

[REPUBLIC ACT No. 997, June 09, 1954]

AN ACT CREATING THE GOVERNMENT SURVEY AND REORGANIZATION COMMISSION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Reorganization Act of Nineteen hundred and fifty-four".

SEC. 2.

a. The reorganization to be carried out under this Act shall have the following objectives:

1. To promote the better execution of the laws, and the more effective management of the government and expeditious administration of public business;
2. To promote economy to the fullest extent consistent with the efficient operations of the government; and
3. To increase the efficiency of the operations of the government to the fullest extent possible.

b. The Congress declares that the public interest demands the carrying out of the objectives specified in subsection (a) of this section and that such objectives may be accomplished in great measure and more speedily by proceeding under the provisions of this Act, than by the enactment of specific legislation.

SEC. 3. To carry out the purposes of this Act, there is hereby created the Government Survey and Reorganization Commission, hereinafter known as the "Commission", which shall conduct a study and investigation of the present organization and methods of operation of all departments, offices, bureaus, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Executive Branch of the Government and determine what change or changes are necessary to accomplish the objectives set forth in subsection (a) section two of this Act.

The Commission shall be composed of twelve members as follows:

1. Four appointed by the President of the Philippines who may or may not be officials of the government;
2. Four members of the Senate appointed by the President thereof, one of whom shall not be of the majority party;
3. Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker thereof, one of whom shall not be of the majority party.

The Commission shall elect a chairman and a vice-chairman from among its members. It shall have the power to appoint and fix compensations of such personnel as it deems advisable in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Service laws.

Seven members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

Any vacancy in the Commission shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

Members of the Commission who are officials in the government shall receive no additional compensation for their services as members of the Commission. Members of the Commission who are not officials in the government shall receive a per diem of twenty-five pesos when engaged in the performance of duties vested in the Commission. Traveling and other necessary expenses shall, however, be allowed.

SEC. 4. To accomplish the objectives set forth in subsection (a), section two of this Act, the Commission is authorized:

1. to group, coordinate or consolidate departments, bureaus, offices, agencies, instrumentalities and functions of government;
2. to abolish departments, offices agencies or functions which may not be necessary for the efficient conduct of the government service, activities and functions;
3. to eliminate overlapping and duplication of services, and function of the government:
4. to transfer functions, appropriations, equipment, property, records, and personnel, from one department, bureau, office, agency, or instrumentality to another;
5. to create, classify, combine, split or abolish positions;
6. to standardize salaries, materials and equipment and
7. to do whatever is necessary and desirable to effect economy and promote efficiency in the government: *Provided, however,* That in the reorganization to be effected by this Act, no office or agency or function of the government shall be made to continue beyond the period authorized by law or beyond the time when it would have terminated if the reorganization had not been made.

SEC. 5.

- a. Whenever the Commission, after study and investigation finds that there is a necessity to accomplish one or more of the purposes of subsection 2(a), it shall prepare and submit to the President of the Philippines who may submit the same to the Congress, an organization plan or plans (bearing an identifying number) together with a declaration .that, with respect to each reorganization included m the plan or plans, it has found that such reorganization is necessary to accomplish one or more of the purposes of subsection 2 (a): *Provided,* That such reorganization shall be within the limits of current appropriations.
- b. No provision contained in the reorganization plan shall take effect unless the plan is transmitted to Congress on or before March fifteen, nineteen hundred and fifty-five.

SEC. 6.