



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 27**  
Monday, September 27, 2010

**FIFTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:19 p.m., the Senate President Pro Tempore, Hon. Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

Senator Sotto read the prayer of President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada, to wit:

*Panginoon namin at Diyos. Naririto kami at muling dumudulog sa Inyong harapan at humihingi ng pagpapala upang ang lahat ng aming gagawin sa Mataas na Kapulungang ito ay maging tunay na pagpapahayag ng Inyong dakilang kalooban para sa aming lahat sampu ng aming mga kababayan na aming pinaglilingkuran.*

*Malaki Po ang maitutulong namin sa pagbabalik ng tiwala ng ibang mga bansa sa kakayahan naming mga Pilipino. Idinadalangin Po namin na bigyan Mo kami ng pagkakataon na makibahagi sa isang bagong administrasyon na ngayon pa lamang ay nahaharap na sa matitinding pagsubok. Nawa'y maging kaagapay kami at hindi kalaban upang magkaisa sa pag-unlad ng aming bansa.*

*Amang makapangyarihan, bigyan Mo kaming lahat ng sapat na lakas ng pangangatawan, kalusugan at kaisipan upang magampanan namin ang aming tungkulin. Bigyan Mo ng kagalingan ang*

*may karamdaman at dagdagan ng lakas ang isipan at puso ng bawat mambabatas na naririto. Ang lahat Pong ito ay aming itinataas sa matamis na Pangalan ng aming tagapagligtas na si Jesus.*

*Amen.*

**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

The Manila Central University Chorale led the singing of the national anthem and thereafter rendered the song, entitled *Mamang Sorbetero*.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Emma Lirio-Reyes, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, E. J.	Legarda, L.
Arroyo, J. P.	Marcos Jr., F. R.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Recto, R. G.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Sotto III, V. C.
Honasan, G. B.	Villar, M.
Lapid, M. L. M.	Zubiri, J. M. F.

With 14 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Guingona, Osmeña and Pangilinan arrived after the roll call.

Senate President Enrile and Senator Drilon, who were on official mission, also arrived after the roll call.

Senator Cayetano (P) was on official mission abroad.

Senator Defensor Santiago was on sick leave.

Senato Lacson was absent.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session as he was under detention.

#### APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 26 (September 22, 2010) and considered it approved.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests who came to the Senate to grace the Dia Del Galeon exhibit:

- Ms. Cecille Guidote-Alvarez of the International Theater Institute;
- Dir. Vilma Labrador of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts and Chairperson of the Dia Del Galeon Festival;
- Ilocos Sur Vice Governor Deogracias Victor Savellano;
- Amiah Roselyn Sawajan, Festival Manager of the Dia Del Galeon; and
- Charice Aquino-Tugate, Abe Portillo and Malou Jacob, NCCA Executive Director.

Senator Sotto also acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests:

- Banking and finance students of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Sta. Mesa, Manila;
- Students from St. Thomas of Villanova Institute of Philosophy;
- Students from the University of San Agustin, Iloilo; and
- Students from San Agustin Center of Studies, Quezon City

The Senate President Pro Tempore welcomed the guests to the Senate.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

With the permission of the Body, the Chair suspended the session to allow the Members to greet Senators Angara and Revilla on the occasion of their birthdays last September 24 and 25, respectively.

*It was 3:27 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:28 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR ANGARA

Availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Angara spoke on the history of the Manila Galleons in commemoration of the *Dia del Galeon* that was highlighted by an exhibit along the Senate hallway, to wit:

##### RETRACING OUR ROOTS THROUGH THE MANILA GALLEONS

I rise briefly to pay tribute to a long and colorful chapter in our country's rich history: the voyages of the Manila galleons, beginning in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, that were first to link Asia and the Americas across the Pacific and inaugurate the phenomenon we now know as "globalization."

Ferdinand Magellan's landfall in the Philippines in 1521—almost half a millennium ago—completed the map of the modern world.

For 250 years after Magellan's time, a small fleet of Spanish vessels—known in Mexico as the "*Nao de la China*"—sailed in the *Victoria's* wake—crossing the 9,000-nautical-mile distance between Manila and Acapulco—constituting the most important trade route in the world. This is known in history as the Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade.

In the 16<sup>th</sup> century—and I want to emphasize and underscore this against the backdrop of pessimism in this country—Manila Bay was one of the world's busiest ports. Its topography made it a safe harbor for traders who carried precious commodities such as silk, silver and indigo. Manila became the port of export for Chinese trade, including those from India and the Indo-Chinese Peninsula, and some Philippine commodities. *Acapulco was the port of destination in the Americas, separated from Asia by the Pacific Ocean.*

##### WARSHIP, FREIGHTER, LINER

*The galleon—and I invite my colleagues and friends to go and see the exhibit in the corridor*

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outside—with its size and great capacity for cargo, was a combination of warship, freighter, passenger and troop-carrier. It was, however, at the mercy of typhoons and the prevailing winds. At the time, there were few nautical aids, making ventures in the high seas dangerous and expensive. The often-misnamed “Pacific” claimed dozens of ships, thousands of men and many millions worth of goods and treasures.

Only when the Basque navigator and astronomer Fray Andres de Urdaneta came to the Philippines in 1565 that a return route to Mexico was established.

On board the galleon *San Pedro*, Fray Urdaneta voyaged for 129 days from Cebu to Acapulco, relying on nothing more than a compass, an expert knowledge of wind patterns, and an uncanny sense of direction. The first round trip Urdaneta steered became the course the Manila galleons followed until their last voyage in 1815.

#### BEGINNINGS OF GLOBALIZATION.

The historic Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade marked the beginnings of globalization. Scholars agree that global trade dates from the early voyages of the Manila galleons. The “*Naos de China*” make up the first direct and permanent trade link among Asia, Europe and the Americas.

