

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by: **Honorables Raul T. Gonzalez, Jr., Junie E. Cua, Antonio H. Cerilles, Thelma Z. Almario, Victor J. Yu, Edgar M. Chatto, Thomas L. Dumpit, Jr., Elpidio F. Barzaga, Jr., Marc Douglas C. Cagas IV, Teodulo M. Coquilla, Maria Milagros H. Magsaysay, Lorna C. Silverio, Amado S. Bagatsing and Marcelino R. Teodoro**

AN ACT
REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF GEOLOGY IN THE
PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NUMBERED FOUR THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED NINE (R.A. NO.
4209), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "GEOLOGY PROFESSION LAW OF
THE PHILIPPINES" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

Article I

TITLE, STATEMENT OF POLICY, DEFINITION OF TERMS AND
SCOPE OF PRACTICE

Section 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Geology Profession Act of 2009.”

Sec. 2. Statement of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to supervise and regulate the practice of geology which is vital to national development; upgrade geology education and the quality of geologists; and establish standards of professional practice which shall be excellent, world-class and globally competitive through regulatory measures, programs and activities.

Sec. 3. Scope. – This Act shall govern, but shall not be limited to:

- (a) the examination, registration, and licensure of geology profession;
- (b) the supervision, control and regulation of the practice of geology;

- 1 (c) the development and upgrading of the curriculum of geology
2 education;
- 3 (d) the development of the professional competence of geologists
4 through continuing professional development/education; and
- 5 (e) the integration of the geology profession.

6 **Sec. 4. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act, the
7 following terms shall mean as follows:

- 8 (a) “Practice of geology” shall mean the offering or rendering of
9 services of any of the specialized branches of geology for a
10 fee, salary, reward or compensation, paid to him/her or
11 through another person or persons, or even without such
12 reward or compensation.
- 13 (b) “Board” shall mean the Board of Geology.
- 14 (c) “Accredited Professional Organization (APO)” shall mean the
15 professional organization duly accredited by the Professional
16 Regulatory Board of Geologists and the Professional
17 Regulation Commission.
- 18 (d) “Continuing Professional Development/Education (CPDE)”
19 shall mean the inculcation, assimilation and acquisition of
20 knowledge, skills, proficiency and ethical and moral values,
21 after the initial registration of a professional that raise and
22 enhance his/her professional’s technical skills and
23 competence.

24 **Sec. 5. Scope of Practice.** – A person shall be deemed to be
25 practicing geology or rendering geological service in government,
26 industry and the academe when he/she undertakes geological work
27 for a fee, salary or remuneration or even without such reward or
28 compensation. The scope of practice of a geologist shall include, but
29 not be limited, to the following:

- 30 (a) General geological survey or mapping, whether onshore or
31 offshore, to identify different types of rocks, geologic
32 structures, metalliferous and non-metalliferous mineral
33 deposits and/or energy resources such as petroleum, gas,

1 coal, geothermal and other renewable energy resources as
2 well as ground water resources;

3 (b) Mineral exploration for metalliferous and non-metalliferous
4 mineral resources and ore reserves outside active mining
5 areas and/or mine exploration to locate extensions or
6 orebodies inside mine operating areas;

7 (c) Geological exploration for energy resources like petroleum,
8 gas and coal, and/or geothermal resources;

9 (d) Study of geohazards due to faulting, volcanism, ground
10 subsidence, groundwater pollution, weathering and erosion;
11 their characteristics, and impact to the environment;

12 (e) Hydrogeological studies which include search for
13 underground and surficial water resources, and determining
14 their characteristics, location, depth and volume, including
15 groundwater vulnerability assessment;

16 (f) Investigation and study of the physical and geo-mechanical
17 characteristics of rocks and soils;

18 (g) Gathering, processing and evaluating geologic data for
19 environmental assessment and management, including
20 conservation and bio-diversity projects;

21 (h) Data processing, petrology, mineragraphy, paleontology,
22 geostatistics and laboratory studies that require geological
23 knowledge essential in data interpretation and in the
24 preparation of geological report;

25 (i) Preparation of geological reports in accordance with best
26 practices and applicable laws and regulations;

27 (j) Teaching of geological subjects in any academic program
28 leading to a professional degree, including refresher and
29 review courses; and

30 (k) Other geologic work or service which, in the assessment and
31 opinion of the Board, constitutes the practice of Geology.

