



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Senate
Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 54

Tuesday and Wednesday, February 5 and 6, 2013

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
THIRD REGULAR SESSION

SESSION NO. 54
Tuesday and Wednesday, February 5 and 6, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:39 p.m., Tuesday, February 5, 2013, the Senate President Pro Tempore, Hon. Jinggoy Estrada, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile led the prayer, to wit:

Lord God, Heavenly Father, we beseech
Your guidance and pray for love.

Please open our minds to the voice of Your
will so that we might find meaning in
times of confusion and distress;

Be ever by our side so that we never waver
in our perseverance to do good works
for our fellowmen;

Protect our country from turmoil brought
about by hate, crime or disaster;

Do not forsake troubled families for they
need You the most;

Bless the parents with wisdom, and the
children with patience, as we ask that
our leaders, too, be blessed with Your
guidance and grace, our people with
strength and discernment.

We pray for the leaders of society that they
may continue to do acts of benevolence;
give them courage to protect the weak

from the wicked; enkindle their hearts
so that they may be slow to anger;
deepen the well from which they draw
their capacity to forgive and give them
the humility to accept the hardship of life
of service to others so that like Your
Son, Jesus Christ, may they lead by
quiet example.

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.	Lacson, P. M.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S	Lapid, M. L. M.
Enrile, J. P.	Legarda, L.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Recto, R. G.
Estrada, J.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Honasan, G. B.	Sotto III, V. C.

With 12 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Arroyo, Cayetano (P), Drilon, Guingona, Marcos, Pangilinan, Pimentel, Osmeña and Trillanes arrived after the roll call.

Senator Villar, who was on official mission, also arrived after the roll call.

Senator Defensor Santiago was on sick leave.

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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. 52 (January 30, 2012) and considered it approved.

DEFERMENT OF APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body deferred the consideration and approval of the Journal of Session No. 53 (February 4, 2013) to a later time.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of students from De La Salle University, Manila; Holy Angel University, Pampanga; and scholars of TESDA.

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

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Deputy Secretary for Legislation, Atty. Edwin B. Bellen, read the following matters, and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Letter of His Excellency, President Benigno S. Aquino III, certifying to the necessity of the immediate enactment of Senate Bill No. 3091, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL LAND USE POLICY, PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

in order to address the public emergency consisting of the country's difficulty in implementing sustainable development of its natural resources, particularly, its vast land areas. Providing for a rational, holistic and just management and allocation of the country's land resources and the introduction of land and physical planning as

proper mechanisms for determining appropriate land use would promote sustainable economic and social growth without compromising environmental integrity and stability. Moreover, the bill ensures that land allocation and use will be consistent with national goals concerning food and water security, disaster risk reduction and climate change resiliency. Specifically, the bill mandates the creation of a national geo-hazard map that will identify disaster-prone areas in the country for use in land utilization planning and disaster prevention programs.

To the Committee on Rules

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Letters from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 28 January 2013, the House of Representatives passed the following House bills, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate:

House Bill No. 1020, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SIEMBRE HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SIEMBRE, MUNICIPALITY OF BOMBON, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR FROM THE SULPICIO A. ROCO MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SIEMBRE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 1151, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SABANG HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SABANG, CITY OF NAGA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR FROM THE CAMARINES SUR NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SABANG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6771, entitled

AN ACT CREATING FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN PASAY CITY, METRO MANILA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(D) AND SECTION 27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6772, entitled

AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF GUIHULNGAN, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (H) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6773, entitled

AN ACT CREATING FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT BRANCHES IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN MAKATI CITY, METRO MANILA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE

SECTION 27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committee on Rules

House Bill No. 6774, entitled

AN ACT CREATING FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN MALABON CITY, METRO MANILA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(D) AND SECTION 27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committee on Rules

House Bill No. 6775, entitled

AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCHES IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN PARAÑAQUE CITY, METRO MANILA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (D) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6822, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE PURISIMA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – SUMO-SUMO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX IN BARANGAY SUMO-SUMO, MUNICIPALITY OF TAGO,

PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR FROM THE PURISIMA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SUMO-SUMO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6823, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE ILIGAN CITY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL -- PALA-O ANNEX IN BARANGAY PALA-O, CITY OF ILIGAN, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE FROM THE ILIGAN CITY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PALA-O NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6824, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE ILIGAN CITY EAST NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL -- SANTIAGO ANNEX IN BARANGAY SANTIAGO, CITY OF ILIGAN, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE FROM THE ILIGAN CITY EAST NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SANTIAGO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6826, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE LUCENA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL -- WEST

PROSPERIDAD ANNEX IN BARANGAY LAS NAVAS, MUNICIPALITY OF WEST PROSPERIDAD, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR FROM THE LUCENA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS WEST PROSPERIDAD NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6782, entitled

AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BONGABONG AND FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BANSUD, BULALACAO, GLORIA AND MANSALAY, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL MINDORO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(E) AND SECTION 30 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6825, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE LIBONA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL -- KINAWA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX IN BARANGAY KINAWA, MUNICIPALITY OF LIBONA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE LIBONA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS KINAWA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6827, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SAN LUIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ANISLAGAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY ANISLAGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN LUIS, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR FROM THE SAN LUIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ANISLAGAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6841, entitled

AN ACT TO GOVERN THE OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION;

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

House Bill No. 3483, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE KABACAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ARINGAY ANNEX IN BARANGAY ARINGAY, MUNICIPALITY OF KABACAN, PROVINCE OF NORTH COTABATO FROM THE KABACAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ARINGAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 4510, entitled

AN ACT ADOPTING THE HIGHER

PRESCRIBED PENALTY, INCLUDING DEATH, OF THE NATIONAL LAW OF AN ALIEN FOUND GUILTY OF TRAFFICKING DANGEROUS DRUGS AND OTHER SIMILAR SUBSTANCES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002;

To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

House Bill No. 5804, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE LUNA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – TUMOG ANNEX IN BARANGAY TUMOG, MUNICIPALITY OF LUNA, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE LUNA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS TUMOG NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 5806, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE PIO DALIM MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES – TANGLAGAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY TANGLAGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF CALANASAN, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE PIO DALIM MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS TANGLAGAN NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6159, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE PIO DA LIM MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES – STA. FILOMENA ANNEX IN BARANGAY STA. FILOMENA, MUNICIPALITY OF CALANASAN, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE PIO DA LIM MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES – MAIN, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS STA. FILOMENA SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6160, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CUPIS ANNEX II IN BARANGAY CUPIS, MUNICIPALITY OF CONNER, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CUPIS NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6748, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING PENSIONS UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW;

To the Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises

House Bill No. 6749, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF A BIRTHING CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABOGON OF THE 4TH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

House Bill No. 6750, 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, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7224;

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

House Bill No. 6751, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON HIV AND AIDS PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT AND ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL HIV AND AIDS PROGRAM, REVISING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8504, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “PHILIPPINE AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT OF 1998,” AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

House Bill No. 6762, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE LAWAAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CAHUMAYAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY CAHUMAYAN, CITY OF DANAOG, PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM THE LAWAAN NATIONAL

HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS RAMON M. DURANO SR. MEMORIAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6763, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE PARAÑAQUE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LA HUERTA ANNEX IN BARANGAY LA HUERTA, CITY OF PARAÑAQUE, METRO MANILA FROM THE PARAÑAQUE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LA HUERTA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PARAÑAQUE CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6764, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE PARAÑAQUE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – DON GALO ANNEX IN BARANGAY DON GALO, CITY OF PARAÑAQUE, METRO MANILA FROM THE PARAÑAQUE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS DON GALO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6769, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A ONE HUNDRED (100)-BED CAPACITY HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY HABAY 2 IN THE CITY OF BACOR, PROVINCE OF CAVITE TO BE

KNOWN AS THE BACOR DISTRICT HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

House Bill No. 6776, entitled

AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEZON TO BE STATIONED AT LUCENA CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6753, entitled

AN ACT CREATING NINE (9) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT FOR THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC TO BE STATIONED AT TARLAC CITY, AND AT THE MUNICIPALITIES OF PANQUI, CAMILING, CAPAS AND CONCEPCION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (C) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Archives

and House Bill No. 6778, entitled

AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF LUCENA, PROVINCE OF QUEZON,

FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (E) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

To the Archives

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 28 January 2013, the House of Representatives approved the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5990, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DURING THE MARCOS REGIME, DOCUMENTATION OF SAID VIOLATIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

and Senate No. 3334, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REPARATION AND RECOGNITION OF THE SURVIVORS AND RELATIVES OF THE VICTIMS OF VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS DURING THE REGIME OF FORMER PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS, DOCUMENTATION OF SAID VIOLATIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

To the Archives

Letters from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 28 January 2013, the House of Representatives adopted Senate Bill No. 3309, as an amendment to House Bill No. 4484, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA OF THE POOR;

Senate Bill Nos. 3053, 3054 and 3055 as an amendment to House Bill No. 6753, entitled

AN ACT CREATING NINE (9) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT FOR THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC TO BE STATIONED AT TARLAC CITY, AND AT THE MUNICIPALITIES OF PANIKUI, CAMILING, CAPAS AND CONCEPCION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (C) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

and Senate Bill No. 3064 as an amendment to House Bill No. 417, entitled

AN ACT GIVING OFFENDERS THE FULLEST BENEFIT OF PREVENTIVE IMPRISONMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 29 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE.

To the Archives

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 28 January 2013, the House Representatives approved the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6686, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING CONCILIATION-MEDIATION AS A VOLUNTARY MODE OF DISPUTE SETTLEMENT FOR ALL LABOR CASES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 228 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES,

and Senate Bill No. 2918, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING CONCILIATION-MEDIATION AS A VOLUNTARY MODE OF DISPUTE SETTLEMENT FOR ALL LABOR CASES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE

228 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED.

To the Archives

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 29 January 2013, the House of Representatives requested a conference and designated Representatives Primicias-Agabas, Sarmiento, Garcia, Yap, Alvarez, Climaco, Rodriguez, Suarez, Magsaysay (M.), Binay and Nograles as its conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6052, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT OF 2006,

and Senate Bill No. 3324, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT OF 2006" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

To the Committee on Rules

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 29 January 2013, the House of Representatives requested a conference and designated Representatives Apostol, Rodriguez, Romualdo, Lapus and Calimbas-Villarosa as its conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5360, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING FOREIGN EQUITY IN RURAL BANKS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7353, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RURAL BANK ACT OF 1992,

and Senate Bill No. 3282, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING INFUSION OF FOREIGN EQUITY IN THE CAPITAL

OF RURAL BANKS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7353, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RURAL BANK ACT OF 1992, AS AMENDED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

To the Archives

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 29 January 2013, the House of Representatives adopted Senate Bill No. 3365 as an amendment to House Bill No. 4251, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING PERSONS DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL, DANGEROUS DRUGS, AND SIMILAR SUBSTANCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Senate Bill No. 3016 as an amendment to House Bill No. 5732, entitled

AN ACT CREATING FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT LAS PIÑAS CITY, METRO MANILA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

and Senate Bill No. 3046 as an amendment to House Bill No. 6778, entitled

AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF LUCENA, PROVINCE OF QUEZON, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH(E) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

To the Archives

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Report No. 709, submitted by the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, on Senate Bill No. 1689, introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING THE REVISED PENAL CODE PENALIZING THE ROBBERY OF CEMETERY ARTICLES,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 710, submitted by the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, on House Bill No. 2683, introduced by Representative Puno, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO XIAOJING ZHENG,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 711, prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance, on Senate Bill No. 3401, with Senators Escudero, Trillanes IV, the Committee on Rules, Angara, Enrile, Estrada and Drilon as authors thereof, entitled

PHILIPPINE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 2013,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 98, 316, 1454, 2006, 2161 and 2384.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 712, submitted by the Committee on Public Works, on House Bill No. 6537, introduced by Representative Ramos, entitled

AN ACT NAMING THE DIVERSION ROAD IN SORSOGON CITY, PROVINCE OF SORSOGON AS SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III DIVERSION ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Revilla Jr.