The Manila galleon was the lifeline for relations among these three continents, sailing continuously for two-and-a-half centuries – a record that no other shipping line has matched until now.

Together with the *Victoria*'s rounding of the world ocean, the voyages of the Manila Galleons gave our archipelago a place in world history. The world became a global village, with Manila as its most important Asian port. With the galleon trade, Manila became a center of the universe.

The galleon trade involved 36 communities, which have become 36 nation-states. Our 16<sup>th</sup> century relations with these countries brought commerce and investment. But while the galleon trade opened the gates to commercial globalization, its epic quality transcended mercantile motives. It opened the gates to celebrate bio-cultural diversity, enriching our agriculture, language and culture.

Through this cross-cultural journey that took 12 months to complete, the Philippines was introduced to plants like *sampaloc*, *achuete*, avocado and cacao, from which we learned how to make *tsokolate de batirol*. In fact, *tsokolate* comes from the Aztec word “chocolatl”.

We exported to Mexico our indigenous plants like *ylang ylang* and *abaca*, as well as our *barong tagalog*.

#### DAY OF THE GALLEON

The commemoration of Dia del Galeon was initiated by the Philippines with Mexico and Spain. During the Baler 400 celebration, I suggested the idea to Mexican Ambassador Tomas Calvillo Unna and Spanish Ambassador Luis Arias, who received it enthusiastically.

We then held a series of meetings with key Latin American diplomats and representatives. An Advisory Board composed of all 36 nations sat on the board with DFA Secretary Alberto Romulo as honorary chair.

In October 2009, UNESCO's General Conference in Paris passed a resolution to institutionalize the “*Dia del Galeón*” (“Day of the Galleon) every 8<sup>th</sup> day of October.

That marks the day in 1565 when the *San Pedro* found the first return route—or “*tornaviaje*”—from the Philippines to America.

The Director General of UNESCO, Irina Bokova, has commended the Philippines for organizing the International Dia del Galeon festival this year. They laud the festival's contribution to our understanding of countless social, cultural and economic consequences of cross-cultural exchanges and migrations that occurred among three continents because of the galleon trade.

During the maiden celebration of the *Dia del Galeon* this year, key initiatives in the areas of history, culture, education, language, sports and labor and migration will be undertaken to foster cooperation and forge deeper relations among Asian and Latin-American countries.

As I speak, some of these workshops and seminars are going on in various venues in the Philippines.

A highlight of the festival will be the arrival in Manila Bay of a magnificent galleon replica built in Andalucía, Spain. The *Fundación Nao Victoria* has agreed to bring the *Galeón Andalucía* to Manila on October 5 – and will remain docked in the South Harbor to receive guests and student visitors until October 9. From Manila, it will sail to Cebu.

The *Galeón Andalucía* is a replica of the first vessel to circumnavigate the world—Magellan's flagship, *Victoria*, which one of his captains, Juan Sebastian el Cano, sailed back to Spain through the Indian Ocean and the Cape of

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Good Hope after Magellan's death in the Battle of Mactan.

#### RECONNECTING WITH THE GALLEON TRADE COUNTRIES

The *Dia del Galeon* commemoration provides an opportunity for the Philippines to link up with the international community of artists, educators, historians, cultural workers, and intellectual leaders. It gives us a unique chance to reconnect with the countries touched by the galleon trade.

The celebration of *Dia del Galeon* on October 8 – which henceforth shall become an annual event, and I filed a Joint Senate Resolution to this effect – gives us an occasion to recall our historic and cultural roots—and to reunite with the greater family of nations with which the Manila Galleons connected us historically.

#### SUSPENSION OF THE INTERPELLATIONS ON SENATOR ANGARA'S SPEECH

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, interpellations on the speech of Senator Angara was suspended to a later time.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the newly appointed Head of the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office, Sec. Antonino "Tony" Roman.

The Senate President Pro Tempore welcomed Secretary Roman to the Senate.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR LEGARDA

Availing herself of the privilege hour, Senator Legarda asked what the government has done to prepare the people for natural disasters in the aftermath of the series of typhoons that struck the county in 2009. She further sought an accounting of funds allocated for relief operations, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of areas affected.

*The full text of her speech follows:*

##### *One Year After: Ondoy's Wake-Up Call Remains Unheeded*

In a survey conducted by the Nielsen Company and the Oxford University Institute of

Climate Change late last year, the Philippines registered the highest level of concern for climate change among 54 countries surveyed. Seventy-eight percent (78%) of Filipino respondents said they were very concerned. They have good reasons to feel that way. Let us review our records.

#### *Looking Back*

The Philippines was severely hit by three successive tropical cyclones: *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Santi* between September 24 to November 2, 2009.

It is said that Typhoon *Ondoy* (Ketsana) brought a month's volume of rain in just 12 hours. This, according to government executives, was the culprit behind the unprecedented level of flooding which submerged much of Metro Manila, Rizal, Bulacan, Laguna, Central Luzon and parts of Regions I and II. Hundreds died.

As if the damages inflicted by *Ondoy* were not enough, typhoon *Pepeng* (*Parma*) was next to enter the country, barely three days after *Ondoy* exited.

Thereafter, two other typhoons of lesser magnitude — *Quedan* (*Melor*) and *Ramil* (*Lupit*) — also visited our country.

Then on October 28, typhoon *Santi* (*Mirinae*) — the fifth typhoon to visit us in a span of one month and four days — brought heavy rains and flooding once again. Despite the preemptive evacuation carried out, still 802,155 people were affected.

Since *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Santi*, more than 10 million lives have been changed, some of them in this very room. The rest of us watched in utter despair and helplessness.

We have to make an effort to revisit, not so much the pain that *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Santi* have inflicted upon us as a country, but the efforts undertaken in response to the lessons learned.

