Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO.

Submitted by the Committee on Natural Resources on OCT 0 1 2019

Re: House Bill No. 345

Recommending its approval, without amendment.

Sponsors: Representative Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr., Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Natural Resources, to which was referred House Bill No. 345, introduced by Representative Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, entitled:

AN ACT

SIMPLIFYING THE PROCEDURE IN THE DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC AGRICULTURAL LANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 24 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PUBLIC LAND ACT"

has considered the same and recommends its approval, without amendment, with Representatives Romualdo, Fongwan, Gullas, Paduano, Ty, Salimbangon, Eriguel, Abueg-Zaldivar, Cuaresma, Plaza, Villanueva (N.), Cullamat, Brosas, Gonzales, Taduran and Barzaga, as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

REP. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA

Chairperson

Committee on Natural Resources

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER

House of Representatives Quezon City

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 345

Introduced by Representatives Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr., Nestor B. Fongwan, Eduardo R. Gullas, Joseph Stephen S. Paduano, Diego C. Ty, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Sandra Y. Eriguel, Cyrille F. Abueg-Zaldivar, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Adolph Edward G. Plaza, Noel L. Villanueva, Eufemia C. Cullamat, Arlene D. Brosas, Aurelio D. Gonzales, Jr., Niña Taduran

AN ACT

SIMPLIFYING THE PROCEDURE IN THE DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC AGRICULTURAL LANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 24 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PUBLIC LAND ACT"

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

SECTION 1. Section 24 of Commonwealth Act No. 141 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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"SECTION 24. Lands sold under the provisions of this chapter must be appraised in accordance with section one hundred and sixteen of this Act. The [Director of Lands] DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR) shall announce the sale thereof by publishing the proper notice once a week for [six] TWO consecutive weeks in the Official Gazette, and in two newspapers, one published in METRO Manila, and the other published in the municipality or in the province where the lands are located, or in neighboring province, and the same notice shall be posted on the bulletin board of the [Bureau of Lands] CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE DENR in Manila, and in the most conspicuous place in the provincial building and the municipal building of the province and

municipality, respectively, where the land is located, and, if practicable, on the land itself; but if the value of the land does not exceed [two hundred and forty] FIFTY THOUSAND pesos, the publication in the *Official Gazette* and newspapers may be omitted. The notices shall be published [one] in English [and the other in Spanish or in the local dialect,] and shall fix a date [not earlier than sixty] THIRTY days after the date of the notice upon which the land will be awarded to the highest bidder, or public bids will be called for, or other action will be taken as provided in this chapter."

SEC. 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the DENR shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

BILL SYNOPSIS

House Bill No. 345

An Act

Simplifying The Procedure In The Disposition Of Public Agricultural Lands, Amending For The Purpose Section 24 Of Commonwealth Act No. 141, Otherwise Known As The "Public Land Act"

Introduced by: REP. XAVIER JESUS D. ROMULADO

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Committee Chairperson: REP. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA, JR.

OBJECTIVES:

 To simplify and update certain publication requirements in the disposition of public agricultural lands

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Shortens the period of publishing the notice for the sale of land in the Official Gazette from six (6) consecutive weeks to two (2) consecutive weeks
- Removes the option of publishing the notice in Spanish or in the local dialect
- Increases the threshold land value that requires publication in the Official Gazette and in newspapers from Two Hundred Forty Pesos (P240.00) to Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00)

RELATED LAWS:

Commonwealth Act No. 141, Public Land Act