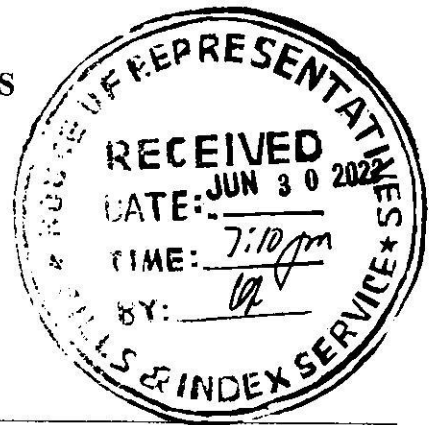


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**  
**HOUSE BILL NO. 579**



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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JURDIN JESUS M. ROMUALDO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This is a refiled bill principally authored by Hon. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo from the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress and also, in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress by then Hon. Pedro P. Romualdo, both represented the Lone District of Camiguin.

This bill seeks to simplify and update the publication requirements in the disposition of public agricultural lands under Commonwealth Act No. 141. It proposes to shorten the period of publication of the notice for the sale of land in the Official Gazette from six (6) consecutive weeks to two (2) consecutive weeks.

It also removes the option of publishing the notice in Spanish or in the local dialect. This move is more practical and less burdensome to the public. It further increases the threshold of the land value that will require publication in the Official Gazette from Two Hundred Forty Pesos (P\240.00) to Fifty Thousand Pesos (P\50,000.00).

I hope that the Members of Congress will support the immediate approval of this proposed legislation.

  
**JURDIN JESUS M. ROMUALDO**

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

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

3               "SECTION 24. Lands sold under the provisions of this chapter must  
4 be appraised in accordance with section one hundred and sixteen of this Act.  
5 The [Director of Lands] **DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND**  
6 **NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR)** shall announce the sale thereof by  
7 publishing the proper notice once a week for [six] **TWO** consecutive weeks in  
8 the *Official Gazette*, and in two newspapers, one published in **METRO** Manila,  
9 and the other published in the municipality or in the province where the lands  
10 are located, or in neighboring province, and the same notice shall be posted on  
11 the bulletin board of the [Bureau of Lands] **CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE**  
12 **DENR** in Manila, and in the most conspicuous place in the provincial building  
13 and the municipal building of the province and municipality, respectively,  
14 where the land is located, and if practicable, on the land itself; but if the value  
15 of the land does not exceed [two hundred and forty] **FIFTY THOUSAND**  
16 pesos, the publication in the English [and the other in *Official Gazette* and

1 newspapers may be omitted. The notices shall be published [one] in English  
2 [and the other in Spanish or in the local dialect,] and shall fix a date [not earlier  
3 than sixty] **THIRTY** days after the date of the notice upon which the land will  
4 be awarded to the highest bidder, or public bids will be called for, or other  
5 action will be taken as provided in this chapter.”

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

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

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

12 Approved.