

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4565, June 19, 1965 ]**

**AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE  
AND MARINE ENGINEERING IN THE PHILIPPINES.**

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

**ARTICLE I.—Title of the Act and Definition of Terms**

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as "The Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering Law".

SEC. 2. *Definition of Terms.*—The practice of naval architecture and marine engineering within the meaning and intent of this Act shall embrace services in the form of plans, specifications, estimates, or supervision of the construction, alteration, or structural survey of any floating vessel or equipment, self-propelled or otherwise; plans or layouts, specifications, estimates or supervision of the installation of marine power plants and associated equipments including screw propeller, paddle wheel and Voith-Schneider propeller, or any other means of transmitting power from the main propulsion engine (s) to the bouyant fluid; marine auxiliaries, including refrigeration, air conditioning, ventilation, and heating plants and equipments and hull machineries; management, maintenance or operation of any shipyard, graving dock, marine slipways, and any facility for the salvage, repair or maintenance of floating vessels or equipments. The enumeration of any work in this section shall not be construed as excluding any other work requiring naval architecture and marine engineering knowledge and application.

**ARTICLE II.—Board of Examiners for Naval Architects and Marine Engineers**

SEC. 3. *Composition of the Board.*—Within thirty days after the approval of this Act, there shall be created a Board of Examiners for Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, hereinafter referred to as the Board, to be composed of a chairman and two other members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, with the consent of the Commission on Appointments. The members of the Board shall hold office for a term of three years after their appointment or until their successors shall have been appointed and shall have duly qualified: *Provided*, That the first appointee to the Board, one shall serve for one year and shall automatically be the Chairman; one for two years and shall serve as member for the first year then automatically be the Chairman the second year; and one for three years, and shall serve as member for the first two years and automatically be the Chairman the third year. Thereafter, chairmanship shall be by seniority membership in the Board, serving first as member the first two years then as Chairman the third year. No appointee may serve for more than three years. Each member of the Board shall qualify by taking the proper oath of office before entering upon the performance of his duties. Any member of the Board may be removed by the President of neglect of

duty, incompetence, malpractice or unprofessional, unethical, immoral or dishonorable conduct, after having been given the opportunity to defend himself in a proper administrative investigation. During the investigation, the President shall have the power to suspend the member under investigation and shall appoint a temporary member in his place. Vacancies in the Board shall be filled for the unexpired term only.

SEC. 4. *Powers and duties of the Board.*—The Board is vested with authority, conformably with the provisions of this Act, to administer oaths, issue, suspend and/or revoke certificate of registration for the practice of naval architecture and marine engineering; investigate such violations of this Act and the regulations thereunder as may come to the knowledge of the Board and, for this purpose, issue *subpoena* and *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the appearance of witnesses and the production of such books, papers, documents, records, and any or all pertinent data as may be necessary in connection with the charges presented to the Board. Any member of the Board may administer oaths of witnesses appearing before the Board. If any person shall refuse to obey any *subpoena* so issued or to testify or produce any books, papers, documents, records, and any or all pertinent data, the Board may present a petition to a Court of First Instance, and thereupon such court shall issue its *subpoena* to such person requiring his attendance before such court and then and there to testify or to produce such books, papers, documents, records and any or all pertinent data as may be deemed necessary and pertinent by the Board. Any person failing or refusing to obey the *subpoena* or order of the said court may be proceeded against in the same manner as for refusing to obey any other *subpoena* or order of the said court.

The Board shall study the conditions in all parts of the Philippines affecting the practice of naval architecture and marine engineering and exercise such other powers and duties as may be necessary for the maintenance of good ethics and standards in the practice of naval architecture and marine engineering and for the protection of public welfare, life, health, and property. For the purpose of this Act, the Director of Public Works and the Commissioner of Customs and/or their authorized representatives in the provinces and chartered cities shall be *ex-officio* agents of the Board and as such it shall be their duty to enforce the provisions of this Act. The Board may, with the approval of the President, issue such rules and regulations as may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. The Board shall also adopt a code of ethics for the practice of naval architecture and marine engineering and have an official seal to authenticate its official documents.

SEC. 5. *Qualifications of Board Members.*—Each member of the Board shall, at the time of his appointment:

- a. Be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- b. Be at least thirty years of age and of good moral character;
- c. Be a graduate of naval architecture and marine engineering, with a bachelor of science degree, from a recognized and legally constituted school, college, institute or university;
- d. Be a registered naval architect and marine engineer duly qualified to practice naval architecture and marine engineering in the Philippines: *Provided*, That this requirement shall not apply to the first appointees to the Board;
- e. Have practiced naval architecture and marine engineering with a certificate as such for a period of not less than ten (10) years prior to his appointment:

*Provided, further,* That the practice of naval architecture and marine engineering with a certificate shall not apply to the first appointees to the Board.

