



**AN ACT
IMPLEMENTING THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO
INFORMATION ON MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN
GUARANTEED UNDER SECTION SEVEN, ARTICLE THREE
OF THE 1987 CONSTITUTION AND THE STATE POLICY OF
FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF ALL ITS TRANSACTIONS
INVOLVING PUBLIC INTEREST UNDER SECTION
TWENTY-EIGHT, ARTICLE TWO OF THE 1987
CONSTITUTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the
2 “Freedom of Information Act of 2010”.

3 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – The State recognizes the right
4 of the people to information on matters of public concern, and adopts
5 and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions
6 involving public interest, subject to the procedures and limitations
7 provided by this Act. This right is indispensable to the exercise of the
8 right of the people and their organizations to effective and reasonable
9 participation at all levels of social, political and economic decision-
10 making.

1 **SEC. 3. Coverage.** – This Act shall cover all government
2 agencies as defined under Section 4 of this Act.

3 **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:

4 (a) “Information” shall mean any knowledge, record, document,
5 paper, report, letters, contract, minutes and transcripts of
6 official meetings, maps, books, photographs, data, research
7 material, film, sound and video recordings, magnetic or other
8 tapes, electronic data, computer stored data, or any other like or
9 similar data or material recorded, stored or archived in
10 whatever form or format, which are made, received or kept in
11 or under the control and custody of any government agency
12 pursuant to law, executive order, rules and regulations,
13 ordinance or in connection with the performance or transaction
14 of official business by any government agency.

15 (b) “Government agency” shall include the executive, legislative
16 and judicial branches as well as the constitutional bodies of the
17 Republic of the Philippines including, but not limited to, the
18 national government and all its agencies, departments, bureaus,
19 offices and instrumentalities, constitutional commissions and
20 constitutionally mandated bodies, local governments and all
21 their agencies, regulatory agencies, chartered institutions,

1 government-owned or –controlled corporations, including
2 wholly-owned or controlled subsidiaries, government financial
3 institutions, state universities and colleges, the Armed Forces
4 of the Philippines, the Philippine National Police, all offices in
5 the Congress of the Philippines including the offices of
6 Senators and Representatives, the Supreme Court and all lower
7 courts established by law.

8 (c) “Official records” shall refer to information produced or
9 received by a public officer or employee, or by a government
10 agency in an official capacity or pursuant to a public function
11 or duty, and is not meant to be a stage or status of the
12 information.

13 (d) “Public records” shall include information required by law,
14 executive orders, rules, or regulations to be entered, kept and
15 made publicly available by a government agency.

16 **SEC. 5. *Presumption.*** – There shall be a legal presumption in
17 favor of access to information. Accordingly, government agencies shall
18 have the burden of proof of showing by clear and convincing evidence
19 that the information requested is exempted from disclosure by this Act.

20 **SEC. 6. *Access to Information.*** – Government agencies shall
21 make available to the public for scrutiny, copying and reproduction in

1 the manner provided by this Act, all information pertaining to official
2 acts, transactions or decisions, as well as government research data
3 used as basis for policy development, regardless of their physical form
4 or format in which they are contained and by whom they were made.

5 **SEC. 7. *Exceptions.*** – Subject to the qualifications set forth in
6 Section 8 of this Act, access to information may be denied when:

7 (a) The information is specifically authorized to be kept secret
8 under guidelines established by an executive order, and in fact
9 properly classified pursuant thereto: *Provided*, That 1) The
10 information directly relates to national defense and its
11 revelation will cause grave damage to the internal and external
12 defense of the State; or 2) The information requested pertains
13 to the foreign affairs of the Republic of the Philippines, when
14 its revelation unduly weaken the negotiating position of the
15 government in an ongoing bilateral or multilateral negotiation
16 or seriously jeopardize the diplomatic relations of the
17 Philippines with one or more states with which it intends to
18 keep friendly relations: *Provided, further*, That the executive
19 order shall specify the reasonable period by which the
20 information shall be automatically declassified or subject to
21 mandatory declassification review, and that any reasonable

1 doubt as to classification and declassification shall be settled in
2 favor of the right to information;