32 The Board, subject to approval by the Commission, may add or
33 exclude any act as the need arises after consultation with the
34 APO and the academe.

1 **Article II**

2 **CREATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD**
3 **OF GEOLOGY**

4 **Sec. 6. Composition of the Professional Regulatory Board**
5 **of Geology.** – There is hereby created a Professional Regulatory Board
6 of Geology, hereinafter referred to as the Board, under the
7 administrative control and supervision of the Professional Regulation
8 Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, composed of
9 a Chairperson and two (2) members to be appointed by the President
10 of the Philippines from among those recommended by the Commission
11 from the nominees of the duly Accredited Professional Organization
12 (APO) of Geologists. The new Board shall be constituted not later than
13 six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act.

14 **Sec. 7. Powers and Duties of the Board.** – The Board shall
15 have the following powers and duties:

- 16 (a) Supervise and regulate the practice of geology profession;
17 (b) Determine and evaluate the qualifications of the applicants
18 for registration;
19 (c) Prescribe the subjects in the licensure examinations,
20 determine the syllabi of the subjects and their relative
21 weights, construct the test questions in the examinations,
22 score and rate the examination papers, and submit the
23 examination results to the Commission;
24 (d) Issue together with the Commission, certificates of
25 registration and professional identification cards to
26 applicants who have passed the licensure examinations for
27 professional geologists;
28 (e) Issue special/temporary permits to foreign geologists to
29 practice the profession;
30 (f) Inquire into conditions affecting the practice of the profession
31 and adopt measures for the enhancement and maintenance
32 of high professional, ethical and technical standards.
33 Pursuant thereto, the Board may inspect establishments
34 where geologists practice their profession such as mines,

1 plants, offices and the like in order to determine and enforce
2 compliance with the provisions of this Act and issue
3 certificates of compliance for the purpose;

4 (g) Inspect and evaluate the facilities, faculty, equipment and
5 other aspects directly related to the geology program of
6 educational institutions in coordination with the Commission
7 on Higher Education (CHED);

8 (h) Issue *subpoena duces tecum* to secure the attendance of
9 witnesses or the production of documents in connection with
10 administrative cases before the Board;

11 (i) Hear and decide administrative cases filed against geologists
12 and firms employing the same. The hearing shall be presided
13 by the Chairperson or a member of the Board with the
14 assistance of a lawyer from the Commission. The decision of
15 the Board may be appealed to the Commission and to the
16 Court within fifteen (15) days from notice, otherwise the
17 decision shall become final and executory;

18 (j) Administer oaths in connection with the performance of its
19 functions;

20 (k) Adopt an official seal and prescribe the seal of the geology
21 profession;

22 (l) Submit an annual report on the proceedings and
23 accomplishments during the year and/or recommendations
24 of the Board to the Commission thirty (30) days after the
25 close of each calendar year;

26 (m) Prosecute or institute criminal action against any violator of
27 this Act and/or rules and regulations of the Board;

28 (n) Prescribe guidelines and criteria on the Continuing
29 Professional Development/Education (CPDE) program for
30 geology in consultation with the integrated and accredited
31 professional organization of geologists;

32 (o) Perform regulatory, administrative, and quasi-legislative
33 functions as mandated under R.A. 8981, otherwise known as
34 the Professional Regulation Commission Modernization Act,

1 and such other functions as may be necessary in order to
2 implement the provisions of this Act;

3 (p) Adopt the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)
4 necessary for carrying out the provisions of this Act;

5 (q) Adopt a Code of Ethics and a Code of Professional and
6 Technical Standards for the practice of geology profession;
7 and

8 (r) Investigate, in accordance with the rules on administrative
9 investigation promulgated by the Commission, violations of
10 this Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations, the
11 Code of Ethics and the Code of Professional and Technical
12 Standards for geologists, administrative policies, orders and
13 issuances promulgated by the Board.

