

AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 401 ENTITLED "PENALIZING THE UNAUTHORIZED INSTALLATION OF WATER, ELECTRICAL OR TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS, THE USE OF TAMPERED WATER OR ELECTRICAL ME...

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 401-A, March 06, 1974

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/153abb3d9c58/>

WHEREAS, on March 1, 1974 Presidential Decree No. 401 was promulgated in order to put an end to rampant illegal installation of water, electrical and telephone connection, use of tampered water and electrical meters, jumpers and other devices to steal water or electricity;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 401 does not include in its coverage the unauthorized/illegal/unlawful installation of piped gas connection and other similar acts, although this nefarious activity is violative to the objectives of the New Society and constitutes theft of piped gas;

WHEREAS, there is an equally urgent need to put an end to rampant theft/pilferage of piped gas, unauthorized/illegal/unlawful installation of piped gas connection, use of tampered gas meters, jumpers and other devices to steal piped gas, and other similar acts;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, and pursuant to Proclamation No. 1081, dated September 21, 1972, and General Order No. 1 dated September 22, 1972, as amended, do hereby order and decree that Presidential Decree No. 401 be amended as follows:

"SECTION 1. Any person who installs any water, electrical, telephone or piped gas connection without previous authority from the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System, the Manila Electric Company, the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, or the Manila Gas Corporation, as the case may be, tampers and/or uses tampered water, electrical or gas meters, jumpers or other devices whereby water, electricity or piped gas is stolen; steals or pilfers water, electric or piped gas meters, or water, electric and/or telephone wires, or piped gas pipes or conduits; knowingly possesses stolen or pilfered water, electrical or gas meters as well as stolen or pilfered water, electrical and/or telephone wires, or piped gas pipes and conduits, shall, upon conviction, be punished with prison correccional in its minimum period or a fine ranging from two thousand to six thousand pesos, or both.

"If the violation is committed by, or with the connivance of an officer or employee of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System, or the Manila Electric Company, or the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company, or the Manila Gas Corporation, such officer or employee shall, upon conviction, be punished with a penalty one degree higher than the penalty provided herein, and forthwith be dismissed and perpetually disqualified from employment in any public or private utility or service company.

"SECTION 2. Any provision of Presidential Decree No. 401 and of any law inconsistent with this Decree is hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

"SECTION 3. This Decree shall take effect immediately."

Done in the City of Manila, this 6th day of March, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-four.

(Sgd.) FERDINAND E. MARCOS
President of the Philippines

By the President:

(Sgd.) ALEJANDRO MELCHOR
Executive Secretary

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.