

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 673, June 28, 1951]

AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE PERIOD FROM JULY FIRST, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-ONE TO JUNE THIRTIETH, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-TWO, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. **Appropriation of funds.**- The following sums, or so much thereof as may be necessary, are appropriated out of any funds in the Philippines Treasury not otherwise appropriated for the operation of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines during the period from July first, nineteen hundred and fifty-one to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred and fifty-two, except where otherwise specifically provided:

[Itemized portions on salaries and wages and other expenditures are omitted for lack of space.]

SEC 2. **Allotment of appropriations.**- The appropriations for sundry expenses, furniture and equipment, and special purpose for the Office of the President shall be allotted by the President among the bureaus and offices under his direct control; those for the Executive Departments, by the Heads of Departments among bureaus and offices under their respective control, as the needs of the service may require.

SEC. 3. **Compulsory forced savings.**- The items of "savings to be made" provided in this Act are hereby made compulsory and only the net appropriations remaining after the items of "savings to be made" have been deducted shall be deemed appropriated in this Act. Hence, no expenditures shall be authorized or incurred which will impair the required forced savings, and any expenditure authorized or incurred in violation of this provision shall be deemed a personal liability of the official authorizing or incurring the same as if the transaction involved had been wholly between private parties. The amount of "savings to be made" from the appropriations for the Office of the President shall be distributed by the president among the bureaus and offices under his direct control and those for the Executive Departments, by the Heads of the Departments among the bureaus and offices under their respective control, as the needs and exigencies of the service may require.

SEC. 4. **Authority to pay salaries not in conformity with the prescribed grades or rates of compensation.**- Payment of salaries the rates of which are not in conformity with the schedule of grades or rates of compensation provided in section three of Commonwealth Act Numbered Four hundred and two, as amended, due to the consolidation of the salaries authorized for the various positions in

Executive Order No. 94, series of 1947, and their corresponding bonuses as provided in section one hundred fifty-nine, paragraph T-2, of the same Executive Order, is hereby authorized, and any employee whose actual salary is in excess of the maximum grade or rate allowed for his civil service eligibility shall be entitled to received such excess, any provision of existing law, rules and regulations to the contrary notwithstanding: PROVIDED, That new appointments to positions not carrying the salary rates prescribed in Commonwealth Act Numbered Four hundred and two, as amended, shall be made only at the rates authorized in the said Act: PROVIDED, FURTHER, That the minimum salary rate shall not be less than P1,140 per annum for employees in the City of Manila; P960 per annum for those in provincial capitals and other chartered cities; and P720 per annum for those in municipalities and municipal districts.

SEC. 5. Authority to use savings in appropriations for "salaries and wages" for "sundry expenses," and "furniture and equipment" to cover deficits.-

Except as otherwise provided in this Act, any savings in the regular appropriations authorized in this Act for the Executive Departments for salaries and wages, for sundry expenses, and for furniture and equipment of the bureaus and offices under any Department, after covering fully the amounts of the "savings to be made" herein provided, may, with the approval of the President, be used to cover a deficit in any other item of the regular appropriation, except for salaries and wages, under the same Department. Likewise, any savings in the appropriation for the salaries and wages, for sundry expenses, and for furniture and equipment of any item under "special purposes," after covering fully the amounts of the "savings to be made" herein provided, may, with the approval of the president, be used to cover a deficit in any other item in the regular appropriation, except for salaries and wages, under the same purpose. In no case, however, shall any item in the regular appropriations and appropriations for "special purposes" be augmented, pursuant to the authority granted in this section, by more than thirty per centum of the original appropriation provided in this Act for such item.

SEC. 6. Authority to use savings for other purposes.- The president of the Philippines is authorized to use any savings in the appropriations authorized in this Act for the Executive Departments, after covering fully the amounts of the "savings to be made" herein provided, (1) for the payment of claims under section 699 of the Revised Administrative Code and the Workmen's Compensation Act, whichever is applicable, to officers, employees and laborers who died or were injured in the line of duty; (2) for the commutation of the money value of the additional leave, extended leave and accrued leave earned by American and deceased Filipino officers and employees, or by Filipino officers and employees separated from the service except for cause, for service rendered prior to November twenty-ninth, nineteen hundred and thirty-six; (3) for the payment of salary increase of officials and employee of the National Government, resulting from the standardization of salaries or reclassification of provinces; (4) for the purchase of furniture and equipment to replace those that may be lost through accident, fire or other calamity, including the aquisition of new motor vehicles by trade-in of existing ones, the disposal of which is deemed reasonable and necessary to reduce the expenses of repairs thereof; (5) for the payment of salaries of suspended employees who have subsequently been exonerated; and (6) for the payment of the share of the National Government in the salaries of national officials in newly created cities and provinces where no appropriation has been provided therefor.