14 **Sec. 8. Qualifications of the Chairperson and Members of**
15 **the Board.** – The Chairperson and members of the Board, at the
16 time of his/her appointment must be:

17 (a) a natural born citizen and resident of the Philippines;

18 (b) a holder of at least a bachelor's degree in geology as
19 conferred by a university or school of good standing,
20 recognized and accredited by the government;

21 (c) a registered geologist with a valid certificate of registration
22 and professional identification card and an active
23 practitioner for not less than ten (10) continuous years prior
24 to his/her appointment;

25 (d) a person who does not have any pecuniary interest, directly
26 or indirectly in any university, college, school or institution
27 conferring an academic degree necessary for the admission
28 to the practice of geology, or institutions where review
29 classes in preparation for the licensure examinations for
30 geologists are being officially offered or conducted; nor shall
31 he/she be a member of the faculty or of the administration
32 thereof prior to appointment to the Board; and

33 (e) a member of the Accredited Professional Association of
34 Geology but not a trustee or officer thereof.

1 **Sec. 9. Term of Office.** – The Chairperson and every member of
2 the Board shall hold office for a term of three (3) years or until their
3 successors shall have been duly appointed. They may be reappointed
4 for another term of three (3) years immediately after the expiration of
5 their term but in no case shall the whole term exceed six (6) years.
6 Interim vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term
7 only.

8 The Chairperson and members shall qualify by taking the
9 proper oaths prior to assumption of office.

10 **Sec. 10. Compensation of the Board.** – The Chairperson and
11 members of the Board shall receive compensation and allowances
12 comparable to that being received by the chairpersons and members
13 of other professional regulatory boards under the Commission as
14 provided for in the General Appropriations Act.

15 **Sec. 11. Custodian of Records, Secretariat and Support.** –
16 All records of the Board, including applications for examinations,
17 examination papers and results, minutes of meetings, deliberations of
18 administrative and other investigative cases involving the Board shall
19 be kept by the Commission. The Commission shall designate the
20 Secretary of the Board and shall provide secretariat and other support
21 services to implement the provisions of this Act.

22 **Sec. 12. Grounds for Suspension or Removal of Board**
23 **Members/Chairperson.** – The President, upon the recommendation of
24 the Commission after due process and administrative investigation
25 conducted by the Commission, may remove or suspend the
26 Chairperson or a member of the Board on any of the following
27 grounds:

28 (a) gross negligence, incompetence or dishonesty in the
29 discharge of their duty;

30 (b) violation of any of the causes/grounds and the prohibited
31 acts provided in this Act and the offenses in the Revised
32 Penal Code, the Anti-Graft and Corruption Practices, and
33 other laws; or

1 (c) manipulation or rigging of the results of the geology licensure
2 examination, disclosure of secret and confidential
3 information on the examination questions prior to the
4 conduct thereof, or tampering of grades.

5 **Sec. 13. Annual Report.** – The Board shall submit an annual
6 report to the Commission after the close of each fiscal year giving
7 detailed account of Board proceedings during the year and embodying
8 such recommendations as the Board may desire to make.

9 **Article III**

10 **LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND REGISTRATION**

11 **Sec. 14. Passing of Licensure Examination Requirement.** –
12 Except as otherwise specifically allowed under this Act, applicants for
13 registration for the practice of geology shall be required to pass a
14 licensure examination as provided for in this Act.

15 **Sec. 15. Holding of Examination.** – Examination of
16 candidates applying for registration as geologist shall be given at least
17 once a year in such places and dates as the Commission may
18 designate in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 8981,
19 otherwise known as the Professional Regulation Commission
20 Modernization Act.

21 **Sec. 16. Scope of Examination.** – In the licensure examination
22 for geologists, the scope of examinations, methods and procedures
23 shall be prescribed by the Board. The licensure examination shall
24 cover but shall not be limited to the following subjects:

- 25 (a) General Geology
26 (b) Petrology and Mineralogy, and
27 (c) Applied Geology

28 The Board, subject to approval by the Commission, may revise
29 or exclude any of the subjects and their syllabi, and add new ones as
30 the need arises to conform to technological changes brought about by
31 continuing trends in the profession: *Provided*, That a detailed syllabi
32 of the above examinations covering the whole aspects of the geology
33 profession and practice shall be prepared by the Board.