3 (b) The information requested pertains to internal and external
4 defense and law enforcement, when the revelation thereof
5 would render a legitimate military or law enforcement
6 operation ineffective, unduly compromise the prevention,
7 detection or suppression of a criminal activity, or endanger the
8 life or physical safety of confidential or protected sources or
9 witnesses, law enforcement and military personnel or their
10 immediate families. Information relating to the details of the
11 administration, budget and expenditure, and management of the
12 defense and law enforcement agencies shall always be
13 accessible to the public;

14 (c) The information requested pertains to the personal information
15 of a natural person other than the requesting party, and its
16 disclosure would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of
17 his or her personal privacy, unless it forms part of a public
18 record, or the person is or was an official of a government
19 agency and the information relates to his or her public function,
20 or the person has consented to the disclosure of the
21 information;

- 1 (d) The information requested pertains to trade, industrial,
2 financial or commercial secrets of a natural or juridical person
3 other than the requesting party, obtained in confidence by,
4 and/or filed with a government agency, whenever the
5 revelation thereof would seriously prejudice the interests of
6 such natural or juridical person in trade, industrial, financial or
7 commercial competition, unless such natural or juridical person
8 has consented to the disclosure of the information;
- 9 (e) The information is privileged from production in legal
10 proceedings by law or by the Rules of Court, unless the person
11 entitled to the privilege has waived it;
- 12 (f) The information requested is exempted by law or the
13 Constitution, in addition to those provided in this section;
- 14 (g) The information requested is obtained by any committee of
15 either House of Congress in executive session, whenever such
16 information falls under any of the foregoing exceptions; and
- 17 (h) The information requested consists of drafts of decisions by
18 any executive, administrative, judicial or quasi-judicial body in
19 the exercise of their adjudicatory functions whenever the
20 revelation thereof would reasonably tend to impair the

1 impartiality of verdicts, or otherwise obstruct the
2 administration of justice.

3 For letters (b) to (h) of this section, the determination whether
4 any of these grounds shall apply shall be the responsibility of
5 the head of office of the government agency in custody or
6 control of the information, or any responsible central or field
7 officer/s duly designated by him.

8 **SEC. 8. *Qualifications.*** – Even if the information falls under
9 the exceptions set forth in the preceding section, access to information
10 shall not be denied if:

11 (a) The information may be reasonably severed from the body of
12 the information which would be subject to the exceptions;

13 (b) The public interest in the disclosure outweighs the harm to the
14 interest sought to be protected by the exceptions; or

15 (c) The requesting party is either House of Congress, or any of its
16 Committees and the disclosure is to be made in executive
17 session, unless the disclosure will constitute a violation of the
18 Constitution.

19 **SEC. 9. *Procedure of Access.*** – (a) Any person who wishes to
20 obtain information shall submit a request to the government agency
21 concerned personally, by mail, or through electronic means. The

1 request shall state the name and preferred contact information of the
2 requesting party, and reasonably describe the information required, the
3 reason for the request of the information and the preferred means by
4 which the government agency shall communicate such information to
5 the requesting party: *Provided*, That the stated reason shall not be used
6 as a ground to deny the request or to refuse the acceptance of the
7 request, unless such reason is contrary to law. If the request is
8 submitted personally, the requesting party shall show his current
9 identification card issued by any government agency, or government or
10 private employer or school, or a community tax certificate. If the
11 request is submitted by mail or through electronic means, the
12 requesting party may submit a photostatic or electronically scanned
13 copy of the identification, or other convenient means as determined by
14 the agency.

15 (b) The request shall be stamped by the government agency,
16 indicating the date and time of receipt and the name, rank, title and
17 position of the receiving public officer or employee with the
18 corresponding signature, and a copy thereof furnished to the requesting
19 party. In case the request is submitted by electronic means, the
20 government agency shall provide for an equivalent means by which the
21 requirements of this paragraph shall be met.

1 (c) The request may indicate the following preferred means of
2 communication:

3 (1) A true copy of the information in permanent or other
4 form;

5 (2) An opportunity to inspect the information, using
6 equipment normally available to the government
7 agency when necessary;

8 (3) An opportunity to copy the information using personal
9 equipment;

10 (4) A written transcript of the information contained in a
11 audio or visual form;

12 (5) A transcript of the content of an information requested,
13 in print, sound or visual form, where such transcript is
14 capable of being produced using equipment normally
15 available to the government agency;

16 (6) A transcript of the information from shorthand or
17 codified form; or

18 (7) Other reasonable means or format.