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 713, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 1165, introduced by Representative Matugas, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING AND MODERNIZING THE SIARGAO AIRPORT AT BARANGAY SAYAK, DEL CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL NORTE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 714, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 1300, introduced by Representative Jaafar, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND CONCRETING OF THE CAGAYAN DE TAWI-TAWI AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAPUN, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 715, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 1301, introduced by Representative Jaafar, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE SANGA-SANGA AIRPORT IN THE CAPITAL TOWN OF BONGAO, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 716, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 1309, introduced by Representative Jaafar, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND CONCRETING OF THE SIBUTU AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIBUTU, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 717, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 2437, introduced by Representative Aumentado, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE UBAI AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT TO ACCOMMODATE COMMERCIAL DOMESTIC AND AVIATION TRAINING FLIGHTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 718, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance,

on House Bill No. 2634, introduced by Representative Sarmiento, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF VIRAC AIRPORT IN THE PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 719, submitted jointly by the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance, on House Bill No. 6368, introduced by Representative Rodriguez (R.), *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE NORTHERN MINDANAO MEDICAL CENTER IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7938, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Cayetano (P.)

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 720, submitted jointly by the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance, on House Bill No. 3840, introduced by Representative De Venecia, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF REGION I MEDICAL CENTER IN DAGUPAN CITY, PANGASINAN FROM THREE HUNDRED (300) TO SIX HUNDRED (600), AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Cayetano (P.)

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 721, submitted jointly by the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance, on House Bill No. 1801, introduced by Representative Quisumbing, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF EVERSLY CHILDS SANITARIUM HOSPITAL IN THE PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM FIFTY (50)-BED CAPACITY TO ONE HUNDRED (100), UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTHCARE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Cayetano (P.)

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 722, submitted jointly by the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance, on House Bill No. 425, introduced by Representatives Fabian and Climaco, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM BED CAPACITY OF THE ZAM-BOANGA CITY MEDICAL CENTER FROM TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7272,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Cayetano (P.)

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 723, submitted by the Committee on Health and Demography, on House Bill No. 5396, introduced by Representatives Agyao and Maraño, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6876, ENTITLED "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY SI-IT, MUNICIPALITY OF TANUDAN,

PROVINCE OF KALINGA-APAYAO, TO BE KNOWN AS THE TANUDAN MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,"

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Cayetano (P.)

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 4:05 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:14 p.m., the session was resumed.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF SENATOR OSMEÑA**

Availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Osmeña delivered the following speech on the Padcal Mines' spill in the Province of Benguet:

An increasing number of national and regional networks of concerned organizations have written to this Representation urging for the conduct of a Senate inquiry into the massive mine waste spill at the mine site of Philex Mining Corporation in the province of Benguet, better known as the "Padcal Mines."

We may recall that on August 2012, the country witnessed a mine tailings leak of unprecedented proportion. In a letter dated 26 September 2012 to Philex, the Mines and Geo-sciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources found that the penstocks of the only operating mine-tailings pond, better known as Pond "C", of Philex in Benguet, had collapsed, causing the discharge of over 20.6 million metric tons of mine wastes. This is about 20 times more than the infamous Marinduque mining disaster left by Marcopper that has left the Boac River dead for over a decade.

This huge discharge from Padcal Mines drained out to the Balog River and the Agno River systems, which provide the water requirements of San Roque Dam for agricultural irrigation and power generation while serving a number of municipalities in the province of

Pangasinan, such as San Manuel, and others. The excess water from the San Roque Dam drains into the Lingayen Gulf.

Yet, from the time it first happened in August last year up to the present, there have been no clear government findings or ruling on the toxicity, the accurate volume of total discharges and, more importantly, their impact to the communities directly or indirectly, such as their health, their livelihood, their agricultural activities, etc. by this massive spill.

Philex Mining Corporation wants to refer to the findings by the DENR-MGB as mere "allegations" and would rather rely on the findings of its own technical people, lawyers and consultants, while insisting that the cause of the massive spill was *force majeure* which, it claims, therefore exempts the company from fines imposed by the DENR-MGB.

On the other hand, the DENR-MGB says that over 20.6 million metric tons of mine wastes discharged was computed as of 26 September 2013, while reports show that the leak was plugged only in November 2012. The question is how many more millions of tons leaked in those two months?