1 **Sec. 17. Qualifications for Examinations.** – The
2 qualifications required for applicants to the licensure examination for
3 Geology are the following:

4 (a) He/she is a Filipino citizen or a foreigner whose country has
5 reciprocity agreement with the Philippines;

6 (b) He/she is a graduate of a school, institute, college or
7 university recognized by the government and has been
8 conferred the degree of Bachelor of Science in Geology;

9 (c) He/she is of good moral character; and

10 (d) He/she must not have been convicted by a court of
11 competent jurisdiction of an offense involving moral
12 turpitude.

13 **Sec. 18. Examination Fees.** – Any applicant admitted to take
14 the geology licensure examination shall pay such fees as may be
15 prescribed by the Commission before he/she is allowed to take the
16 same.

17 **Sec. 19. Rating in the Licensure Examination.** – To pass the
18 licensure examination for geology, a candidate must obtain a general
19 or weighted average of no less than seventy per centum (70%) and a
20 rating of no less than fifty per centum (50%) in any examination
21 subject.

22 **Sec. 20. Report of Ratings.** – The Board shall complete the
23 correction of examination papers within three (3) days from the last
24 day of examinations. The Commission shall report the rating of
25 examinees not more than ten (10) days after the Board has completed
26 the correction of examination papers.

27 **Sec. 21. Issuance of Certificates of Registration and**
28 **Professional Identification Card.** – A certificate of registration shall
29 be issued to those who are registered with or without licensure
30 examination subject to payment of fees prescribed by the Commission.
31 It shall bear the signatures of the Chairperson of the Commission and
32 of the Chairperson and members of the Board, stamped with the
33 official seal of the Commission and of the Board, certifying that the
34 person named therein is entitled to the practice of the profession with

1 all the privileges appurtenant thereto. Until withdrawn, revoked, or
2 suspended in accordance with this Act, it shall remain in full force
3 and effect.

4 A professional identification card bearing the registration
5 number and date, its validity and expiry duly signed by the
6 Chairperson of the Commission shall likewise be issued to every
7 registrant who has paid the prescribed fees.

8 **Sec. 22. Issuance of Certificates of Specialization.** – Upon
9 nomination of the accredited professional organization of geology, the
10 Board shall issue a certificate of specialization to an applicant who is
11 a registered geologist and who has specialized knowledge, training and
12 experience in a specific field of geology and has documented his/her
13 expertise and competence on the same.

14 **Sec. 23. Seal of a Registered Geologist.** – Every geologist
15 shall, upon registration, obtain a seal as prescribed by the Board.
16 Plans, specifications, reports, and other professional documents
17 prepared by or executed under the supervision of and issued by the
18 registrant shall be stamped on every sheet with the said seal when
19 filed officially or when submitted for professional use.

20 **Sec. 24. Fees for Registration.** – Every person issued a
21 Certificate of Registration shall pay to the Commission such fees as
22 the Commission may prescribe.

23 **Sec. 25. Issuance of Temporary/Special Permits.** –
24 Temporary/special permits shall be issued to the following upon
25 proper application with the Board:

26 (a) foreign geologists, recognized as experts in their specific
27 fields of geology, called in by the Republic of the Philippines
28 for consultation or for specific design, installation or project:
29 *Provided*, That their practice shall be confined to such work
30 only;

31 (b) foreign geologists who have distinguished themselves in their
32 respective fields of specialization, contracted as professors or
33 lecturers on geology subjects by Philippine schools, colleges,

1 institutes or universities on a direct hire or exchange basis,
2 subject to verification of credentials by the Board; or
3 (c) foreign geologists who are duly registered under bilateral
4 or multilateral agreements where the Philippines is a
5 signatory.

6 *Provided*, That all the above shall secure a temporary/special permit
7 from the Board prior to arrival in the country.

8 **Sec. 26. Exemption from Licensure Examination.** – A holder
9 of a doctoral degree in Geology or an equivalent degree in any of the
10 specialized branches of geology obtained from a duly recognized
11 university shall be exempted from taking the licensure examination
12 upon evaluation of the Board. He/she shall be required, however, to
13 register in the same manner as those who will pass the licensure
14 examination.

