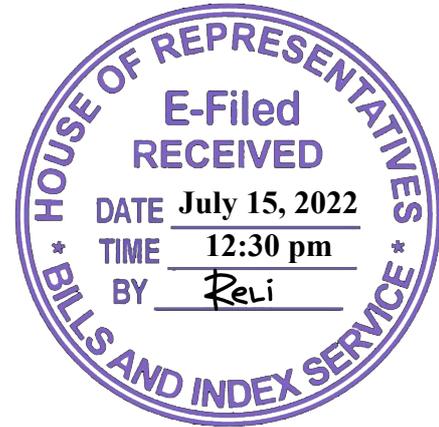




Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Constitution Hills, Batasan Complex, Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2019



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Introduced by Representatives **ALFEL M. BASCUG** and  
**EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA**

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### **Explanatory Note**

This bill seeks to amend Section 24 of the Public Land Act to update the procedure in disposing alienable public agricultural lands to qualified persons. Commonwealth Act No. 141, otherwise known as the Public Land Act was enacted in 1936. As indeed the case, some of the critical provisions of this eighty-year-old (80) law are no longer attuned to the needs of the present times. Therefore, it is imperative upon the State to revisit and revise its laws to better serve its people and to make them relevant with the changing times.

This bill was approved by the Committee on Natural Resources in the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress. This is refiled for the consideration of the 19<sup>th</sup> Congress.

Considering the foregoing, the timely passage of this measure is earnestly sought

**ALFEL M. BASCUG**  
1<sup>ST</sup> District, Agusan del Sur

**EDDIEBONG G. PLAZA**  
2<sup>nd</sup> District, Agusan del Sur



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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 it enacted by the Senate and the 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:

"Sec. 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 hereof 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 other published in the municipality or in the province where the lands are located, or in a 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 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 newspaper may be omitted. The notices shall be published [one] in English [and 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"

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decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 3.** The Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

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

*Approved,*