#### *Impacts Revisited*

The statistics are staggering:

- Two million families or 10 million individuals were affected in the flooding or landslides;
- Nearly a thousand perished: 464 due to *Ondoy*, 492 due to *Pepeng*, and 34 due to *Santi*;
- Total damage and losses amounted to US\$4.4 billion or the equivalent of 2.7 percent of the country's GDP;
- The education sector's total damages and losses are at P 2.7 billion covering 3,417

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schools, 36 colleges and universities, and about 2,800 day care centers;

- The agriculture sector alone lost P29.38 billion covering 30 provinces in seven regions;
- Totally or partially damaged homes reached 220,000.

The list goes on.

### ***Have We Learned Enough?***

What invites interesting discussion at this time, however, is not so much what happened during those *fateful four weeks of 2009*. Rather, we need to answer the question, “What have we done since?” This is certainly not an academic question. This is a question that will help us achieve our most urgent objective of ensuring preparedness when the next calamity strikes.

We debate publicly on national issues — public health, security, education, the economy, and development in general. In engaging in such discourse, we seek to find ways by which we can provide social and economic security to our people.

Today, I wish to talk about the most basic form of security. That is the need for our people to feel secure when they sleep at night, to feel safe when they go to work, or even in just simply living their lives amidst threats of disasters.

Such security emanates from having confidence and trust in our government and its systems — that when the next typhoon strikes, we will be better prepared to meet the challenges head on.

There will always be typhoons, in fact, 20 typhoons per year, at least. And because of climate change, it could be worse, it could be more frequent, it could be stronger, probably far worse than what we have experienced thus far. And our people should feel confident that even in the worst of situations, they would have a fair chance of returning safely to their homes. However, that was not the case with *Ondoy* and *Pepeng*.

They also need to feel secure that their loved ones would be safe in their homes notwithstanding the rains. And if there should be flooding, government should be prepared to rescue them and offer decent temporary shelter worthy of human dignity. That, again, was not the case with *Ondoy* and *Pepeng*.

On July 13 of this year, *Basyang* inflicted damages — 102 people dead, 46 missing, and 91 injured. It took three days for electricity to be

restored in most of Metro Manila. Estimated cost of damage to infrastructure and agriculture was P378 million.

But the most telling damage was the psychological trauma on those who survived the onslaught of *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Santi*. Most of them could not sleep as *Basyang* battered the country. They said they would rather be awake, than be caught sleeping by what might be another close encounter with death.

Why should they fear of ill-preparation a year after *Ondoy*? Let us find out why.

### ***Where is the Supplemental Budget?***

One month after *Ondoy*'s onslaught, Congress, on 14 October 2009, passed Joint Resolution No. 5. This resolution authorized the use of unprogrammed funds in an amount not to exceed P12 billion for relief operations, rehabilitation, and reconstruction of areas affected.

The Unprogrammed Fund for 2009 was P75.9 billion. Of this amount, P23.5 billion constituted “Support to Infrastructure Projects and Social Programs” which covered relief, reconstruction, and rehabilitation activities.

One year since, the Department of Budget and Management has allocated P339.1 million to fund relief and rehabilitation efforts on the strength of this Joint Resolution. This is only 2.83% of the entire P12 billion that was authorized by Congress to be utilized. And I am basing it on the letter sent by Secretary Abad.

Is the loss of nearly 1,000 lives not enough to convince our NDCC-member agencies, particularly the DND, DSWD, DILG, DPWH and DBM, that action is long overdue?

### ***More Funding, But Where are the Results?***

As of September 25, twenty-seven (27) evacuation centers continue to exist in many barangays along the shores of the Laguna de Bay and several areas in Region IV-A, Region III, and Region I. These serve as “temporary homes” to 1,783 families or 9,271 people. DSWD estimates that 42% of them are children.

Funding came, but how could it be that one year after *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Santi*, we still have people living in evacuation centers?

We need not look far away. They are just in Antipolo, San Mateo, Angono, Pililia, among many other places, just 26 kilometers away from where we stand now. There are thousands more in Pampanga, Pangasinan, Zambales, and Benguet.

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Initial information gathered by my office indicates the following funding sources:

A total of US\$ 409.5 million worth of direct loans acquired from:

1. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for the Short-Term Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project;
2. Instituto de Credito Oficial & Deutsch Bank S.A.E. for a *Bridge Construction and Replacement Project*; and
3. The World Bank for Food Crisis Response Development Policy Operation and Supplemental Support for Post-Typhoon Recovery.

This is on top of the P14.8 billion that had been released to various departments in relation to emergency response, relief and rehabilitation efforts for *Ondoy* and *Pepeng*.

It is crucial to ask, "What have we done with the money so far?" In fact, we have an oversight committee set up by this Chamber. We have to find out whether the oversight committee has in fact been constituted and performed oversight function over these funds.

Initial reports indicate that since the change of administration, the Special National Public Reconstruction Commission (SNPRC), whose task, by virtue of Executive Order No. 838, was to oversee and raise funds for the rehabilitation of affected sectors, has yet to convene. We would like to know how this Commission, along with the Philippine Disaster Recovery Foundation as its private sector partner, has helped in the rehabilitation effort. We certainly hope to build on their initial gains. I have just read a press statement from the office of Manny Pangilinan, the head of the Philippine Disaster and Recovery Foundation, the private sector partner of the Philippine Commission which was created by an executive order and reamended, that they do not know who to talk to in government. As of now, three months into the new administration, the SNPRC has not convened.

An accounting of what we have done and what we have spent is in order. This is the very least we can do in honor of the people who, by their deaths during the onslaught of *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Santi*, would have hopefully issued a wake-up call for everyone.

