



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 66**  
Tuesday, February 22, 2011

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

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Tuesday, February 22, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:32 p.m., the Senate President Pro Tempore, Hon. Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

Sen. Pia S. Cayetano led the prayer, to wit:

*Let us put ourselves in the presence of the Lord:*

Our Father in heaven,

We come to You in humility and ask that You guide us in our work.

Allow us to open our minds and give us the humility to accept views that are different from ours.

Provide us with the resources we need to make informed decisions.

Give us the courage to make the right choices, always cognizant of the needs of the poorest sector of our society.

All this we pray in Jesus' mighty Name.

Amen.

**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.	Honasan, G. B.
Arroyo, J. P.	Lapid, M. L. M.
Cayetano, P. S.	Marcos Jr., F. R.
Defensor Santiago, M.	Recto, R. G.
Drilon, F. M.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Sotto III, V. C.
Guingona III, T. L.	

With 13 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Escudero, Osmeña, Trillanes and Zubiri arrived after the roll call.

Senate President Enrile, who was on official mission, also arrived after the roll call.

Senators Cayetano (A), Legarda and Villar were on official mission.

Senator Pangilinan was on official mission abroad.

Senator Lacson was absent.

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## DEFERMENT OF APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Acting on Senator Arroyo's request, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body deferred the consideration and approval of the Journal of Session No. 65 (February 21, 2011).

## REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Executive Director for Legislation, Atty. Renato N. Bantug, Jr., read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

### BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 2708, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING URBAN  
FARMING AND PROVIDING  
FUNDS AND INCENTIVES  
THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and  
Food; Local Government; Ways and Means;  
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 2709, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE USE OF  
MOBILE PHONE WHILE DRIVING,  
PROVIDING PENALTIES IN  
VIOLATION THEREOF AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Public Services**

### RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 392, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,  
THE NATIONAL COMMISSION  
FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS  
AND THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS  
COMMISSION TO IMMEDIATELY  
PROMULGATE THE IMPLEMENT-

ING RULES AND REGULATIONS  
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9850  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ARNIS  
LAW

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and  
Culture; and Games, Amusement and Sports**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 393, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
AND FOOD TO LOOK INTO THE  
PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES OF  
THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY  
THAT IMPACT ON THE SUPPLY  
OF RICE OF THE COUNTRY VIS-À-VIS  
THE GOAL OF THE PHILIPPINES IN  
ATTAINING COMPLETE SELF-SUFFICIENCY  
OF RICE BY 2013

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committee on Agriculture and Food**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 394, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO  
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID  
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE  
GOVERNMENT'S ABILITY TO  
ADDRESS THE SUDDEN INCREASE  
OF THE PRICES OF FOODS AND  
OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Agriculture and  
Food; and Trade and Commerce**

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests:

- \* Students from Central Bukidnon Institute, Valencia City, Bukidnon;

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- \* Fourth-year students of Don Bosco Academy, Pampanga;
- \* Bachelor of Secondary Education students from the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila; and
- \* Master in Public Management students from the Samar State University.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 16  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2671  
(Continuation)**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2671 (Committee Report No. 16), entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE  
CAREER EXECUTIVE SYSTEM.**

Senator Sotto stated that the parliamentary status was the period of individual amendments. He informed the Body that clean copies of the bill, as of February 21, 2011, had been distributed to the Members.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Trillanes, Sponsor of the measure.

**DEFENSOR SANTIAGO AMENDMENTS**

On page 1, line 13, Section 3, between the words "service" and "which," as proposed by Senator Defensor Santiago and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the insertion of the following: IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT ALL OF WHOM SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT AND THOSE OCCUPYING POSITIONS ABOVE DIVISION CHIEF LEVEL BUT ARE NOT APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT.

Senator Defensor Santiago believed that Section 3 should succinctly state the coverage of the Career Executive System. She stated that the CES was created pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 1 which adopted the Integrated Reorganization Plan,

dated September 24, 1972, "to form a continuing pool of well-selected and development-oriented career administrators who shall provide competent and faithful service." She adverted to Section 7(3), Chapter 2, Subtitle A, Title 1, Book V of the Administrative Code of 1987 which provides for positions in the Career Executive Service and ends with the phrase "all of whom are appointed by the President."

