

[REPUBLIC ACT No. 729, June 18, 1952]

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS SIX, TWELVE, SIXTEEN AND SEVENTEEN OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FIVE HUNDRED NINE AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SIX HUNDRED EIGHT, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PRICE CONTROL LAW.

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

SECTION 1. Section six of Republic Act Numbered Five hundred nine as amended by Republic Act Six hundred eight is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. In order to facilitate the determination of the maximum ceiling price of any article, goods or commodity, and for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Act, the Price Administration Board and the local price administration committees shall, directly or through commercial agents, the Price Stabilization Corporation, provincial, city and municipal treasurers, Internal Revenue Agents, Supervisors of the National Cooperative Administration, and city and municipal police forces have the power (a) to examine bills of lading, bills of sale, invoices, books, records and other pertinent documents owned or in the possession of any importer, producer, manufacturer, wholesaler or retailer; and (b) upon the issuance of a search warrant, to inspect premises, bodegas or storerooms where stocks or articles, goods or commodities whose prices are controlled, are kept. The Board and the local price administration committees may, by *subpoena* or *subpoena duces tecum* require any person to appear and testify or to appear and produce books, records and other documents, or both, and in the case of contumacy by, or refusal to obey a *subpoena* or *subpoena duces tecum* issued to any such person, the municipal court or the justice of the peace court of the city or municipality in which such importer, wholesaler, retailer, manufacturer or producer is found or resides or transacts business, upon application, and after notice to any such person and hearing, shall have jurisdiction to issue an order requiring such person to appear and give testimony or to appear and produce books, records and other writings, or both, and any failure to obey such order of the court shall be punished by such court as contempt thereof. *Provided*, That for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Act, price control agents shall be considered as peace officers and as such shall have the following powers:

"(a) To make arrests, searches and seizures in accordance with existing laws and regulations; (b) to issue *subpoena* or *subpoena duces tecum* for the appearance at Government