#### ***Alarming Facts***

We recognize that funding is a major problem. But that problem is multiplied many times over if funding already available is not used in a timely manner.

What are the lessons we have learned?

Let me share the findings contained in the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Report produced by the International Organization for Migration and local government units. The Report presents a survey conducted from April to 31 May 2010 covering 31 evacuation centers in Region 4-A, Region 3, NCR, and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) which hosted 12,947 evacuees. The salient findings are as follows:

- 40% of the evacuation centers were found to be susceptible to climate hazards and risks or further flooding;
- 58% of the evacuees did not know of their government's relocation plans for them;
- 61% of the sites reported that they did not have electricity;
- 36% (4,771 people) of the total displaced population are accommodated in makeshift shelters, mostly in Region III.

Eight months after *Ondoy*, the situation of nearly 10,000 evacuees has not yet improved that leads me to my next question: "Are we prepared to face the next *Ondoy*?"

My office has been furnished by NDCC with a consolidated list of funding requests for rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts following typhoons *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Frank*.

The first list involved a funding request of P14 billion. These requests have been referred to SNPRC as of February 2010.

The second list totaled P10.8 billion. As in the first list, all of the requests were marked "pending with the Commission."

These requests involved funding for "early recovery and rehabilitation" projects of DSWD and reconstruction projects of DPWH. It is ironic that 12 months after *Ondoy*, the "early recovery" projects have yet to be funded.

#### ***Policies Wanting of Heightened Action***

Our policies are well in place for us to equip ourselves for the next disaster.

In October 2009, the Philippine Climate Change Act (Republic Act 9729) was enacted. No less that the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction observed that our climate change law is the most comprehensive and the most integrated legislation so far in Asia-Pacific.

In May 2010, the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act (Republic Act

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10121) was signed into law. Its primary task is to develop a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework and Plan.

Congress was not remiss in passing the joint resolution allocating funds for immediate rehabilitation and reconstruction of areas affected by *Ondoy* and *Pepeng*.

We can no longer deal with disasters and calamities on an *ad hoc* basis.

In carrying out our rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and our preparedness programs, we need to reckon with facts, figures, and expert advice and, if I may say, swift action.

Rehabilitation and reconstruction are necessary; but risk reduction is a must. Our disaster risk reduction and management system needs to be more proactive, coherent, and effective. The quality of scientific data available to government agencies and local government units for predicting and forecasting disasters requires urgent improvement. We therefore need to strengthen them.

Government needs to provide political leadership that will facilitate and synchronize efforts of government with those of nongovernment organizations, donors, and civil society.

Standing against the background of *Ondoy*, *Pepeng*, and *Santi*, we all know what we want. We want to be able to say: "We will be prepared the next time around."

This is not a matter of choice. This is a matter of survival.

## INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ZUBIRI

At the outset, Senator Zubiri manifested support for the advocacy of Senator Legarda to save the environment and to come up with climate change adaptation measures.

Like many others who suffered from the onslaught of Typhoon *Ondoy*, Senator Zubiri recalled that he was caught in the North Expressway on his way back to Manila from a sortie in Pampanga when Typhoon *Ondoy* struck and he had to walk for four hours in floodwaters to catch the MRT to go home to his family.

Asked by Senator Zubiri whether there was already an accounting of the P12 billion fund authorized by Congress under Joint Resolution No. 5, Senator Legarda bared that in his letter dated

September 24, 2010, DBM Secretary Florencio Abad indicated that the Unprogrammed Fund released since 2009 was only P339,143,000, the details of which were as follows: rehabilitation of farm-to-market-roads (FMRs) in Botolan, Zambales amounting to P39 million; channel rehabilitation of rivers in Tarlac; rehabilitation of eco-marsh in Camarines Sur; repair of road networks in Iloilo damaged by typhoon *Frank*; deepening of a river in Botolan, Zambales for P100 million; and flood control in Quirino. She said that the total amount of P339,142,000 thus far spent is only 2.7% of the P12 billion fund approved by Congress.

Senator Zubiri, however, noted that while some of the areas mentioned by Senator Legarda were badly hit by *Frank*, the others were not heavily damaged by *Ondoy*. In reply, Senator Legarda said that there releases from the Unprogrammed Funds – P339 million in 2009 and P3.5 billion in 2010 but they fell short of the P12 billion authorized by Congress.

Asked how the P3.5 billion released in 2010 was allocated, Senator Legarda replied that it is a lump-sum amount for the implementation of foreign-assisted projects and support for calamity-related projects and programs through the DPWH. She observed that apart from these amounts, there were other releases like the P100 million calamity fund in 2009; P249.651 million in 2010; and the P10.6 billion Malampaya Fund in 2009. She said that she was confused with these releases because all she knew was that Joint Resolution No. 5 authorized the DBM to release not more than P12 billion, but it has only release P300 million or 2.7% in 2009.

Senator Zubiri suggested that the details of these releases be discussed in the committee hearing. Reiterating what he said in an interview that morning, he asserted that the funds were not properly utilized which is definitely a cause of concern, and he feared that the country may not be prepared for another disaster in terms of long-term adaptation measures, for instance, there are no new drainage canals, no new floodways, no new infrastructures to prevent high floods from inundating Metro Manila.

In addition thereto, Senator Legarda noted that in a forum the previous Saturday, Chairman Francis Tolentino of the MMDA admitted that the cleaning up of the *esteros* of Metro Manila is a tough job because the waste has hardened throughout the years.



Senator Zubiri remarked that it is frustrating to know how unprepared the country is for calamities which are a common occurrence every year. He lamented that the government has not learned from its mistakes as it aimlessly pour funds into projects, hoping to correct the situation but gaining nothing from its efforts in the end. He manifested that in a show of support for the advocacy of Senator Legarda, he would also speak on the frustrations of the people over the inability of the government to protect them from disasters.