On the other hand, Senator Defensor Santiago stated that the Administrative Code, Section 8, Chapter 2 provides that classes of positions in the Career Service shall be grouped into three major levels, namely: first, second and third. She expressed concern that the definitions of the second and third levels could give rise to confusion.

To illustrate, she noted that the Supreme Court has ruled that the CES is limited to presidential appointees; hence, other positions in the career service, even those equivalent to the rank of undersecretary, assistant secretary, etc., belong to the second level. Also in the case of *CSC vs. Court of Appeals and PCSO*, dated November 23, 2010, she stated that the Supreme Court ruled that the CES covers presidential appointees only. However, she pointed out that a careful reading of what constitutes the second level would show that it is limited to division chiefs. This, she surmised, was the reason why, in several instances, the SC ruled that higher level positions, as enumerated by the law, require possession of third-level eligibility and CES rank in order to obtain security of tenure.

She cautioned the Body that if the CES is limited only to presidential appointees, it might give rise to an absurd situation where there are positions not covered by the second level but, at the same time, not covered by the third level, and she referred to executive positions that are above division chief level but not appointed by the President. Thus, she stated that non-presidential appointees to executive positions might be considered in limbo or in a state of legislative neglect. She opined that if a particular executive must first be appointed by the President, it would create a vacuum in positions performing managerial and executive function.

As regards Section 6 on page 3, Senator Defensor Santiago stated that the Constitution provides that the Civil Service Commission shall be

the central personnel agency of the government and nothing more. She said that unlike the 1973 Constitution, the 1987 Constitution no longer has the provision "subject to such limitation as may be provided by law." She noted that in *Eugenio vs. CSC*, the Supreme Court ruled that only Congress can create and abolish an office. And she clarified that the *ratio decidendi* in the *Eugenio* case which is often cited by those in favor of virtual independence for the CESB is not the *ratio decidendi* in the case at hand. She underscored that Congress can decide whatever it wants to do with the CESB.

Senator Defensor Santiago rejected the suggestion of certain experts in public administration that the CESB should not be under the control and supervision of the CSC, because the Supreme Court decision did not deal with the issue. She also described as not convincing the argument advanced by advocates of an autonomous CESB that the CSC would still have the power to revoke and nullify policies or acts of the CESB pursuant to the "policy and program coordination function and the constitutional mandate of being the government central personnel agency." She maintained that the CSC's power of policy and program coordination does not necessarily mean control and supervision over the CESB. However, she opined that if the phrase "control and supervision" was used, it would make the Board almost inhibited in its power to control a certain corps of special officers. She reminded the Body that if there is accountability, there should be autonomy.

Senator Defensor Santiago stressed that the grant to the CESB of the power to administer a third level should not be viewed as a derogation of the powers of the CSC as a central personnel agency of the government, but rather it must be viewed as a recognition by policy-makers of the gargantuan task of administering the entire human resources of government and that the CSC requires all the help it can muster. She stressed that Congress should look at the CESB as part of the CSC, and that it should not abolish it because civil service is so vast that it should welcome and not be hostile to the CESB.

As regards the exercise of direct control and supervision of the CESB, Senator Defensor Santiago explained that "control" means the power to alter, modify, nullify or set aside any decision of a

subordinate; while "supervision" is just to make sure that the job is properly done. She believed that the original version of the bill, along with its committee amendments, which provides that before the CESB could do anything, it has to seek the approval of the CSC, would give the Commission even more work than it already has, and, in effect, the CSC would be acting as the CESB itself.

Senator Defensor Santiago suggested that instead of requiring prior approval, the Commission ought to have the power to review, reverse and modify *motu proprio*, or upon appeal, any acts by the CESB within a certain period of time. This way, she said, the Board would maintain its autonomy and clarify its primary jurisdiction on matters concerning the CES. She then proposed, subject to style, that the primary jurisdiction of the CES be given to the Board, with the power to decide on appeals vested in the CSC.

Senator Trillanes stated that he would submit the proposed amendment to the Committee for further study in light of the inputs raised by Senator Drilon during the period of interpellations.

