

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5298, June 15, 1968]

**AN ACT GRANTING SURIGAO FERRY SERVICE, INC., A
FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE A FERRY
SERVICE FOR PASSENGERS AND FREIGHT BETWEEN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF SURIGAO AND NONOC ISLAND, BOTH IN THE
PROVINCE OF SURIGAO, DEL NORTE.**

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

SECTION 1. Subject to the conditions established in this Act and the provisions of the Constitution and the Public Service Act, there is granted to Surigao Ferry Service, Inc., for a period of twenty-five years from the approval of this Act, the right, privilege and authority to establish, maintain and operate a ferry service for passengers and freight between the Municipality of Surigao and Nonoc Island, both in the Province of Surigao del Norte, and to establish a schedule of rates therefor which shall at all times be subject to regulation by the Public Service Commission: Provided, That this franchise shall be null and void unless the grantee, within ninety days from the date of the approval of this Act, files with the Public Service Commission its acceptance of the terms and conditions stipulated in this Act.

SEC. 2. Within ninety days after the acceptance of the franchise granted hereunder and in accordance with the conditions as herein stipulated, the grantee shall put Surigao and Nonoc Island, both in the Province of Surigao del Norte. The ferryboats operated by the grantee and the equipment thereof shall meet the requirements prescribed by the Public Service Commission, and the grantee shall, whenever the Public Service Commission shall determine that public interest reasonably requires it, change or improve any of said ferryboat or the equipment thereof at its expense.

SEC. 3. The grantee binds itself to provide in its ferryboats a suitable and adequate place for the mails shall carry them in the manner stipulated between the Postmaster General and the said grantee, for such consideration as may be agreed upon between them, and in case of failure to arrive at an agreement as to the rate of compensation and the manner in which such mails shall be carried, the Public Service Commission shall fix the manner of, and compensation for, carrying said mails, after hearing and considering the arguments of the said Postmaster General and grantee: Provided, That in case the Government requires the transportation of troops, ammunition or funds for the public good, the grantee shall receive a reasonable compensation for such service.

Sec. 4. The books, records and accounts of the grantee shall always be open to the inspection of the Provincial Treasurer of Surigao del Norte or his authorized representatives, and it shall be the duty of the grantee to submit to the provincial