Further, Senator Zubiri expressed hope that the new administration with its vision of a *Tuwid na Daan* would be able to turn plans into concrete and detailed programs and projects. He stressed that something should be done now so that the next generation would not suffer the same fate.

#### INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

At the outset, Senator Sotto congratulated Senator Legarda for her very timely speech as the country commemorates the first anniversary of Typhoon *Ondoy* which submerged many parts of Luzon including Metro Manila.

Asked by Senator Sotto which government agencies requested funding for two projects amounting to P14 billion and P10.8 billion, respectively, that were still pending with the Special National Public Reconstruction Commission (SNPRC), Senator Legarda confirmed that funds were allocated. Although admittedly insufficient, she lamented that the released funds have not been properly accounted for, at least according to the communication of the DBM to her office. She stated that the DSWD requested P8.5 billion for the early recovery and rehabilitation projects to the SNPRC on February 2010; on the other hand, the DepEd requested P1.487 billion for the rehabilitation of school building facilities in Regions I, II, III, IV-A, IV-B, V and the NCR which was referred to the SNPRC on February 5, 2010; and P3.9 billion for the rehabilitation of Panay after Typhoon *Frank* in July 2008 which was referred back to the local governments of Western Visayas for prioritization. She noted that the SNPRC, which was mandated to take charge of the rehabilitation and reconstruction after Typhoons *Ondoy* and *Pepeng*, has not been convened and she did not even have an idea of who heads it, and that no less than Manny Pangilinan, the private sector counterpart of the head of the government commission, had

expressed exasperation that he did not know who to talk to in government.

Asked who heads the monitoring and evaluation team, Senator Legarda answered that it is a component of the SNPRC.

Senator Sotto disclosed that he has received information that the SNPRC, together with the Philippine Disaster Recovery Foundation (PDRF), a private body headed by Manny Pangilinan, has recommended the amount of US\$4.5 billion for recovery and reconstruction representing the short-to medium-term requirements. He said that the proposed amount was based on a study completed by the Post-Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) which was composed of local and international experts from the Philippine government, private sector, civil society, development partners like the Asian Development Bank, the United Nations and the World Bank.

Asked whether the requests for P14 billion and P10.8 billion were part of the US\$4.5 billion proposal of the PDRF, Senator Legarda said that she was not familiar with nor does she have any information on the US\$4.5 billion request, but she was aware that the PDRF has generated P80 million from the private sector for resettlement, civil works, reforestation and solid waste management. She lamented, however, that the PDRF officers do not know how to dispense the funds precisely because they do not know who to talk to in the government.

As to the accuracy of reports that the joint efforts of the SNPRC and the PDRF have generated almost US\$5 billion worth of rehabilitation and reconstruction funds, Senator Legarda asserted that if US\$5 billion had been collected, then the two entities could have helped identify the projects. She pointed out that the post-disaster needs assessment conducted by the World Bank, at the request of the Philippine government and in consultation with the LGUs and the national government agencies, claimed that there was a need to come up with P202 billion or US\$4.4 billion. She noted that only P300 million was released in 2009 from the P12 billion authorized by Joint Resolution No. 5 and only P3.5 billion in 2010 but these amounts do not represent even one-half of the P12 billion which, she said, put to waste the swift action done by the legislature to respond to the tragedy wrought by Typhoons *Ondoy* and *Pepeng*.

To the observation that one of the reasons why things were left undone was that too many agencies were involved in the undertaking, Senator Legarda answered that the reason is that the country is stuck, that there are resources and funds except that they were either misallocated or not allocated in a timely manner. In fact, she said that according to Secretary Abad, P14.828 billion was allocated from 2009 to 2010, P10 billion of which was from the Malampaya Fund that was disbursed in 2009.

Senator Sotto asked whether there were other assistance from foreign governments, citing, for instance, US\$440 million for emergency supplies from the Australian government and the US\$100 million loan package from the Japanese government. Senator Legarda affirmed that Australia gave emergency assistance totaling to US\$440 million for food, aid and emergency supplies. She pointed out that the people ought to know how that huge amount was spent and through which LGUs it was coursed. She noted, however, that the residents in affected areas in Laguna have not been able to get back on their feet just like the residents of certain affected areas in Pangasinan, Zambales, Bulacan, and Rizal.

As regards loan packages, Senator Legarda stated the letter of Secretary Abad refers to a list of national government post-*Ondoy* and *Pepeng* direct loans from the Department of Finance for short-term infrastructure amounting to P9.9 billion or US\$ 42 million which includes the P31 million allotted for bridge construction.

Senator Sotto expressed support for the call of Senator Legarda that the matter be looked into by the proper committees. He stated that based on reports he gathered, there were also loan packages from Japan worth US\$109 million, from World Bank worth US\$258, adding that the Office of the President was supposed to release P5.7 billion, on top of the P8.6 billion it released as of March 2010. He surmised that the funds were being monitored by the Reconstruction, Monitoring and Evaluation Team (RMET).

Asked by Senator Sotto who the head of the RMET was, Senator Legarda promised to find out in the committee hearing as she noted that the head of the SNPRC was the Secretary of Finance.

Senator Sotto noted that the Philippines also received donations from other foreign governments,

for instance, Australia gave US\$440 million to help in the rehabilitation of affected Metro Manila schools.

At this juncture, Senator Legarda appealed for help during the budget hearing, saying she wanted to know from the DBM where the funds and financial assistance were spent, noting that all the releases fell short of the P12 billion. She said that the DBM should account for the expenditures, adding that the reason it gave that "there was no turnover" was unacceptable. Also, she stated that she wanted to find out what the DOF has done, pointing out that the members of the SNPRC council include the Secretaries of Finance, the DSWD, the heads of the NDCC and the NHA. She stated that SNPRC council was supposed to consolidate the needs assessment done by the multilateral, international institutions and agencies. She lamented that thousands of victims of the typhoon still live in evacuation centers although billions in funds and loans were received by the government to precisely address their needs. She asked how the money was being spent, why the country was still stuck, and why services were not being delivered to the people.

