

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1411, September 10, 1955]

AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR PUBLIC WORKS

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

SECTION 1. *Long-range Program of Capital Improvements.*—For the purpose of implementing the 1955-1956 phase of the long-range program of capital improvements of the Administration as contained in Appendix A hereof the following sums or so much thereof as may be necessary are hereby appropriated out of the General Funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for projects indicated opposite the General Revenue (GR) Finance Method, subject to the provisions hereinafter set forth, for the purposes mentioned hereunder: *Provided*, That in the allocation of funds for projects in this section, priority shall be given to projects already commenced or are continuing in character:

[Itemized items omitted due to lack of space]

Total	(P810,000.00)
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Total for Miscellaneous	P3,620,000.00

Total for Section 1	P36,786,200.00
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SEC. 2. *Short-term Projects.*—The following sums or so much thereof as may be necessary are hereby appropriated out of the General Funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for short-term projects, subject to the provisions hereinafter set forth, for the purposes mentioned hereunder: *Provided*, That all waterworks and artesian wells projects herein authorized shall be undertaken by the National Waterworks and Sewerage Authority:

[Itemized items omitted due to lack of space]

Total for Section 2	P22,211,700.00
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SEC. 3. *School Building Program Under Republic Act No. 836.*—For the purpose of implementing Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred and thirty-six, the provision of the same as to method of financing to the contrary notwithstanding, the Secretary of Finance is hereby authorized to borrow the necessary funds to carry out the purposes of said Act under the authority granted by either Republic Numbered Two hundred and forty-five or Republic Numbered One thousand. The schedules herein

itemized are approved in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act Numbered Eight hundred and thirty-six and the sums indicated thereunder are hereby appropriated:

[Itemized items omitted due to lack of space]

Total	P96,000.00
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Total for Section 3	P20,000,000.00
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SEC. 4. *Public Works Projects To Be Financed From Bond Issue.*—The following sums or so much thereof as may be necessary are hereby appropriated from the proceeds of the sales of bonds to be issued under Republic Act Numbered One thousand, and/or from loans, that may be negotiated under existing laws, to be allocated by the President of the Philippines under the terms thereof and subject to such rules and regulations as he may prescribe:

[Itemized items omitted due to lack of space]

Total for Portworks	P8,828,000.00
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Total amount authorized from Bond Issue	P222,266,000.00
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SEC. 5. *Apportionment of Portworks Special Fund.*— The following sums or so much thereof as may be necessary are hereby apportioned and authorized to be released out of the construction portion of the Portworks Special Fund that have accrued under Act Numbered Three thousand five hundred and ninety-two, as amended by Commonwealth Act Numbered One hundred and thirty, not otherwise apportioned and released, for portworks projects contained in the 1955-1956 phase of the Five-year Program of Capital Improvements and indicated opposite Financing Method "130", to be disbursed by the Secretary of Public Works and Communications pursuant to the provisions hereinafter set forth, for the purposes mentioned hereunder:

[Itemized items omitted due to lack of space]

Total Appropriations from Portworks Fund	P4,875,000.00
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SPECIAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 6. *Authority to Parent-Teacher Associations to Undertake Work on School Building Projects.*—Any school building project for which funds amounting to four thousand pesos or more have been allocated shall be executed through public bidding in accordance with the usual contract procedures of the Bureau of Public Works. If there are no bidders or if the project can be executed at a reasonably lower cost than the lowest bid, such project shall be executed by administration, upon the approval of the highway district engineer without the necessity of securing the usual permit from the Office of the President through the Secretary of Public Works and Communications and the General Auditing Office. *Provided,* That in such case, preference shall be given to members of Parent-Teachers Associations in the construction thereof, and the work shall be undertaken with the intervention of the District Highway Engineer's Office only in an advisory capacity and to acquire such data or information as to enable him to prepare a cost-performance report thereon: *Provided, further,* That in communities where there is adequate supply of local materials, the Parent-Teacher Associations concerned may supply such construction materials as may be found advantageous in the prosecution of the work.

SEC. 7. *Self-help Projects.*—Projects of local character for the improvement and benefit of the rural areas are hereby declared as self-help projects if done by administration, and the wage rate of laborers employed in such projects, if and when claimed by them, shall not be less than prescribed by law for agricultural laborers who shall be given preference in employment in such projects.

SEC. 8. *Suspension of Work by Administration Before General Elections.*—Within the period of forty-five days before every general elections, no laborer shall be employed or money spent on any project authorized under this Act, even if the money is already actually released at the beginning of such period except for:

- a. Work awarded by contract before or during the period: *Provided,* That work undertaken under the so-called "takay" or "paquiao" system shall not be considered as work by contract.
- b. Payment for the usual costs of preparation of working drawings, specifications, bills of materials, estimates, and other procedures preparatory to actual construction, including the purchase of materials and equipment, and all incidental expenses for wages of watchmen and other laborers employed for such work in the central offices and field storehouses before the beginning of such period: *Provided,* That the number of such laborers shall not be increased beyond that employed when the project or projects were commenced.
- c. Emergency work necessitated by the occurrence of a public calamity within the 45-day period.

SEC. 9. *Engineering Surcharges.*—All provincial engineering surcharges on projects provided herein shall not exceed four per cent.

SEC. 10. *Program of Work Required Before Prosecuting Public Works.*—Before prosecuting any public works the district, city or project engineer concerned shall prepare a program of work including, among other things, the total cost of materials and of the labor required, the anticipated duration of the work in men-days, the