15 **Sec. 27. Refusal to Register.** – The Board shall not register
16 any applicant for registration if he/she has been:

- 17 (a) convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude by a court
18 of competent jurisdiction;
19 (b) found guilty of immoral or dishonorable conduct by the
20 Board;
21 (c) summarily adjudged guilty for violation of the General
22 Instruction to Examinees by the Board; and
23 (d) declared of unsound mind by a court of competent
24 jurisdiction.

25 In refusing such registration, the Board shall give the applicant
26 a written statement setting forth the reasons therefor and shall file a
27 copy thereof in its records.

28 **Sec. 28. Revocation or Suspension of the Certificates of**
29 **Registration and Cancellation of Temporary/Special Permit.** –
30 The Board shall have the power, upon notice and hearing, to revoke or
31 suspend the certificate of registration of a registered geologist or to
32 cancel a temporary/special permit granted to a foreign geologist, for
33 any of the grounds or causes enumerated in Sec. 27 of this Act, except
34 in letter (c) thereof, and on any of the following grounds:

- 1 (a) violation of a provision of this Act, its Implementing Rules
2 and Regulations, Code of Ethics, and Code of Professional
3 and Technical Standards for the practice of geology;
- 4 (b) perpetration or use of fraud in obtaining his/her certificate
5 of registration, professional identification card, or
6 temporary/special permit;
- 7 (c) gross incompetence, negligence or ignorance resulting to
8 death, injury or damage;
- 9 (d) any act of misrepresentation in connection with an alleged
10 performance of geological activities;
- 11 (e) acts inimical to the geology profession;
- 12 (f) gross immorality;
- 13 (g) conviction by final judgment of any act involving moral
14 turpitude;
- 15 (h) aiding or abetting the illegal practice of a non-registered and
16 non-licensed geologist by allowing him/her to use his/her
17 certificate of registration and/or professional identification
18 card, or his/her special/temporary permit;
- 19 (i) illegally practicing the profession during his/her suspension
20 from the practice thereof; or
- 21 (j) addicted to a drug or alcohol abuse impairing his/her ability
22 to practice his/her profession, or declared with an unsound
23 mind by a court of competent jurisdiction.

24 Any person, firm or association may file charges against any
25 registrant in accordance with the provisions of this Section and the
26 Board may investigate charges against any registered geologist for any
27 of violations listed above. An affidavit-complaint shall be filed together
28 with the affidavits of witnesses and other documentary evidence with
29 the Board through the Legal and Investigation Office. The Board may
30 *motu proprio* conduct an investigation which shall be embodied in a
31 formal charge to be signed by at least a majority of the members of the
32 Board. The rules on administrative investigation issued by the
33 Commission shall govern the hearing or investigation subject to

1 applicable provisions of this Act, R.A. No. 8981 and the Rules of
2 Court.

3 **Sec. 29. Re-issuance of Revoked Certificate of Registration**
4 **and Replacement of Lost Certificate of Registration and**
5 **Professional Identification Card.** – The Board may, after two (2)
6 years from the date of revocation of the certificate of registration, re-
7 issue a certificate upon proper application.

8 A new certificate of registration and professional identification
9 card, or temporary/special permit, which has been lost, destroyed or
10 mutilated, may be reissued after payment of the required fee
11 prescribed by the Commission.

12 **Article IV**

13 **PRACTICE OF GEOLOGY**

14 **Sec. 30. Prohibition from Practicing Geology.** – No person
15 shall practice Geology or render geological service without a valid
16 certificate of registration and a valid professional identification card or
17 granted a temporary/special permit.

18 **Sec. 31. Who May Practice Geology.** – Except as may be
19 otherwise provided in this Act, only persons properly licensed and
20 registered may practice geology in the country. Duly registered
21 professional geologists may form partnerships among themselves and
22 use the title “Geologist” or “Registered Geologist” in their partnership
23 name.

24 **Sec. 32. Vested Rights.** – All practicing geologists who are
25 registered as geologist at the time this Act takes effect shall
26 automatically be registered under this Act.

27 **Sec. 33. Foreign Reciprocity.** – No foreign geologist shall be
28 granted any of the rights and privileges under this Act unless the
29 country of which he/she is a subject or citizen grants the same or
30 similar rights or privileges to Filipino geologists.