#### **REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEES**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Legarda to the Committee on Climate Change and the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

#### **REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

The Secretary of the Senate read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

#### **RESOLUTIONS**

Senate Joint Resolution No. 6, entitled

**JOINT RESOLUTION CREATING A CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION TO REVIEW AND ASSESS PHILIPPINE EDUCATION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Angara

**To the Committee on Rules**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 206, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT 7170 OR THE STATUTE GOVERNING HUMAN ORGAN DONATION VIS-À-VIS THE REPORTED TRADING IN THE INTERNET AND INCREASING CASES OF HUMAN ORGAN TRAFFICKING

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 207, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNTRY'S ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS TO ENSURE ITS MEANINGFUL IMPLEMENTATION

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 208, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO IMPLEMENT AN EFFECTIVE MICHANISM TO PERMANENTLY CURB THE AVALANCHE OF DEFECTIVE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN THE MARKET WHEREIN THEIR USE CAUSE POTENTIAL HARM TO THE PROPERTY AND LIFE OF THE FILIPINO CONSUMERS

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Trade and Commerce**

## COMMUNICATIONS

Letters from the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), both dated 4 May 2010, submitting to the Senate the following:

Project Completion Reports (PCRs) of the Technical Education and Skills Development Project; and Centers of Excellence in Modern Manufacturing Technology Project (CEMMTP).

**To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development**

Letter from the Office of the Undersecretary of Migrant Workers' Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, dated 24 May 2010, submitting to the Senate a soft copy in CD of the Report to Congress on Assistance to Nationals for the period of July-December 2009, pursuant to Section 33 of Republic Act No. 8042 (Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995).

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Foreign Relations**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 31 May 2010, furnishing the Senate with a certified true copy of BSP Circular No. 688, s. of 2010, dated 26 May 2010, in compliance with Section 15 (a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (the New Central Bank Act).

**To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

Letter from the Office of the President of the Philippines, dated 4 June 2010, transmitting to the Senate the following Republic Acts which were approved and signed into law 3 June 2010 by former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo:

Republic Act No. 10123 (CREATING FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS IN THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT ALABEL, SARANGANI);

Republic Act No. 10124 (CHANGING THE NOMENCLATURE OF THE TONDO

16

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT LIBRARY IN TAYUMAN, TONDO, MANILA INTRO SENTRO NG KARUNUNGAN LIBRARY);

Republic Act No. 10125 (SEPARATING THE LALA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LOURDES ANNEX IN LOURDES, PAGADIAN CITY, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR FROM THE LALA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LOURDES NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10126 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN SALACOT, SAN MIGUEL, BULACAN TO BE KNOWN AS VEDASTO R. SANTIAGO HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10127 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN SAN MATEO, NORZAGARAY, BULACAN TO BE KNOWN AS JULIAN B. SUMBILLO HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10128 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN ALLIG, FLORA, APAYAO TO BE KNOWN AS ALLIG NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10129 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN SAN FRANCISCO, LUNA, APAYAO TO BE KNOWN AS SAN FRANCISCO NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10130 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN SWAN, PUDTOL, APAYAO TO BE KNOWN AS SWAN NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10131 (SEPARATING THE ANTIPOLLO NATIONAL HIGH

SCHOOL – SAPINIT ANNEX IN SAN JUAN, ANTIPOLLO FROM THE ANTIPOLLO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SAN JUAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10132 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION TO BE KNOWN AS SAN FERNANDO CITY NATIONAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10133 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN LUNA, LA UNION TO BE KNOWN AS LUNA NATIONAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10134 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN LOCUBAN, DUMALINO, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR TO BE KNOWN AS LOCUBAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10135 (ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN TINA, DUMALINAO, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR TO BE KNOWN AS TINA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL);

Republic Act No. 10136 (CONVERTING THE PINAN–MUTIA PROVINCIAL ROAD IN ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD);

Republic Act No. 10137 (CONVERTING THE RAWIS–TALISAY PROVINCIAL ROAD IN NORTHERN SAMAR INTO A NATIONAL ROAD);

Republic Act No. 10138 (CONVERTING SHOE AVENUE IN SAN ROQUE, STA. ELENA AND STO. NINO, CITY OF MARIKINA INTO A NATIONAL ROAD);

*pb*

Republic Act No. 10139 (CONVERTING THE CONGRESSIONAL ROAD IN NORTH CALOOCAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD);

Republic Act No. 10140 (CONVERTING THE BACOLOD-MADALUM HIGHWAY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD); and

Republic Act No. 10141 (CONVERTING THE STA. CATALINA-PAMPLONA-TANJAY CITY PROVINCIAL ROAD IN NEGROS ORIENTAL INTO A NATIONAL ROAD).