On page 5, Senator Defensor Santiago proposed the insertion of a new Section 20 to read as follows:

SEC. 20. CREATION OF A CESB AND A CES EVALUATION BODY. – AFTER THE FIRST THREE (3) YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT, AND EVERY THREE (3) YEARS THEREAFTER, THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION SHALL CONVENE AN EVALUATION BODY THAT WILL CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF THE BOARD AND OCES, IN ORDER TO ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CESB IN MANAGING THE CAREER EXECUTIVE SYSTEM. THE BODY SHALL BE COMPOSED OF NO LESS THAN THREE (3) HEADS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS WHOSE WORK IS RELATED TO EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LIKE THE PHILIPPINES. AT LEAST, TWO (2) OF THEM SHALL COME FROM NONGOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS OR NGOs.

IN MAKING THEIR EVALUATION REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS, THE EVALUATION BODY SHALL CONDUCT PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS AND INDICATE IN THE SAID REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH PORTIONS HAVE BEEN THE RESULT OF THE SAID PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS.

THE EVALUATION BODY SHALL SUBMIT ITS REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OR CES, CSC AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES IN CONGRESS.

Explaining the rationale of her proposal, Senator Defensor Santiago said that in her reading of the Constitution, the Career Executive Service Board cannot claim, as a matter of legal right or privilege, autonomy from the Commission but there should also be accountability on its part.

She stated that the systems and processes in the Career Executive Service are directly and exclusively managed by the CESB and its implementing arm, the OCES, therefore, there must be a mechanism for evaluating the effectiveness of the CESB in managing the career executive system to determine, for example, if its recruitment systems are working; if the questions asked in examinations are appropriate and relevant for the career executive at a given time; or if sufficient protection is given to the career executive whenever there are changes in administration. She said that these example questions are a few of the concerns that can be addressed if the effectiveness of the CESB and OCES is assessed periodically to complement the assessment of the individual career service.

Further, Senator Defensor Santiago explained that the evaluation body will also serve as a mechanism for public participation which is essential in modern governance and crucial to the functioning of a truly democratic system of government. She pointed out that citizens are presently involved in government processes from planning to accountability, for example, citizens' participation is accelerating in the area of public finance, especially budgeting. Through this mechanism, she stated that civil society can give a feedback on the performance or lack of it of career executives, the effectiveness of the recruitment procedures, training programs and

assessment practices and so on; and it might even want to critique or contribute to policy.

She stated that due to the concentration of powers in the CESB, there is always a danger that it can become a closed system, so that an evaluation body will help make it responsive to changing times, changing demands and changing expectations from the public with regard to senior civil servants.

In response, Senator Trillanes said that the proposals of Senator Defensor Santiago and the other senators will be studied further by the Committee.

On page 8, as proposed by Senator Defensor Santiago and accepted by Senator Trillanes, there being no objection, the Body approved the insertion of a new Section 21, to read as follows:

SEC. 21. *APPROPRIATIONS.* – TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, SUCH AMOUNTS AS MAYBE NECESSARY IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BE APPROPRIATED FROM THE NATIONAL TREASURY. THEREAFTER, SUCH AMOUNT NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION AS A SEPARATE ITEM UNDER THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.

Explaining the rationale of her amendment, Senator Defensor Santiago observed that Article III, Section 11 touches on the compensation of the CESOs which will be developed and periodically reviewed by the CESB, the Civil Service Commission and the DBM; however, there is no mention of the CESB budget itself and other sources of funds. She then asked what the sources of funds of CESB would be, whether the CESB will solely rely on the budget appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, or whether the CESB would have other sources of income such as fees that can be charged for entrance examination, assessment programs, capacity-building programs and other activities.

In conclusion, Senator Defensor Santiago said that the bill is a step in the right direction; it seeks to encourage the recruitment, selection, training and

evaluation of career executives under policies and standards exclusively reposed in the CESB. She believed that the steps undertaken to enhance its autonomy and protect career executives are laudable. She stated while the bill covers only national government agencies because of the extremely limited resources at this time, it must be understood that the scale and operations of large local government units are even larger and more complex than those of small national government agencies. She opined that Congress could look into the possibility of a career executive system for large local government units.