19 (d) A government agency may communicate the information
20 requested in a form other than the preferred means whenever such
21 preferred means would unreasonably interfere with the effective

1 operation of the agency, or be detrimental to the preservation of the
2 record.

3 (e) The government agency shall comply with such request
4 within seven (7) working days from the receipt thereof.

5 (f) The time limits prescribed in this Section for the production
6 of the requested information may be extended whenever there is a need
7 for any of the following:

8 (1) To search for and collect the requested information
9 from field facilities or other establishments that are
10 separate from the office processing the request;

11 (2) To search for, collect and appropriately examine a
12 voluminous amount of separate and distinct
13 information which are demanded in a single request;

14 (3) Consultation, which shall be conducted in all
15 practicable speed, with another government agency or
16 among two (2) or more components of the government
17 agency having substantial interest in the determination
18 of the request; and

19 (4) To consider fortuitous events or other events due to
20 *force majeure* or other analogous cases.

1 (g) The government agency shall, in writing or through
2 electronic means, notify the person making the request of the extension,
3 setting forth the reasons for such extension and the date when the
4 information shall be made available: *Provided*, That no such notice
5 shall specify a date that would result in an extension of more than
6 fifteen (15) working days from the original deadline.

7 **SEC. 10. *Access Fees.*** – Government agencies may charge a
8 reasonable fee to reimburse the actual cost of reproduction, copying or
9 transcription and the communication of the information requested.

10 **SEC. 11. *Notice of Denial.*** – If the government agency decides
11 to deny the request, in whole or in part, it shall, within seven (7)
12 working days from the receipt of the request, notify the person making
13 the request of such denial in writing or through electronic means. The
14 notice shall clearly indicate the name, rank, title or position of the
15 person making the denial, and the grounds for the denial. In case the
16 denial is by reason of a claimed exception, the denial shall also state
17 clearly the legitimate aim or interest sought to be protected in the
18 confidentiality, and the facts and circumstances invoked showing the
19 substantial harm to, or frustration of, the legitimate aim or interest that
20 will result in the disclosure of the information. Failure to notify the

1 person making the request of the denial, or of the extension, shall be
2 deemed a denial of the request for access to information.

3 **SEC. 12. *Implementation Requirements.*** – (a) For the effective
4 implementation of this Act, all government agencies shall prepare a
5 Freedom of Information Manual, with the end in view of facilitating
6 easy access to information, which shall include the following:

- 7 (1) The location and contact information of the head,
8 regional, provincial and field offices, and other
9 established places where the public can obtain
10 information or submit requests;
- 11 (2) The types of information it generates, produces, holds
12 and/or publishes;
- 13 (3) A description of its record-keeping system;
- 14 (4) The person or office responsible for receiving requests
15 for information;
- 16 (5) The procedure for the filing of requests personally, by
17 mail, or through the identified electronic means;
- 18 (6) The standard forms for the submission of request and
19 for the proper acknowledgement of the request;
- 20 (7) The process for the disposition of the request,
21 including the routing of the request to the person or

1 office with the duty to act on the request, the decision-
2 making, and the grant or denial of access and its
3 implementation;

4 (8) The procedure for the administrative appeal of any
5 denial for access to information;

6 (9) The schedule of fees;

7 (10) The process and procedure for the mandatory
8 disclosure of information under Section 14 of this Act;

9 (11) Should the agency lack the capacity to comply with
10 Section 14(a) of this Act, a brief description of its plan
11 to facilitate compliance within three (3) years from the
12 approval of this Act; and

13 (12) Such other information, taking into consideration the
14 unique characteristics of an agency, that will help
15 facilitate the effective implementation of this Act.

16 (b) The Judiciary shall prepare a similar manual as directed by
17 the Supreme Court;

18 (c) The foregoing information shall also be posted in its
19 website and bulletin boards, and shall be regularly updated;

1 (d) In no case shall the absence of the aforementioned Manual
2 be a reason for the denial of any request for information made in
3 accordance with this Act.