**To the Archives**

#### **ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

##### **BILLS ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 2451, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF INTERNET AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS PHISHING, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Science and Technology; and Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 2452, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN PHILIPPINE COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS PROMOTION AND PROTECTION BY ESTABLISHING HUMAN RIGHTS RESOURCE CENTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 2453, entitled

AN ACT TO IMPROVE SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION BY INSTITUTIONALIZING RESCUE

INITIATIVES IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS (RISMETS) PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Science and Technology; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2454, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE A SIX-HOUR WORKDAY FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, EXEMPTING THEM FROM COMPLIANCE WITH THE EIGHT-HOUR WORKDAY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Civil Service and Government Reorganization**

Senate Bill No. 2455, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY IN THE COUNTRY ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 2456, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A TEN-YEAR LUNETA PARK GREEN MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2457, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS AMONG GOVERNMENT

MS

EMPLOYEES FOR AN INNOVATION-INSPIRED CORPS OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND A PRODUCTIVE POST-SERVICE CITIZENRY

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization**

Senate Bill No. 2458, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE USE OF GOVERNMENT AMBULANCES, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Civil Service and Government Reorganization**

Senate Bill No. 2459, entitled

AN ACT TO PREVENT AND PUNISH DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL AND/OR DRUGS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 2460, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF TAX INCENTIVES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND CORPORATIONS THAT ENGAGE IN THE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND PRODUCTION OF ELECTRONIC PUBLIC TRANSPORT VEHICLES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Climate Change**

Senate Bill No. 2461, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE REGULAR MAINTENANCE AND PRESERVATION OF ALL PUBLIC INFRA-

STRUCTURES, ESTABLISHING MECHANISMS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Public Works**

Senate Bill No. 2462, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 97 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 2464, entitled

AN ACT CREATING NATIONAL GERIATRIC HEALTH CENTRE AND GERONTOLOGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2465, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, BOOK 3, TITLE 5, ARTICLE 13, SECTION 483, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committee on Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 2466, entitled

AN ACT IDENTIFYING AND PROMOTING RESEARCH ON HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF BREAST IMPLANTS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance**

*ps*

Senate Bill No. 2467, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TEACHER CORPS PROGRAM IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THE TEACHING PROFESSION

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2468, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO EARMARK A PORTION OF THEIR INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENTS FOR FREE MEDICINES TO INDIGENT PATIENTS IN THEIR LOCALITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Local Government; Health and Demography; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 2469, entitled

AN ACT TO PROTECT, PROMOTE AND SUPPORT PROPER INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING BY REGULATING THE MARKETING OF CERTAIN FOODS FOR INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 2470, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT SEVENTY NINE FORTY-ONE (R.A. 7941), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PARTY LIST SYSTEM ACT

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 2471, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CABANGAHAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL—CORDOVA ANNEX IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CORDOVA, PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM THE CABANGAHAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CORDOVA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Angara

**To the Committee on Rules**

Senate Bill No. 2472, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE CONCEPCION VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CONCEPCION, PROVINCE OF TARLAC, INTO A POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE CONCEPCION POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Angara

**To the Committee on Rules**

Senate Bill No. 2473, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CREDIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2474, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE TAX ON WINNINGS AND DOCUMENTARY STAMP TAX ON HORSE RACING,

*PS*

AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 126 AND 190 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8407, AND SECTIONS 8 AND 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7953

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 2478, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES MECHANIZATION DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRY

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Science and Technology; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2481, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MECHANISM FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF THE ISLAND OF BORACAY, MUNICIPALITY OF MALAY, PROVINCE OF AKLAN, DEFINING FOR THE PURPOSE THE MODE OF ACQUISITION FOR CERTAIN PARCELS OF ITS PUBLIC DOMAIN CLASSIFIED AS AGRICULTURAL LAND OPEN TO DISPOSITION UNDER PROCLAMATION NO. 1064 AND PROVIDING ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Drilon

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 2482, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A DEPARTMENT OF PEACE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Peace, Unification and Reconciliation; Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2483, entitled

AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING SECTION TWELVE (12) OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1869 AS AMENDED AND ALLOCATING A PORTION OF THE FUNDS GENERATED BY THE

*MS*

Senate Bill No. 2475, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN PHILIPPINE COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS PROMOTION AND PROTECTION BY ESTABLISHING HUMAN RIGHTS RESOURCE CENTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 2476, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHTY-FOUR HUNDRED NINETY-TWO, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT OF 1998

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 2477, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE ISLAND OF MALAPASCUA, PROVINCE OF CEBU AS AN ECO-TOURISM DESTINATION OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Tourism; and Finance**



PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENTS AND  
GAMING CORPORATION TO STATE  
RUN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES  
AS FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 2484, entitled

AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACT OF 2001," AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Osmeña III

**To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 2485, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL GRAPHIC NOVEL ARCHIVE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Public Information and Mass Media; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2487, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8293 ENTITLED AN ACT PRESCRIBING THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CODE AND ESTABLISHING THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE, PROVIDING FOR ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 2488, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE SYSTEM, CREATING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE COUNCIL UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Youth, Women and Family Relations**

Senate Bill No. 2489, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC GEOPHYSICAL AND ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committees on Science and Technology; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2490, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE WAIVER OF THE RETIREMENT AGE REQUIREMENT OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE RENDERED AT LEAST TWENTY YEARS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1146 AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997

*Handwritten initials and date:*  
10/20

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Civil Service and Government Reorganization**

Senate Bill No. 2491, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING TAXI DRIVERS TO GIVE EXACT CHANGE TO THEIR PASSENGERS, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 2492, entitled

AN ACT GOVERNING CREDIT CARD AND OTHER ACCESS DEVICE TRANSACTIONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 2493, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE CONCEPCION DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CONCEPCION, PROVINCE OF TARLAC FROM FIFTY (50) TO ONE HUNDRED (100) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committee on Rules**

Senate Bill No. 2494, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING POOR LITIGANTS WHO ARE FILIPINO CITIZENS FROM POSTING BAIL WHEN CHARGED FOR THE FIRST TIME WITH A FELONY OR A CRIME IN WHICH THE LAW ATTACHES AN

IMPRISONMENT OF NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) YEARS AND BE RELEASED ON RECOGNIZANCE

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 2495, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM IN CULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS COMUNITIES BY INSTITUTIONALIZING THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF TRIBAL HEALTH WORKERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Cultural Communities**

Senate Bill No. 2496, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA OF THE POOR

Introduced by Senator Cayetano (P)

**To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Ways and Means; and Finance**

**COAUTHOR**

Upon their requests, Senators Sotto and Ejercito Estrada were made coauthor of Senate Bill 2497.

