



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 63**  
Tuesday, February 15, 2011

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

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Tuesday, February 15, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:43 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Juan Ponce Enrile, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

The Body observed a minute of silent prayer.

**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:

Arroyo, J. P.	Honasan, G. B.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Lapid, M. L. M.
Cayetano, P. S.	Legarda, L.
Defensor Santiago, M.	Osmeña III, S. R.
Drilon, F. M.	Pangilinan, F. N.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Sotto III, V. C.
Enrile, J. P.	Villar, M.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Zubiri, J. M. F.

With 16 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Guingona, Recto and Trillanes arrived after the roll call.

Senator Angara was on official mission.

Senator Marcos was absent on account of sickness.

Senators Lacson and Revilla were absent.

**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. 62 (February 14, 2011) and considered it approved.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of students from the University of the Philippines-Los Baños, Don Bosco Academy (Pampanga), University of Makati, De La Salle University and Assumption College.

*At this juncture, Senate President Enrile relinquished the Chair to Senate President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada.*

Senate President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada welcomed the guests to the Senate.

**REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

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

**MESSAGE FROM THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Letter from the Secretary General of the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 9 February 2011, the House of Representatives passed the following House bills/House joint

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resolution in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate:

House Bill No. 229, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BURIAL ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS FROM TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) TO TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000.00), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6948, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT STANDARDIZING AND UPGRADING THE BENEFITS FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

**To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Finance**

House Bill No. 724, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN AN OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PRESCRIBING ITS FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**To the Committees on National Defense and Security; Foreign Relations; and Finance**

House Bill No. 3862, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO ENSURE THE RELEASE OF THE RETIREMENT BENEFITS OF ITS EMPLOYEES WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM RETIREMENT

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

House Bill No. 3284, entitled

AN ACT ADDING TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF VILLANUEVA

AND TAGOLOAN IN MISAMIS ORIENTAL AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 538, CREATING THE PHIVIDEC INDUSTRIAL AUTHORITY AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1031

**To the Committee on Local Government**

and House Joint Resolution No. 14, entitled

JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL POWER COMMISSION, CONSTITUTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 62 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9136, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ELECTRIC POWER INDUSTRY REFORM ACT OF 2001

**To the Committees on Energy; and Public Services**

**BILLS ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 2689, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REGIONALIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PAYROLL SERVICES DIVISION AND PROVIDING FOR FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 2690, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SAFETY COLLEGE SYSTEM AS THE PREMIER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR TRAINING, HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION OF ALL POLICE, FIRE AND JAIL PERSONNEL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2691, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491 ENTITLED, "AN ACT PRESCRIBING THE CODE OF THE NATIONAL FLAG, ANTHEM, MOTTO, COAT-OF-ARMS AND OTHER HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES OF THE PHILIPPINES," OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 2692, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING JULY 7 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF CARCAR, PROVINCE OF CEBU TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF CARCAR CHARTER DAY

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committee on Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 2693, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 5 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF NAGA, PROVINCE OF CEBU TO BE KNOWN AS THE CHARTER DAY OF THE CITY OF NAGA

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committee on Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 2694, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COURT TO REQUIRE COMMUNITY SERVICE

IN LIEU OF IMPRISONMENT FOR THE PENALTY OF *ARRESTO MENOR*, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTER FIVE, TITLE THREE, BOOK ONE OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 2695, entitled

AN ACT ADJUSTING THE RATE OF SUBSIDIARY IMPRISONMENT TO ONE DAY FOR AN AMOUNT EQUIVALENT TO THE DAILY MINIMUM WAGE OF A LABORER IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 39 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 2696, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, SUPERVISION AND REGULATION OF THE PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE PROFESSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 2697, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE IMPORTATION, SELLING AND DISTRIBUTION OF "BOTCHA" OR MEAT

WITH FOOD AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) VIRUS OR ANY ILL-QUARANTINED MEAT OR MEAT PRODUCTS AS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9296 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE MEAT INSPECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Agriculture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 2698, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE NEGROS STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE (NSCA) IN THE CITY OF KABANKALAN, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CENTRAL PHILIPPINE STATE UNIVERSITY (CPSU) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Rules**

Senate Bill No. 2699, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos Jr.

