existing positions to meet changing conditions or as the need therefor arises: *Provided*, That such changes shall not affect the employment status of the incumbents, reduce their ranks and/or, salaries nor result in separating them from the services;