Senate Bill No. 2497, entitled

AN ACT TO UPHOLD THE HUMAN RIGHTS AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF THE UNBORN CHILD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 256, 257, 258 AND 259 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Enrile

*ms* <sup>110</sup>

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 2498, entitled

AN ACT CREATING AN ADVANCED STUDIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR EXCEPTIONAL EMPLOYEES FROM THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2499, entitled

AN ACT LIMITING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEES BY-PASSED BY THE COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 2500, entitled

AN ACT REVISING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 612, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE INSURANCE CODE, AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NOS. 1141, 1280, 1455, 1460, 1814 AND 1981, AND BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 874, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Osmeña III

**To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

**SECOND ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTIONS**

Senate Joint Resolution No. 7, entitled

JOINT RESOLUTION DECLARING

OCTOBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR AS A NATIONAL SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY TO COMMEMORATE THE DI A DEL GALEO2 N

Introduced by Senator Angara

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 209, entitled

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO BOXER DENVER "THE EXCITEMENT" CUELLO FOR SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDING HIS WBC INTERNATIONAL MINIMUM WEIGHT TITLE FROM INDONESIAN BOXER MUHAMMAD RACHMAN AT ILIGAN CITY, PHILIPPINES ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2010

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committee on Rules**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 1 June 2010, furnishing the Senate with a certified true copy of BSP Circular No. 687, s. of 2010, dated 21 May 2010, in compliance with Section 15 (a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (The New Central Bank Act).

**To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

Letter from the Office of the Ombudsman, dated 18 June 2010, reporting to the Senate how the Confidential and Intelligence Funds (CIF) of this Office for FY 2010 in the amount of P7.5M were utilized, in compliance with Section 22, General Provisions of Republic Act No. 9970 (The 2010 General Appropriations Act).

**To the Committee on Finance**

Letter from the Office of the President of the Philippines, dated 25 June 2010, transmitting to the Senate two (2) copies of Joint Resolution No. 7, entitled

MP

JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING (COMSTE) UNTIL THE END OF THE FIFTEENTH CONGRESS,

which was approved and signed into law on 22 June 2010 by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

**To the Archives**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 28 June 2010, submitting to the Senate data on outstanding Philippine external debt as of 31 March 2010 which were noted by the Monetary Board on 25 June 2010.

**To the Committees on Finance; and Economic Affairs**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 28 June 2010, submitting to the Senate the Report on Economic and Financial Development in the Philippines, First Quarter 2010, pursuant to Section 39 (a), Chapter I, Article V of Republic Act No. 7653 (The New Central Bank Act).

**To the Committees on Finance; and Economic Affairs**

Letter from the National Economic and Development Authority, dated 28 June 2010, submitting to the Senate the NEDA Secretariat's Report on the 2009 Annual ODA Portfolio Review which covers ongoing ODA-funded loans and grants of the Philippine Government active from 1 January to 31 December 2009, pursuant to Republic Act No. 8182 (ODA Act of 1996).

**To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and Finance**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 29 June 2010, furnishing the Senate with a certified true copy of BSP Circular No. 689, s. of 2010, dated 16 2010, in compliance with Section 15 (a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (the New Central Bank Act).

**To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

Letter from the Philippine Collectivemedia Corporation, dated 30 June 2010, submitting to the Senate the Corporation's annual report as of 31 December 2009.

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 2 July 2010, furnishing the Senate with a certified true copies of BSP Circular Nos. 690 and 691, s. of 2010, both dated 23 June 2010, in compliance with Section 15 (a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (The New Central Bank Act).

**To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

Letter from the Office of the President of the Philippines, dated 5 July 2010, transmitting to the Senate a certified copy of Executive Order No. 910, dated 29 June 2010, entitled: DIRECTING THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION UNDER THE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY OF THE PHILIPPINES AN ACCREDITATION AND EQUIVALENCY PROGRAM TOWARDS GRADUATE DEGREE FOR MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT-ORIENTED TRAINING AND RELATED COURSES CONDUCTED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND OTHER PUBLIC AND INTERESTED PRIVATE TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, SETTING GENERAL GUIDELINES, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

**To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance**

Letter from the Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs, dated 20 July 2010, transmitting to the Senate the soft copy of the Report to Congress for the period covering January to June 2009.

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Foreign Relations**

Letter from the Office of the President of the Philippines, dated 21 July 2010, transmitting to the Senate two original copies of Republic Act No. 10142, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION OR LIQUIDATION

*MD*

OF FINANCIALLY DISTRESSED  
ENTERPRISES AND INDIVIDUALS,

which lapsed into law on 18 July 2010.

**To the Archives**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 29 July 2010, submitting to the Senate the Report on Foreign Loans Approved in the Second Quarter of 2010, pursuant to Article VII, Section 20 of the 1987 Constitution.

**To the Committees on Finance; and Economic Affairs**

Letter from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, dated 30 July 2010, furnishing the Senate a certified true copy of BSP Circular No. 692, s. of 2010, dated 23 June 2010, in compliance with Section 15 (a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (The New Central Bank Act).

**To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

**COAUTHOR**


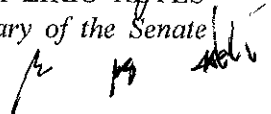
Upon his request, Senator Escudero was made coauthor of Senate Bill Nos. 2159 and 1836.

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Senate President Pro Tempore declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the of the following day.

*It was 4:45 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
EMMA LIRIO REYES  
Secretary of the Senate  


Approved on September 28, 2010