4 **SEC. 13. Remedies in Cases of Denial.** – (a) In all government
5 agencies other than the judicial branch–

6 (1) Every denial of any request for access to information
7 may be appealed to the person or office next higher in
8 authority, following the procedure mentioned in
9 Section 12(a)(8) of this Act: *Provided*, That the appeal
10 must be filed within fifteen (15) calendar days from
11 the notice of denial and must be decided within fifteen
12 (15) calendar days from filing. Failure of the
13 government agency to decide within the aforestated
14 period shall constitute a denial of the appeal; and

15 (2) Instead of appealing or after the denial of the appeal,
16 the person denied access to information may file a
17 verified complaint with the Office of the Ombudsman,
18 praying that the government agency concerned be
19 directed to immediately afford access to the
20 information being requested. Such complaint shall be
21 resolved by the Office of the Ombudsman within sixty

1 (60) calendar days from filing, or earlier when time is
2 of the essence, taking into account such factors as the
3 nature of the information requested, context of the
4 request, public interest and danger that the
5 information requested will become moot. The Office
6 of the Ombudsman shall promulgate its special rules
7 of procedure for the immediate disposition of
8 complaints filed pursuant to this Section. Unless
9 restrained or enjoined, the decisions of the Office of
10 the Ombudsman shall be immediately executory,
11 without prejudice to review in accordance with the
12 Rules of Court.

13 (3) Instead of filing a complaint with the Office of the
14 Ombudsman, whenever a request for information is
15 denied originally or on administrative appeal, the
16 requesting party may file a verified petition for
17 mandamus in the proper court, alleging the facts with
18 certainty and praying that judgment be rendered
19 ordering the respondent, immediately or at some other
20 time to be specified by the court, to disclose the
21 information and to pay the damages sustained by the

1 requesting party by reason of the denial. The
2 procedure for such petition shall be summary in
3 nature.

4 (4) In resolving a complaint or petition brought under the
5 preceding paragraphs (2) and (3), the Ombudsman or
6 the court is empowered to receive the information
7 subject of a claim of exception under Section 7 herein
8 and examine then *in camera* to determine the
9 sufficiency of the factual and legal basis of such
10 claim, when such sufficiency cannot be reasonably
11 determined through evidence and circumstances apart
12 from the information.

13 (b) In the Judicial Branch – The Judiciary shall be governed by
14 such remedies as promulgated by the Supreme Court.

15 (c) The remedies under this section are without prejudice to
16 any other administrative, civil or criminal action covering the same act.

17 (d) The remedies available under this Act shall be exempt from
18 the rules on non-exhaustion of administrative remedies and the
19 application of the provisions of Republic Act No. 9285, otherwise
20 known as the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004.

1 (e) In case the requesting party has limited or no financial
2 capacity, the Public Attorney's Office shall be mandated to provide
3 legal assistance to the requester in availing of the remedies provided
4 under this Act.

5 **SEC. 14. *Mandatory Disclosure of Transactions Involving***
6 ***Public Interest.*** –

7 (a) Subject to Sections 7 and 8 of this Act, all government
8 agencies shall upload on their websites, which shall be regularly
9 updated every fifteen (15) days, all the steps, negotiations and key
10 government positions pertaining to definite propositions of the
11 government, as well as the contents of the contract, agreement or
12 treaty in the following transactions involving public interest:

13 (1) Compromise agreements entered into by a
14 government agency with any person or entity
15 involving any waiver of its rights or claims;

16 (2) Private sector participation agreements or contracts in
17 infrastructure and development projects under
18 Republic Act No. 6957, as amended by Republic Act
19 No. 7718, authorizing the financing, construction,
20 operation and maintenance of infrastructure projects;

- 1 (3) Procurement contracts entered into by a government
2 agency;
- 3 (4) Construction or concession agreements or contracts
4 entered into by a government agency with any
5 domestic or foreign person or entity;
- 6 (5) Loans, grants, development assistance, technical
7 assistance and programs entered into by a government
8 agency with official bilateral or multilateral agencies,
9 as well as with private aid agencies or institutions;
- 10 (6) Loans from domestic and foreign financial
11 institutions;
- 12 (7) Guarantees given by any government agency to
13 government-owned or -controlled corporations and to
14 private corporations, persons or entities;
- 15 (8) Public funding extended to any private entity;
- 16 (9) Bilateral or multilateral agreements and treaties in
17 defense, trade, economic partnership, investments,
18 cooperation and similar binding commitments; or
- 19 (10) Licenses, permits or agreements given by any
20 government agency to any person or entity for the
21 extraction and/or utilization of natural resources.