**To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; Civil Service and Government Reorganization; Ways and Means; and Finance**

## RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 379, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS TO LOOK INTO THE REMEDIAL MEASURES TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN

AFFAIRS (DFA) IN PROTECTING THE WELFARE AND INTERESTS OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFW) IN TAIWAN AND FILIPINOS WHO ARE SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN THE SAID COUNTRY, IN THE LIGHT OF THE REPORTED STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AND TAIWAN OVER THE DEPORTATION OF TAIWAN NATIONALS TO CHINA

Introduced by Senator Marcos Jr.

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 380, entitled

RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE LATE QUINTIN B. PAREDES, STATESMAN, WHO SERVED THE FILIPINO NATION WITH DISTINCTION AND WHO CHAMPIONED THE INTERNATIONAL CAUSE FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES FOREMOST OF WHICH IS THE INHERENT RIGHT OF EVERY MAN TO FREEDOM, LIFE AND THE PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS, URGING THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL INSTITUTE TO DECLARE HIS BIRTHPLACE IN BANGUED, ABRA AS A HISTORICAL SITE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 381, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS; AGRICULTURE AND FOOD; ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES; AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO STUDY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE FEASIBILITY OF EACH CITY ESTABLISHING ITS OWN CITY GARDEN AND PROMOTING THAT A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF IDLE

**BUILDING SPACES AND ROOFTOPS  
LOCATED WITHIN ITS JURISDIC-  
TION BE APPORTIONED TO  
URBAN FARMING**

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and  
Food; and Local Government**

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 15  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2640**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2640 (Committee Report No. 15), entitled

**AN ACT TO PROMOTE FINANCIAL  
VIABILITY AND FISCAL DISCIPLINE  
IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR  
CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS  
AND TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE  
OF THE STATE IN ITS GOVERN-  
ANCE AND MANAGEMENT TO MAKE  
THEM MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE  
NEEDS OF PUBLIC INTEREST AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Senator Sotto stated that the parliamentary status was still the period of interpellations.

The Chair recognized Senator Drilon, Sponsor of the measure.

**MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR DRILON**

Senator Drilon said that Senator Angara has withdrawn his reservation to interpellate on the measure and would instead submit his amendments thereto at the proper time.

Senator Sotto stated that consideration of the measure would resume next week with Senators Arroyo and Osmeña scheduled to interpellate thereon.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF SENATE BILL NO. 2640**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of Senate Bill No. 2640.

**MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO**

Senator Sotto announced that consideration of Senate Bill No. 2671 (Career Executive Service Act of 2011) would likewise be deferred since Senator Trillanes would be arriving late for the session. He said that the period of individual amendments would commence in the next day's session, at which time Senators Drilon and Defensor Santiago, in that order, would be introducing their amendments.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

*It was 3:56 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:13 p.m., the session was resumed with Senator Zubiri presiding.

**PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 350**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 350, entitled

**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE  
OF THE SENATE CONGRATULAT-  
ING THE PONTIFICAL AND ROYAL  
UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS,  
THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
OF THE PHILIPPINES ON ITS  
QUADRICENTENNIAL YEAR OF  
EDUCATING THE YOUTH, TRANS-  
FORMING THEM INTO COMPE-  
TENT AND COMPASSIONATE  
FILIPINOS IN THE SERVICE OF  
GOD AND COUNTRY.**

**COAUTHORS**

Senator Sotto manifested that Senators Arroyo and Zubiri are coauthors of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 350 which was principally authored by Senator Villar.

**SPONSORSHIP REMARKS  
OF SENATOR ARROYO**

Senator Arroyo welcomed the introduction of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 350, as he pointed out the fact that the University of Santo Tomas.

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which was founded in 1611, is older than the two greatest universities in the United States, namely, Harvard University and Yale University. He also cited the transmogrification of the university from the status of "Royal University" to a Pontifical University, and later bestowed the title "The Catholic University of the Philippines."

Senator Arroyo noted that the alumni of the University of Santo Tomas boast of past presidents like Presidents Manuel Quezon and Sergio Osmeña, first chief justices and senior justices of the Supreme Court. Further, he said that the university hosted American internists who were interned during the Japanese occupation. In view thereof, he believed that it was only fitting and proper that the Senate join in the celebration of the university's quadri-centennial year.

**ADOPTION OF PROPOSED  
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 350**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 350 was adopted by the Body, subject to style.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

*It was 4:18 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**


At 4:39 p.m., the session was resumed with Senate President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada presiding.

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

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

*It was 4:39 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
EMMA LIRIO-REYES  
Secretary of the Senate

Approved on February 16, 2011