SEC. 7. Suspension of expenditure of appropriations.- Except as otherwise provided in this Act and whenever in his judgment the public interest so requires, the President of the Philippines is authorized suspend or otherwise stop the expenditure of any amount herein appropriated in any item or items for the Executive Departments for any purpose, except those for salaries of positions with incumbents, and thereupon the funds-affected by such action shall become available for any other expenditures authorized in this Act for the Executive Departments, except for salaries and wages, as the President may determine. In no case, however, shall any item of appropriation be augmented, pursuant to the authority granted in this section, by more than thirty per centum of the original appropriation provided in this Act for such item.

SEC. 8. Provision for "excess of actual salary."-The item of appropriation for "excess of actual salary" provided in this Act under "salaries and wages" shall be paid to the incumbent of the position to which said "excess" pertains who actually receiving the same "excess" as part of the salary granted to him upon his appointment to the said position before the reduction of the basic pay thereof to the amount provided herein: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That if the position be vacated and the successor to its previous incumbent shall have previously received an equal salary plus the "excess of actual salary" in the same or any other branch of the government service, such excess shall be allowable to him.

SEC. 9. Restriction upon limit of disbursements.- Disbursements in accordance with the appropriations herein authorized, after deducting the amounts of the "savings to be made," may be made from any funds in the National Treasury, except the Philippine War Damage Funds and special funds derived from taxes levied for special purposes, but the total thereof for any one month shall in no case be in excess of the uncollected estimated revenues accruing to the general fund during the said month: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, That in case of an emergency caused by typhoon, earthquake or any other public calamity which may seriously affect the collection of revenues during the year, the President of the Philippines may authorize the Treasurer of the Philippines to continue making disbursement from any fund in his possession not exempted above in excess of the limitation herein provided; but only for such purposes and amounts provided in this Act. Any overdraft which may be incurred at the end of the fiscal year in any fund by virtue of the provisions hereof shall be covered with the first collections of the following fiscal year accruing of the general fund.

SEC. 10. Purchase of locally manufactured furniture, equipment, supplies and material.- All appropriation for the purchase of furniture, equipment, supplies and materials authorized in this Act shall be available only for locally manufactured furniture, equipment, supplies and materials except when none is available in the market.

SEC. 11. Rentings of automobiles, jitneys or trucks for a continuous period exceeding fifteen days prohibited.- No appropriation provided in this Act for the Executive Departments shall be used for renting automobiles, jitneys or trucks on the monthly basis nor on the daily basis for continuous period exceeding fifteen days.

SEC. 12. Authority to purchase motor vehicles.- No appropriation authorized in this Act shall be used for the purchase of automobiles, jitneys, jeeps, station

wagons, motorcycles and other motor vehicles unless otherwise specifically provided in this Act.

SEC. 13. Officials entitled to government motor transportation.- The following officials are entitled to use government motor transportation chargeable against the appropriations authorized in this Act:

1. The President of the Philippines,
2. The Vice-President of the Philippines,
3. The President of the Senate,
4. The Speaker of the House of Representatives,
5. The President Pro-Tempore of the Senate,
6. The Majority Floor Leader of the Senate,
7. The Chairman, Committee of Finance, of the Senate,
8. The Chairman, Committee on Accounts, of the Senate,
9. The Chairman, Committee on foreign Relations, of the Senate,
10. The Secretary of the Senate,
11. The Speaker Pro-Tempore of the House of Representative,
12. The Majority Floor Leader of the House of Representative,
13. The Chairman, Committee on Accounts, of the House of Representative,
14. The Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, of the House of Representatives,
15. The Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, of the House of Representative,
16. The Secretary of the House of Representatives,
17. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court,
18. The Presiding Justice of the Court of Appeals,
19. The Auditor General,
20. The Ambassadors, Ministers Plenipotentiary and Consuls in charge of consulates while in their respective stations abroad, and
21. The Chief of Staff and the Vice-Chief of Staff and the Commanding Officers of the other Major Services of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

SEC. 14. **Officials entitled to transportation allowance.**- The Department of Heads and the Commissioner of the Budget are hereby granted a commutable transportation allowance of two hundred fifty pesos each per month and the Undersecretaries of Departments and officials with the same rank, two hundred pesos each per month, chargeable against the appropriations authorized in this Act for their respective offices.

SEC. 15. **Bureaus and offices entitled to use, operate and maintain government motor vehicles and launches.**- No bureau or office shall use, operate or maintain from the appropriations authorized in this Act government service cars, jeeps, station wagons, vans, service trucks, pick-up trucks, launches, speed boats, motorcycles, etc., except the following:

1. The Social Welfare Administration, for ministering relief, during military actions against dissidents, to evacuees, the injured and incapacitated and to the victims of typhoons, earthquakes, fires and other calamities; and for conducting the inmates of Welfareville to and from the Courts, hospitals and other offices, procuring