

[Act No. 3881, November 14, 1931]

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION SIXTY-EIGHT OF ACT NUMBERED ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX, AS AMENDED, AND SECTION FOUR OF ACT NUMBERED SIXTEEN HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SEVEN, AS AMENDED, AUTHORIZING JUDGES OF COURTS OF FIRST INSTANCE, WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY OF JUSTICE, TO ASSIGN JUSTICES OF THE PEACE OF CAPITALS OF PROVINCES AND SUBPROVINCES ORGANIZED UNDER THE PROVINCIAL LAW AND JUSTICES OF THE PEACE OF MUNICIPALITIES CONSIDERED AS PROVINCIAL CAPITALS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF ACT NUMBERED THIRTY-SIX HUNDRED AND TWENTY-TWO, TO HEAR AND DETERMINE CADASTRAL CASES, AND AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT TO SUCH JUSTICES OF THE PEACE OF AN ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION WHILE ACTING BY VIRTUE OF SUCH ASSIGNMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Legislature assembled and by the authority of the same:

SECTION 1. Section sixty-eight of Act Numbered One hundred and thirty-six, as amended by Act Numbered Thirty-seven hundred and sixty-four, is hereby further amended, to read as follows:

"SEC. 68. *Civil jurisdiction and powers.*—In all civil actions, including those mentioned in sections two hundred and sixty-two to two hundred and seventy-two as hereby amended, inclusive, and chapter eighteen of Act Numbered One hundred and ninety, arising in his municipality, and not exclusively cognizable by the Court of First Instance, the justice of the peace shall have exclusive original jurisdiction where the value of the subject matter or amount of the demand does not exceed two hundred pesos, exclusive of interest and costs; and where such value or demand exceeds two hundred pesos but is less than six hundred pesos, the justice of the peace shall have jurisdiction concurrent with the Court of First Instance. In forcible entry and detainer proceedings the justice shall have original jurisdiction, but he may receive evidence upon the question of title therein solely for the purpose of determining the character and extent of possession and damages for detention. In forcible entry proceedings he may grant preliminary injunctions, in accordance with the provisions of Act Numbered One hundred and ninety, to prevent the defendant from committing further acts of dispossession against the plaintiff.

"The jurisdiction of a justice of the peace shall not extend to civil actions in which the subject of litigation is not capable of pecuniary estimation, except in forcible entry and detainer cases; nor to those which involve the illegality of any tax, impost, or assessment; nor to actions involving admiralty or maritime jurisdiction; nor to matters of probate, the appointment of guardians, trustees, or receivers; nor to actions for annulment of marriages: *Provided, however,* That justices of the peace in