

AMENDING SECTION 4 OF P.D. NO. 583, DATED NOVEMBER 16, 1974, “PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR THE UNLAWFUL EJECTMENT, EXCLUSION, REMOVAL, OR OUSTER OF TENANT-FARMERS FROM THEIR FARMHO...

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 815, October 21, 1975

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/a30aa2e4d32a/>

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to further strengthen the security of tenure of the tenant-farmers/agricultural lessees in the cultivation of the landholding planted to rice and corn;

WHEREAS, despite various Decrees, Letters of Instructions and other Orders as well as speeches and other pronouncements by me that tenant farmers and agricultural lessees should not be ejected or dispossessed of the lands being cultivated by them, some landowners, landholders, and/or agricultural lessors have resorted to various schemes and devices with which to circumvent the aforementioned pronouncements.

WHEREAS, in view of the numerous disturbing reports that many landowners have subleased their tenanted land-holding planted to rice and corn to other persons so that the latter appears in their behalf as the legal possessor thereof without binding the landowner in the event of a violation of the aforementioned Presidential Decrees Nos. 316 and 583, the government must act with dispatch to protect the security of tenure of our tenant-farmers/agricultural lessees;

WHEREAS, this scheme is patently directed against a vital program of the New Society and cannot be tolerated, much less sanctioned, by the government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution do hereby decree and order:

SECTION 1. Section 4 of P.D. No. 583 is hereby amended as follows:

"Subject to the studies on zoning of the Human Settlements Commission and unless previously authorized by the Secretary of Agrarian Reform, any landowner, landholder, agricultural-lessor or anybody acting for and in their behalf, who converts his tenanted land primarily devoted to rice and corn into any non-agricultural use or into the production of any other crop as a means to avoid the application of the land reform laws or decrees to his landholdings and to dispossess his tenant-farmers of the land tilled by them shall, upon conviction, suffer the penalty of prison mayor or a fine ranging from P5,000.00 to P10,000.00, or both, at the discretion of the Court.

"The same penalty shall be imposed on a landowner, landholder, agricultural-lessor, or anybody acting for and in their behalf, who by any other act, scheme or strategy shall eject, exclude, remove or oust and/or cause the ouster, exclusion, removal or ejectment of a tenant-farmer from his farmholdings in contravention of decrees, laws, and other orders on land reform."

SEC. 2. All provisions of existing laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This decree shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 21st day of October, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-five.

(Sgd.)

FERDINAND E. MARCOS

President

Republic 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.