1 A summary list of the foregoing information uploaded in the
2 website shall be posted in the bulletin boards of the concerned
3 government agency.

4 (b) The information uploaded in the website under letter (a) of
5 this Section may be withdrawn after a period of three (3) years from the
6 time of uploading: *Provided*, That an abstract of the information
7 withdrawn shall remain uploaded in the website, containing a brief
8 description of the transaction and an enumeration of the information
9 withdrawn, and indicating the dates of posting and withdrawal.

10 (c) Should an agency lack the capacity to comply with letter (a)
11 of this Section, the agency shall initiate a capacity-building program, or
12 coordinate with another appropriate agency, to facilitate substantive
13 compliance not later than three (3) years upon approval of this Act.

14 **SEC. 15. *Keeping of Records.*** – a) Government agencies
15 shall create and/or maintain in appropriate formats, accurate and
16 reasonably complete documentation or records of their organization,
17 policies, transactions, decisions, resolution, enactments, actions,
18 procedures, operations, activities, communications, documents received
19 or filed with them and the data generated or collected. These shall
20 include working files such as drafts or notes, whenever these have
21 been circulated within the agency for official purpose such as for

1 discussion, comment or approval or when these contain unique
2 information that can substantially contribute to a proper understanding
3 of the agency organization, policies, transactions, decisions,
4 resolutions, enactments, actions, procedures, operations, and activities;

5 b) Government agencies shall identify specific and classes of
6 official records in their custody or control that have continuing
7 historical, administrative, informational, legal, evidentiary, or research
8 value for preservation by such agencies or their legitimate successors,
9 or for transfer to the National Archives of the Philippines. In addition,
10 the National Archives of the Philippines shall likewise identify specific
11 and classes of official records that it shall require agencies to preserve
12 and transfer to it.

13 c) In addition to the specific and classes of official records
14 identified for preservation under letter (b) of this Section, the
15 following shall not be destroyed:

16 1) Records pertaining to loans obtained or guaranteed
17 by the government;

18 2) Records of government contracts;

19 3) The declaration under oath of the assets, liabilities
20 and net worth of public officers and employees, as required by law;
21 and

1 4) Records of official investigations on graft and
2 corruption practices of public officers.

3 d) Government agencies shall prepare, following standards and
4 period promulgated pursuant to Republic Act No. 9470 or the National
5 Archives of the Philippines Act of 2007, a records management
6 programs that includes the following:

7 1) A records maintenance system for the creation,
8 selection, classification, indexing and filing of official records, that
9 facilitates easy identification, retrieval and communication of
10 information to the public;

11 2) A records maintenance, archival and disposition
12 schedule providing a listing of records under current use, for
13 retention by the agency, for transfer to the National Archives, or for
14 destruction: *Provided*, That destruction of the official records may be
15 implemented only upon approval of the National Archives of the
16 Philippines; and

17 3) A specifications of the roles and responsibilities of agency
18 personnel in the implementation of such system and schedule.

19 e) In addition to its function as repository of all rules and
20 regulations issued by agencies as provided under Book VII, Chapter II
21 of the Administrative Code of 1987, the University of the Philippines

1 Law Center, in coordination with the National Printing Office as the
2 agency with exclusive printing jurisdiction over the *Official Gazette*,
3 shall maintain a database, and publish the same in print in *Official*
4 *Gazette* or in digital or online form, the following: 1) All laws of the
5 Philippines and their amendments, from the period of the Philippine
6 Commission to the present; 2) All presidential issuances from
7 November 15, 1935 to the present, including but limited, to executive
8 orders, presidential proclamations, administrative orders, memorandum
9 circulars, general orders, and other similar issuances; 3) A database of
10 all appointments made by the President of the Philippines; and 4)
11 Opinions of the Secretary of Justice.

