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FULL COMPUTERIZATION OF THE FORESTER LICENSURE EXAMINATION

PRC BOARD FOR FORESTERS RESOLUTION NO. 09-94, April 13, 1994

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WHEREAS, to cope up with the trend of technological modernization and globalization, the Board has to be an innovator by introducing change in the form of new method or process and new services in administering the Foresters Examinations through its full computerization;

WHEREAS, the adoption of such novel system will bring forth these beneficial effects to the profession;

1. credible, qualitative and efficacious licensure examinations that gain the public trust and faith therein;

2. expeditious release of examination results; and

3. ample time for the Board to exercise its regulatory powers and functions;

WHEREAS under Res. No. 265, Series of 1993, the Commission directed that the examinations of all the professions under the jurisdiction and supervision thereof "shall be fully computerized in 1993 except those professions with examinees below 1,000 which shall be programmed in 1994;

WHEREAS, the full computerization of the licensure examination does not only involve the correction and rating of test papers, but it does also utilize data bank from which questions are randomly extracted and randomly arranged by and through the computer; and

WHEREAS, the Board for Foresters is empowered by Sec. 5 of R.A. No. 6239, as amended and Sec. 6 (a) of P.D. No. 223, as amended, to adopt measures or policies that will preserve and improve the technical, ethical and moral standards of the forestry profession,

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the Board's powers under R.A. No. 6239, the Board hereby RESOLVED, as it so RESOLVES, to fully computerize the Forester Licensure Examination starting in the June, 1994 schedule under following guidelines, viz.:

1. The Board Member with the respective Area Specialists shall frame or formulate their own questions or adopt those supplied by the academe after they have modified or reformed them. Every question shall be appraised by the Board member assigned to supervise the concerned Area Specialist as to its objectivity, validity, reliability and efficaciousness and shall be unambiguous and definite, calling only for one definite correct answer — and to its degree of difficulty, i.e., easy average and hard; as to its level of knowledge and proficiency; as to these types: subjective — problem, drawing or essay and objective - multiple choice of four (4) or more items. Questions for each category must be equitably comprehensive and representative of the mass. Subjects with both subjective and objective questions shall have this weight proportion:

55% — objective and 45% — subjective

2. The Board Member assigned to the subject shall initially input into the question bank located at the Commission no less than five hundred (500) questions for each subject which must be based on syllabus therefor

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containing the concepts and topics and which he/she has to build up by no less than three hundred (300) questions for every succeeding examination to reach the optimum ideal number of at least three-thousand (3,000) questions. The questions shall be withdrawable or replenishable with those which are abreast of economic, technological and scientific modernization and globalization of the profession.

3. The questions once fed into the question bank shall become the intellectual property of the Commission. The Board Member who formulated and inputted the questions there into shall lose the right to withdraw them, therefore, once he/she is no longer a Board Member. The newly appointed Board Member assigned to the subject, or the incumbent Board Member reassigned to the subject out of rotation by the Chairman, shall accordingly, review the questions in the question bank, reword, or delete any of them and add his/her own questions.

4. The Board Member shall extract or draw randomly the number of questions required for the subject from the question bank which shall be randomized so as to produce at least two (2) sets with each having different chronological arrangements of questions for printing and distribution to the examinees.

5. During the extraction and printing of questions, assembling and packaging of questionnaires, all the authorized persons present in the confidential room shall not be allowed to get out therefrom until after the lapse of one (1) hour from the start of the examination for the concerned subject. Agents of NBI, security officers, or designated persons and even authorized observers shall be stationed to watch the proceedings.

6. The computer programs and files shall be insured to be tamper-free. Multiple passwords shall be adopted so that no one person has complete control of, or access to, the computer programs and files. Three (3) responsible key officials shall be designated for this purpose.

7. The answers to the objective type questions (multiple choice) shall be corrected and rated through the OPM (Optical Mark Reader) Machine; the answers to subjective type questions (problem solving, drawing or essay) may be corrected through the OPM Machine or manual process.

FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the herein Resolution, upon approval by the Commission, shall be effective after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation, whichever is earlier.

FINALLY, RESOLVED, that the Resolution be disseminated through schools/colleges universities offering the course in B.S. Forestry to all concerned.

Adopted: 13 Apr. 1994

(SGD.) CELSO P. DIAZ
Chairman

(SGD.) WILBUR G. DEE
Member

Approved:

(SGD.) HERMOGENES P. POBRE
Commissioner

(SGD.) ARMANDO C. PASCUAL
Associate Commissioner

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