

[BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 185, March 16, 1982]

**AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT SECTION FIFTEEN OF ARTICLE XIV OF
THE CONSTITUTION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Be it enacted by the Batasang Pambansa in session assembled:

SECTION 1. In implementation of Section fifteen of Article XIV of the Constitution, a natural-born citizen of the Philippines who has lost his Philippine citizenship may be a transferee of private land, for use by him as his residence, subject to the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 2. Any natural-born citizen of the Philippines who has lost his Philippine citizenship and who has the legal capacity to enter into a contract under Philippine laws may be a transferee of a private land up to a maximum area of one thousand square meters, in the case of urban land, or one hectare in the case of rural land, to be used by him as his residence. In the case of married couples, one of them may avail of the privilege herein granted: *Provided*, That if both shall avail of the same, the total area acquired shall not exceed the maximum herein fixed.

In case the transferee already owns urban or rural lands for residential purposes, he shall still be entitled to be a transferee of additional urban or rural lands for residential purposes which, when added to those already owned by him shall not exceed the maximum areas herein authorized.

SEC. 3. A transferee under this Act may acquire not more than two lots which should be situated in different municipalities or cities anywhere in the Philippines: *Provided*, That the total area thereof shall not exceed one thousand square meters in the case of urban lands or one hectare in the case of rural lands for use by him as his residence. A transferee who has already acquired urban land shall be disqualified from acquiring rural land, and vice versa.

SEC. 4. As used in this Act—

(a) A natural-born citizen is one who is a citizen of the Philippines from birth without having to perform any act to acquire or perfect his Philippine citizenship.

(b) Urban areas shall include:

(1) In their entirety, all municipal jurisdictions which, whether designated as chartered cities, provincial capitals or not, have a population density of at least 1,000 persons per square kilometer;

(2) Poblaciones or central districts of municipalities and cities which have a population density of at least 500 persons per square kilometer;

(3) Poblaciones or central districts (not included in 1 and 2) regardless of population size which have the following:

a. Street pattern, i.e., network of streets in either at parallel or right angle orientation;