Senator Trillanes thanked Senator Defensor Santiago for her inputs.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR DRILON**

Given the suggestions and amendments of Senator Defensor Santiago, Senator Drilon suggested that Senator Trillanes take a good look at the definition and the power of the Career Executive Service Board. He cited the Senate President's observation that the powers of the CESB on lines 11 to 13 of page 2 of the bill would show that the Board refers to the policy-making body responsible for the development, maintenance and administration of the Career Executive System. Given the position of a number of senators that indeed, under the 1987 Constitution, the Civil Service Commission has plenary powers over the entire career executive service, he stated that the provision on the powers of the CESB must be reviewed carefully so that it does not conflict with the other amendments that Senator Trillanes may propose as a result of the various views expressed on the floor.

Senator Trillanes gave assurance that the Committee would study said provision.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 2671**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL OF SESSION NO. 65 AS CORRECTED**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 65 (February 21, 2011) and considered it approved, subject to the correction of Senator Cayetano (P), as modified by Senator

Drilon, on page 1104, left column, to rephrase the first line of the last paragraph to read as "RELATIVE THERETO, SENATORS ARROYO AND DRILON EXPRESSED SERIOUS DOUBTS..."

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 18 ON SENATE BILL NO. 2701**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2701 (Committee Report No. 18, entitled)

AN ACT EXPANDING THE EXCEPTIONS FROM THE NIGHTWORK PROHIBITION OF WOMEN EMPLOYEES, THEREBY AMENDING ARTICLE 130 AND 131 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBER FOUR HUNDRED FORTY TWO (PD 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Ejercito Estrada, Sponsor of the measure, and Senator Angara for his interpellation.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

*It was 4:02 p.m.*

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:03 p.m., the session was resumed with Senator Zubiri presiding.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Preliminarily, Senator Angara said that he wanted put on record some data that may be useful in formulating a policy on nightwork for women. He pointed out that the prohibition against nightwork for

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women is of long standing and has stood in the way of providing equal work opportunities to women. He congratulated Senator Ejercito Estrada for initiating this change in the Labor Code, saying that he has long advocated a review of the Labor Code in order to make the labor market more flexible. He blamed the very rigid provisions of the Labor Code for closing off many job opportunities not only to women but also to other sectors of the population.

Senator Angara stated that the call center industry is probably one of the biggest sectors that employ people nowadays, in fact, almost half of them a million women. He said that with the proposed amendment, the labor market would be more flexible and less bureaucratic for women to work at night. He noted that in his sponsorship speech, the Sponsor, quoting DOLE officials, has projected that the employment of women will increase by at least 8%. Senator Ejercito Estrada confirmed the datum, saying that it came from the DOLE.

At this point, Senator Angara cited two studies, the first, made by the University of Minnesota and the second, made by the sociologists and social scientists of the University of the Philippines. He said that the Minnesota study reported that the effect of reversing the biological clock — which means working at night when it is normally the time for sleep — brings about unexpected health hazards, especially in terms of longevity. He revealed that in the 20-year period when the work style and longevity of women who work at night were reviewed, one key finding of the study was that the lifespan of these women, in general, had been shortened.

Senator Ejercito Estrada pointed out that the Policy Guidelines Governing the Occupational Safety and Health of Workers in the Call Center Industry (Department Circular No. 1), which was issued by then DOLE Secretary Arturo Brion in February 27, 2008, requires the employers to provide safe and healthful working conditions and adequate reasonable facilities such as sleeping or resting quarters in their establishment, and to formulate an occupational safety and health policy to address the safety and health concerns of workers in call centers.

To the suggestion that the DOLE be required to periodically update health and safety measures,

Senator Ejercito Estrada stated that the DOLE can be required to submit a report on women who are engaged in nightwork to the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development of both houses of Congress.

Senator Angara informed the Body that the study conducted by the University of the Philippines' sociologists and social scientists revealed that a completely new lifestyle has been introduced as a result of a great number of young Filipino women working at night, and that nightwork in call centers is one of the most stressful jobs because call center workers are subjected to the kind of treatment that a normal employee does not encounter, like staying up for at least eight hours and conversing with irritated people who usually scold them. He lamented that the stress and strain experienced by the young women employees have caused them to drink alcohol excessively and, in some cases, engage in casual sex, spreading sexually transmitted diseases among them. He asked if the DOLE has analyzed the study and has made the necessary precautions.