12 **SEC. 16. *Promotion of Openness in Government.*** – (a) Duty to
13 Publish Information – Government agencies shall regularly publish,
14 print and disseminate at no cost to the public and in an accessible form,
15 in conjunction with R.A. 9485, or the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007, and
16 through their website, timely, true, accurate and updated key
17 information including, but not limited to:

18 (1) A description of its mandate, structure, powers,
19 functions, duties and decision-making processes;

- 1 (2) A description of the frontline services it delivers and
2 the procedure and length of time by which they may be
3 availed of;
 - 4 (3) The names of its key officials, their powers, functions
5 and responsibilities, and their profiles and curriculum
6 vitae;
 - 7 (4) Work programs, development plans, investment plans,
8 projects, performance targets and accomplishments,
9 and budgets, revenue allotments and expenditures;
 - 10 (5) Important rules and regulations, orders or decisions:
11 *Provided*, That they be published within fifteen (15)
12 calendar days from promulgation;
 - 13 (6) Current and important database and statistics that it
14 generates;
 - 15 (7) Bidding processes and requirements; and
 - 16 (8) Mechanisms or procedures by which the public may
17 participate in or otherwise influence the formulation of
18 policy or the exercise of its powers.
- 19 (b) Accessibility of Language and Form – Every government
20 agency shall endeavor to translate key information into major Filipino
21 languages and present them in popular form and means.

1 (c) Improving Capability – Every government agency shall
2 ensure the provision of adequate training for its officials to improve
3 awareness of the right to information and the provisions of this Act, and
4 to keep updated of best practices in relation to information disclosure,
5 records maintenance and archiving.

6 **SEC. 17. *Criminal Liability and Administrative Liability.*** –

7 The penalty of imprisonment of not less than one (1) month but not
8 more than six (6) months shall be imposed upon:

9 (a) Any public officer or employee receiving the request under
10 Section 9 of this Act who shall fail to promptly forward the
11 request to the public officer within the same office or
12 agency responsible for officially acting on the request
13 when such is the direct cause of the failure to disclose the
14 information within the periods required by this Act;

15 (b) Any public officer or employee responsible for officially
16 acting on the request, who shall:

17 (1) Fail, to act on the request within the periods
18 required by this Act;

19 (2) Knowingly deny the existence of existing
20 information;

1 (3) Destroy information being requested for the
2 purpose of frustrating the requester's access
3 thereto;

4 (4) Claim an exception under Section 7 of this
5 Act, or under the Constitution, when the claim
6 is manifestly devoid of factual basis; or

7 (5) Refuse to comply with the decision of his
8 immediate supervisor, the Ombudsman or the
9 court ordering the release of information that
10 is not restrained or enjoined by a court;

11 (c) The head of office of the government agency directly and
12 principally responsible for the negotiation and perfection of
13 any of the transactions enumerated in Section 14(a) of this
14 Act, who shall knowingly refuse, to direct the mandatory
15 posting or uploading of such transaction despite the agency
16 capacity to implement such directive. The same penalty
17 shall be imposed upon the public officer or employee who,
18 despite a directive from the head of office, shall fail, to
19 post or upload any of the transactions enumerated in
20 Section 14(a) of this Act;

1 (d) Any public officer or employee who shall destroy, or cause
2 to destroy, records of information covered by Section 15(c)
3 of this Act;

4 (e) Any public officer who formulates policies, rules and
5 regulations manifestly contrary to the provisions of this
6 Act, and which policies, rules and regulations are the direct
7 cause of the denial of a request for information; or

8 (f) Any public or private individual who knowingly induced or
9 caused the commission of the foregoing acts under this
10 section.

11 The foregoing shall be without prejudice to any administrative
12 liability of the offender under existing laws and regulations.

13 **SEC. 18. *Act Not a Bar to Claim of Right to Information***
14 ***Under the Constitution.*** – No provision of this Act shall be interpreted
15 as a bar to any claim of denial of the right to information under Article
16 III, Section 7 of the 1987 Constitution.

17 **SEC. 19. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any section
18 or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, no other
19 section or provision shall be affected.

20 **SEC. 20. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive
21 orders, rules and regulations, issuances or any part thereof inconsistent

1 with the provisions of this Act, including Memorandum Circular No.
2 78 dated 14 August 1964 (Promulgating Rules Governing Security of
3 Classified Matter in Government Offices), as amended, and Section 3,
4 Rule IV of the Rules Implementing Republic Act No. 6713 (Code of
5 Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees), are
6 deemed repealed.

7 **SEC. 21. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
8 days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers
9 of general circulation.

Approved,