

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6236, June 19, 1971 ]**

**AN ACT EXTENDING THE TIME LIMIT FOR THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS FOR FREE PATENTS AND FOR THE JUDICIAL CONFIRMATION OF IMPERFECT OR INCOMPLETE TITLES.**

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

SECTION 1. Sections forty-five and forty-seven, of Commonwealth Act Numbered One hundred forty-one, otherwise known as the Public Land Act, as amended by Republic Act Numbered One hundred seven and Republic Act Numbered Twenty hundred sixty-one, are further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 45. The President, upon recommendation by the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, shall from time to time fix by proclamation the period within which" applications for free patents may be filed in the district, chartered city, province, municipality, or region specified in such proclamation, and upon the expiration of the period so designated, unless the same be extended by the President, all the land comprised within such district, chartered city, province, municipality, or region subject thereto under the provisions of this chapter may be disposed of as agricultural public land without prejudice to the prior right of the occupant and cultivator to acquire such land under this Act by means other than free patent. The time to be fixed in the entire Archipelago for the filing of applications under this chapter shall not extend beyond December thirty-one, nineteen hundred and seventy-six, except in the provinces of Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur, Cotabato,, South Cotabato, Bukidnon, Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur, Davao del Norte, Davao del Sur, Davao Oriental, Sulu, Mountain Province, Benguet, Kalinga-Apayao, and Ifugao, where the President of the Philippines, upon recommendation of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, shall determine or fixed the time beyond which the filing of applications under this chapter shall not extend. The period fixed for any district, chartered city, province, or municipality shall begin to run thirty days after the publication of the proclamation in the *Official Gazette* and if available in one newspaper of general circulation in the city, province or municipality concerned. A certified copy of said proclamation shall be furnished by the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources within 30 days counted from the date of the presidential proclamation to the Director of Lands and to the provincial board, the municipal board or city council and barrio council affected, and copies thereof shall be posted on the bulletin aboard of the Bureau of Lands at Manila and at conspicuous places in the provincial building and at the municipal building and barrio hall or meeting place. It shall moreover, be announced by government radio whenever available, in each of the barrios of the municipality."