

## [ Acts No. 1872, June 19, 1908 ]

### **AN ACT AMENDING ACT NUMBERED FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND SEVEN, ENTITLED "THE REORGANIZATION ACT," BY PROVIDING FOR THE FREE CUTTING AND USE OF CERTAIN FIRST-GROUP TIMBERS IN BUILDINGS OF STRONG MATERIALS.**

*By authority of the United States, be it enacted by the Philippine Legislature, that:*

SECTION 1. Paragraph (b) of section nine of Act Numbered Fourteen hundred and seven, entitled "The Reorganization Act," as amended by Act Numbered Eighteen hundred, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(b) For the period of five years from the date of the passage of this Act every person who is a resident of the Philippine Islands and a citizen of the United States or a native of the Philippine Islands, or an honorably discharged soldier or sailor of the Army or Navy of the United States, or a person who has under and by virtue of the treaty of Paris acquired the political rights of natives of the Philippine Islands, may cut or take or hire cut or taken for of himself from the public forests, without license and free of charge, Rich timber, other than timber of the first group, and such firewood, resins, other forest products, and stone or earth, as he may require for house building, fencing, boat building, or other personal use of himself or his family. Timber thus cut without license shall not be sold nor shall it be exported from the province where cut, except as hereinafter authorized: *Provided*, That the Director of Forestry, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, may set aside for the use of the inhabitants of any municipality, township, or settlement a suitable tract of forest, which shall be known as a communal forest, and the privilege of cutting, taking, or hiring cut or taken from the public forest, without license and free of charge, such timber, other than timber of the first group, and such firewood, resins, other forest products, and stone or earth, as any resident of the municipality may require for house building, fencing, boat building, or other personal use of himself or his family, shall then be exercised only within the communal forest thus set aside. Such communal forests shall be on lands more suitable for forestry than for agriculture. They shall be administered by the Director of Forestry, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, in such a way as to assure the people having rights therein of a continued supply of forest products necessary for their home use, and to this end the Director of Forestry may prescribe the species and sizes of trees that may be cut and the manner of removal of such trees or other forest products, stone, or earth. When there is no public forest land conveniently situated within the limits of a province to which any municipality, township, or settlement belongs, and when such public forest land exists in a neighboring province, it may be set aside as a communal forest for such municipality, township, or settlement, and timber cut in it without a license may then be exported from such municipality, township, or settlement of a communal forest for revenue sh best interest of such forest, demands. Such exploitation for revenue shall be carried on under license in the same manner and subject: to the same conditions as in