31 **Sec. 34. Indication of Certificate of Registration and**
32 **Professional Tax Receipt.** – A registered geologist shall be required
33 to indicate his/her certificate of registration number, the duration of
34 validity, including the professional tax receipt number and the

1 accredited professional organization membership fee receipt number
2 on the documents he/she signs, uses or issues in connection with the
3 practice of his/her profession.

4 **Sec. 35. Integration of Geology Professional Associations. –**

5 All geology professional associations shall be integrated into one (1)
6 national professional organization which shall be recognized by the
7 Board, subject to approval by the Commission, as the only accredited
8 and integrated professional organization of geologists.

9 All geologists whose names appear in the Registry Book of
10 Geologists shall *ipso facto* or automatically become members thereof
11 and shall receive all the benefits and privileges appurtenant thereto
12 upon payment of APO membership fees and dues. Membership in the
13 integrated accredited professional organization shall not be a bar to
14 membership in other geology organizations.

15 **ARTICLE V**

16 **PENAL AND GENERAL PROVISIONS**

17 **Sec. 36. Penal Clause. –** The following shall, upon conviction,
18 be punished by a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos
19 (P10,000.00) but not more than One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) or
20 imprisonment of not less than one (1) month but not more than five
21 (5) years at the discretion of the court:

22 (a) Any person who shall practice geology in the Philippines, as
23 defined in this Act, without a valid certificate of registration
24 and valid professional identification card, or
25 temporary/special permit in accordance with the provisions
26 of this Act, unless declared exempt from registration.

27 (b) Any person presenting or using as his/her own the certificate
28 of registration and/or professional identification card or
29 temporary/special permit of another.

30 (c) Any person who shall give any false or forged evidence.

31 (d) Any person who shall impersonate any registrant of like or
32 different name.

33 (e) Any person who shall use a revoked or suspended certificate
34 of registration, and/or a valid professional identification

1 card, or a valid temporary/special permit, or an
2 expired/non-current professional identification card, or an
3 expired cancelled temporary/special permit.

4 (f) Any person who shall assume, use, or advertise any title or
5 description tending to convey the impression that he/she is a
6 geologist without having graduated as such, or is engaged in
7 the geology practice, without holding a valid certificate of
8 registration and a professional identification card, or a valid
9 temporary/special permit from the Board.

10 **Sec. 37. Act Not Affecting Other Professions.** – This Act shall
11 not affect or prevent the practice of any other legally recognized
12 profession.

13 **Sec. 38. Enforcement of the Act by the Officers of the Law.**
14 – The Board shall be assisted by the Commission in carrying out the
15 provisions of this Act and its implementing rules and regulations and
16 other policies. The lawyers of the Commission shall act as prosecutors
17 against illegal practitioners and other violators of this Act and its
18 rules. The duly constituted authorities of government shall likewise
19 assist the Board and the Commission in enforcing the provisions of
20 this Act and its rules.

21 **Sec. 39. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Subject to
22 the approval of the Commission, the Board shall adopt and
23 promulgate such implementing rules and regulations, the Code of
24 Ethics, and Code of Professional and Technical Standards of
25 Geologists to carry out the provisions of this Act.

26 **Sec. 40. Funding Provision.** – The Chairperson of the
27 Professional Regulation Commission shall immediately include in the
28 Commission's programs the implementation of this Act, the funding of
29 which shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

30 **Sec. 41. Transitory Provisions.** –

31 (a) Faculty Members currently teaching major geology subjects
32 in universities, colleges, institutes, or schools shall not be allowed to
33 continue teaching after five (5) years from the approval of this Act

1 unless they are or they have become registered geologists with valid
2 certificates of registration and valid professional identification cards.

3 (b) The incumbent Chairperson and members of the Board shall
4 continue to function as an *interim* Board until such time as a new
5 Board shall be constituted under this Act.

6 **Sec. 42. Separability Clause.** – If any section or portion of this
7 Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such shall not
8 invalidate any other section of this Act.

9 **Sec. 43. Repealing Clause.** – Republic Act No. 4209 is hereby
10 repealed. All other laws, parts of law, orders, ordinances, or
11 regulations relative to the practice of geology which are inconsistent
12 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
13 accordingly.

14 **Sec. 44. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
15 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general
16 circulation.

17 Approved,