

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. 0660



Introduced by Hon. Francis Gerald Aguinaldo Abaya

EXPLANATORY NOTE


As professionals, architects have a primary duty of care to the communities they serve. Members of the architectural profession are dedicated to standards of professionalism, integrity, and competence, and thereby bring to society unique skills and aptitudes essential to the sustainable development of the built environment and the welfare of their societies and cultures. Principles of professionalism are established in legislation, as well as in codes of ethics and regulations defining professional conduct.

Given the public interest in a quality, sustainable built environment and the dangers and consequences associated with the development of that environment, it is important architectural services are provided by properly qualified professionals for the adequate protection of the public.

The passage of Republic Act No. 9266 ("R.A. 9266"), otherwise known as the Architecture Act of 2004, is a significant step in protecting and assuring the public that only Architects can offer and provide architectural services.

This bill seeks to strengthen the practice of the architecture profession in the country by amending specific provisions of R.A. No. 9266, the Architecture Act of 2004 and harmonizing it with other laws. This may be accomplished by including specific architectural terms that will distinguish the practice of architecture from other professions as well as require that architectural designs, plans and documents prepared exclusively and signed by an Architect are required before any building permit may be issued.

For the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


FRANCIS GERALD AGUINALDO ABAYA
Representative, First District, Cavite

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 0660

Introduced by Hon. Francis Gerald Aguinaldo Abaya

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED NINE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX (R.A. No. 9266), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ARCHITECTURE ACT OF 2004"

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

1 **SECTION 1.** SEC. 3(1) of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended to include the
2 following terms after paragraph (14) to be denominated as paragraphs (15), (16), (17),
3 and (18):

4
5 "SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. As used in this Act, the following terms shall be
6 defined as follows:

7
8 1) xxx

9
10 14) xxx

11
12 15) ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN - ALSO REFERRED TO AS "DESIGN" IN
13 THIS ACT, MEANS THE ILLUSTRATED CONCEPT THAT FOCUSES ON THE
14 FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AND THE
15 UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH
16 BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AND UNIFIES THEM INTO A COHERENT AND
17 FUNCTIONAL WHOLE, FOLLOWING A GENERALLY ACCEPTED APPROACH TO
18 ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES, ABIDING BY SET NORMS AND CONSIDERING THE
19 ARCHITECTURAL PRINCIPLES OF UTILITY, STRENGTH AND BEAUTY,
20 EXCLUSIVELY PREPARED BY ARCHITECT;

21
22 16) ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENT - ALSO REFERRED TO AS
23 "DOCUMENT" AS USED IN THIS ACT, MEANS THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN,
24 ARCHITECTURAL PLAN, DRAWING, SPECIFICATION, TECHNICAL DOCUMENT AND

1 OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF SERVICE PREPARED, SIGNED AND SEALED
2 EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT;
3

4 17) ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT – MEANS A MANDATED DOCUMENT
5 ISSUED BY ANY REGULATING GOVERNMENT ENTITY BASED ON
6 ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS AUTHORIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF
7 BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE STATE AND SPACE
8 WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES;
9

10 18) ARCHITECTURAL PLAN – ALSO REFERRED TO AS “PLAN” AS USED
11 IN THIS ACT MEANS THE LATERAL SECTION OR DIMENSIONAL
12 REPRESENTATIONS OF A PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OR REDEVELOPMENT OF
13 BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES AND THE UTILIZATION OF THE SITE AND SPACE
14 WITHIN AND SURROUNDING SUCH BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES SHOWING
15 FEATURES OR ELEMENTS OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN SUCH AS THE
16 FLOOR PLANS, ELEVATIONS, CROSS AND LONGITUDINAL SECTIONS,
17 PERSPECTIVE, REFLECTED CEILING PLAN, SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN,
18 ARCHITECTURAL INTERIORS, AND OTHER ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS
19 PREPARED, SIGNED AND SEALED EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT;
20

21 **SECTION 2.** Sec. 20 (2) of Republic Act No. 9266 is hereby amended by adding a
22 new provision which read as follows:
23

24 *Sec. 20. Seal, Issuance and Use of Seal. –xxx*
25

26 (2-A) No officer or employee of this Republic, chartered cities, provinces and
27 municipalities, now or hereafter charged with the enforcement of laws, ordinances
28 or regulations relating to the construction or alteration of buildings, shall accept or
29 approve any architectural plans or specifications which have not been prepared
30 EXCLUSIVELY BY AN ARCHITECT and submitted in full accord with all the
31 provisions of this Act. Nor shall any payments be approved by such officer for any
32 work, the plans and specifications for which have not been so prepared
33 EXCLUSIVELY and signed by an Architect.
34

35 UPON APPROVAL OF THE ARCHITECTURAL DOCUMENTS, THE
36 CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL PERMIT SHALL BE ISSUED;
37 PROVIDED, HOWEVER THAT NO BUILDING PERMIT OR SIMILAR IMPRT
38 SHALL BE ISSUED WITHOUT THE CORRESPONDING ARCHITECTURAL
39 DESIGN, PLAN, AND DOCUMENT PREPARED EXCLUSIVELY AND SIGNED
40 BY AN ARCHITECT.

41
42 **SECTION 3. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, presidential proclamations,
43 executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent herewith, are hereby
44 repealed or modified accordingly.
45

46 **SECTION 4. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
47 declared unconstitutional, the other provisions which are not affected thereby shall remain
48 valid and subsisting.
49

1 **SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation,
3 whichever comes first.

4
5 Approved,