Senator Ejercito Estrada cited Section 4 of Department Circular No. 1 which enumerated the following components of the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) program:

a. Hazard and Risk Prevention and Control to reduce the extent of exposure to hazards and to decrease the likelihood for those hazards to cause illness or injury;

b. Capability-building for members of the Safety and Health Committee to undertake risk management activities through information, training, and work environment safety and health interventions; and

c. Referral and Access to Medicine and Welfare Services — Appropriate services as required under Rule 1960 of the Occupational Safety and Health Standards (OSHS) shall be made available which would address the physical, ergonomic and psychological aspects of the work environment as well as the health and safety needs of the workers.

Since the circular was issued three years ago, Senator Angara said that the DOLE should look into

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the specific emotional and social problems being faced by call center workers.

Asked if the DOLE has psychologists and sociologists within its staff, Senator Ejercito Estrada replied that there is one sociologist and one psychologist in the Occupational Safety and Health Center, which is an attached agency of the DOLE.

Senator Angara cautioned that the emerging phenomenon could be a disabling social and psychological problem if not addressed properly. He said that the DOLE should set up a fund for purposes of employing trained psychiatrists, psychologists and sociologists to handle not only the problems of call center workers, but also of returning OFWs. Senator Ejercito Estrada agreed but clarified that the OFWs are being taken care of by the OWWA and DSWD.

Adverting to the measure's provision for an enabling working environment, Senator Angara stated that this is really needed because the word "enabling" entails a conducive and hospitable environment, not a harsh and cold workplace. He noted that a call center worker is stationed at a small cell which is not an enabling working environment.

Senator Angara acknowledged that the call center industry is an immense source of employment for young college graduates. He agreed that while problems of drunkenness and sexual promiscuity are not as widespread as the study showed, there were signs that the stressful working conditions in call centers do contribute to such problems. He underscored that as a precaution, these problems ought to be nipped at the bud, more so given the prediction that the call center industry in the Philippines is expected to evolve into a big, mature industry like that of India. He asserted that an "enabling working condition" ought to mean that a trained staff of psychiatrists, psychologists and sociologists should be available to help workers cope better with stress.

On a related matter, Senator Angara observed that call centers are presently housed in high-rise buildings that have no windows so that the agents can hear the callers at the other end. Believing that this is an oppressive working condition, he asked whether it would be possible to require that call

centers be housed in a campus-like environment, with rest areas where workers can lie down to rest. He asked whether this is doable without adding to the cost of maintaining call centers and sacrificing their competitiveness. In response, Senator Ejercito Estrada believed that it would be possible to do so. He stated that he can ask the Labor Secretary to review the department circular issued by her predecessor and give her inputs with regard to improving working conditions in call centers.

Senator Angara recalled that a decade or two ago, Singapore started to relocate industrial parks, that used to be housed in high-rise buildings for lack of valuable space, in university campuses. He surmised that it was probably in response to the need to provide the workers an enabling workplace. He noted that the call center industry employed 500,000 young women in 2010, but that number, he said, would reach one million in five-years' time and call centers would be located not only in primary cities but also in second- and third-tier towns and cities nationwide. He hoped that the call center industry can still afford to give its workers good pay, as it is doing right now, and promote healthier working conditions so that the lives and lifestyle of its workers would not be compromised.

Asked if female engineers can apply for an exemption from the prohibition on women working in hazardous activities like an offshore exploration or underground mines, Senator Ejercito Estrada replied in the affirmative.

On whether the US\$12 billion revenue generated by the BPO in 2010 all went into the economy, Senator Ejercito Estrada replied in the affirmative. Senator Angara noted that only 10% to 15% of the income of the semiconductor industry is labor-added, and he believed that the US\$12 billion represents only revenues from the BPOs because the call center industry generates about US\$45 billion to US\$50 billion in revenues, of which only 10% to 15% is labor-added in the Philippines.

Senator Angara said that while there is reason for the country's graduates to look forward to well-paying jobs, there is still need to ensure an enabling workplace and anticipate the potential emotional and social problems it may engender.



**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

*It was 4:31 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:32 p.m., the session was resumed.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF SENATE BILL NO. 2701**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

**COAUTHOR**

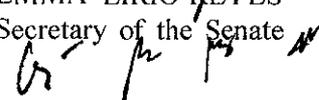
Upon his request, Senator Revilla was made coauthor of Senate Bill Nos. 455, 2486 and 107.

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

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

*It was 4:33 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
EMMA LIRIO-BEYES  
Secretary of the Senate  


Approved on February 23, 2011