- f. Neither be a faculty member of any school, college, institute or university where naval architecture and marine engineering is taught; nor have a pecuniary interest in any such institution; and
- g. Not be a former member of the faculty of any school, college, institute or university where naval architecture and marine engineering is taught; unless he had stopped teaching therein for at least three consecutive years prior to his appointment.

SEC. 6. *Executive officer of the Board.*—The Commissioner of Civil Service shall be the executive officer of the Board and shall conduct the examinations to be given by the Board. He shall designate any subordinate officer of the Civil Service Commission to act as Secretary of the Board and custodian of all records and minutes of the meetings of the Board, including all examination papers.

SEC. 7. *Fees and Compensation of the Board.*—The Board shall charge each applicant for examination fifty-pesos, payable to the collecting and disbursing officer of the Civil Service Commission upon filing of his application; and for each certificate of registration, twenty pesos. Each member of the Board shall receive a compensation of ten pesos for each applicant examined. A naval architect and marine engineer in the service of the Government of the Philippines appointed as member of the Board shall receive the compensation herein provided, in addition to his salary in the Government. All authorized expenses of the Board, including the compensation provided herein, shall be paid by the collecting and disbursing officer of the Civil Service Commission out of such appropriation as may be provided for the purpose.

SEC. 8. *Annual report.*—The Board shall, at the end of each fiscal year, submit to the President a report of its activities and meetings during the fiscal year just ended.

### **ARTICLE III.—*Examination and Registration***

SEC. 9. *Registration required.*—Unless herein exempted from registration, no person shall practice or offer to practice naval architecture and marine engineering in the Philippines without valid certificate of registration as naval architect and marine engineer issued by the Board.

SEC. 10. *Examination required.*—Every applicant for registration as naval architect and marine engineer shall be required to pass a technological examination hereinafter provided, unless otherwise exempted by specific provisions of this Act.

SEC. 11. *Qualification for examination.*—Any person applying for admission to the naval architecture and marine engineering examination shall establish to the satisfaction of the Board that he has the following qualifications:

- a. Be at least twenty-one years of age;
- b. Be a citizen of the Philippines;
- c. Be of good reputation and of good moral character; and
- d. Be a holder of the degree of bachelor of science in naval architecture and marine engineering from any school, college, institute or university recognized

by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines; or, in the case of a school, college, institute or university established in a foreign country by the Government of such country.

SEC. 12. *Holding of examination.*—Examination of candidates desiring to practice naval architecture and marine engineering in the Philippines shall be given in the City of Manila once a year beginning with the first Monday of June: *Provided, however,* That time interval between the date of effectivity of this Act and the first examination period be not less than six months, otherwise, the first examination period shall be held in the next succeeding June.

SEC. 13. *Subjects of examination.*—Applicants for certificate of registration as naval architects and marine engineers shall be examined on the following subjects: Mathematics, theoretical and applied mechanics, naval architecture, marine engineering and such other pertinent subjects as the Board may deem necessary.

SEC. 14. *Report of ratings.*—The Board shall, within ninety-working days after the last day of examination, report the ratings obtained by each candidate to the Commissioner of Civil Service, who shall submit within thirty days such ratings to the President for approval. All ratings shall be released at least thirty days before the next examination period.

SEC. 15. *Reexamination.*—An applicant for examination who for the second time fails to pass the examination shall not be allowed to take another examination until at least one year has passed after his last unsuccessful examination.

SEC. 16. *Issuance of registration certificates, Oath of naval architects and marine engineers.*—All successful candidates in the examination shall each be issued a certificate of registration upon payment of the required fee. The certificate of registration shall show the full name of the registrant, shall have a serial number shall be signed by all the members of the Board and the Commissioner of Civil Service, and shall be attested to by the Secretary and shall bear the official seal of the Board.

The issuance of a certificate of registration by the Board under this Act shall be evidence that the person named therein is entitled to all the rights, and privileges of a registered naval architect and marine engineer while said certificate remains unrevoked or unsuspended.

All registered naval architects and marine engineers shall be required to take a professional oath before the Board or other government officials authorized to administer oaths, prior to entering upon the practice of naval architecture and marine engineering.

SEC. 17. *Registration as naval architect and marine engineer without examination.*—Holders of the Degree of bachelor of science in naval architecture and marine engineering on the date of approval of this Act who have a specific record of two years or more of active and satisfactory practice after graduation in naval architecture and marine engineering, may be registered under this Act if, within one year from the date of its approval, they file applications for registration as naval architects and marine engineers and present evidence satisfactory to the Board showing such facts. The teaching of naval architecture and marine engineering in a