Archbishop Antonio Ledesma of the Climate Change Congress of the Philippines specifically noted in his letter to this Representation that "there were other accidents in this mining site including the collapse of a dam wall in 1992 or over 20 years ago, owing to a weakened foundation caused by an earthquake. As it is, these mining incidents or accidents could not just be justified as "*force majeure* events."

Mr. Dela Cruz of the *Magsasaka at Siyentipiko Para sa Pag-unlad ng Agrikultura* (MASIPAG) says, and I quote his letter, "We strongly believe that this case should not just be laid to rest in terms of computed monetary terms. This recent mining industry-created environmental and social havoc is more than what meets the eye of both the public, the stakeholders and our policymakers vis-à-vis state regulations, transparency, corporate responsibility and accountability."

The Task Force Indigenous Rights or TFIR also wrote to say, and I quote, "We also believe that the Senate needs to come up with recommendations regarding accountability of mining companies for their operations that cause irreparable damage on our rivers, mountains and the environment."

These various appeals posited finds multi-sectoral support expressed to me in writing from

the *Kalipunan ng mga Katutubong Mamamayan ng Pilipinas*, or KAMP; Gitib Inc., an alliance of IP organizations; Antique Human Development Program, Inc. (AHDP); UNORKA *Pilipinas*, which are federations of farmers, landless farmworkers, and farm laborer organizations; Philippine Misereior Partnership, Inc. (PMPI), a rural development network; *Igorota* Foundation, Inc., an IP-Environment organization; Cordillera Peoples Alliance (CPA); *Sibol ng Agham at Teknolohiya* (SIBAT); Bishop Manguiran of the Diocese of Dipolog; *Kalikasan* Peoples Network for Environment (KALIKASAN PNE), a network of environmental organizations; KATRIBU, an indigenous people's partylist; Shontoug Foundation, a rural development outreach organization; and the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (SIHM), a religious organization.

The Constitution makes it a clear responsibility of the State to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature (Section 16, Article II of the Constitution).

We, therefore, owe it to our people, the country and ourselves, to know the truth about the massive leak, its impacts to the affected communities, the local government units and our ecosystem.

Therefore, in the interest of transparency, fairness and justice, I strongly and respectfully request that the appropriate committees of the Senate initiate proper inquiry, in aid of legislation, even while the Senate is on recess.

This effort will significantly inform and enable us to intelligently and effectively review, assess, modify or revise applicable laws, particularly the Mining Act of 1995 (RA 7492), among others, to make it more responsive to current challenges of the time.

REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEES

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Osmeña to the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources, and Health and Demography.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 705 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3546 (Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second

Reading, of House Bill No. 3546 (Committee Report No. 705), entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING THE RIGHT OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COURSES REQUIRING PROFESSIONAL LICENSING EXAMINATIONS TO ENROLL IN REVIEW CENTERS OF THEIR CHOICE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Angara, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3546 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3546 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3546

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 526 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 5996

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 5996 (Committee Report No. 526), entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE RETENTION BY THE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT BOARD OF SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF THE REVENUES ACCRUING TO THE INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS FUND (IPAF), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 16 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM ACT OF 1992."

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Escudero, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5996 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5996 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5996

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 464 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3326

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second

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Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3326 (Committee Report No. 464), entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DELINEATION OF THE SPECIFIC FOREST LIMITS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Escudero, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Senator Sotto stated that being a substitute bill, there were no committee amendments.

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 4:27 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:27 p.m., the session was resumed.

ESCUDERO AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Escudero, there being no objection, the following amendments were approved by the Body, one after the other:

1. On page 6, delete lines 17 to 19; and
2. On page 7, line 1, after the word "units," delete the word "may" and in lieu thereof, insert the word SHALL.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no other individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3326 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3326 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3326

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 706 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3387 (Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3387 (Committee Report No. 706), entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166 BY INCLUDING PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LIST OF PUBLIC OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED UNDER THE LOCAL ABSENTEE VOTING.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Pimentel, sponsor of the measure.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Asked by Senator Sotto if party-list representatives were not included in the list of public officers elected under the local absentee voting list, Senator Pimentel said that presently, they are voted for in the local absentee voting; however, there is no law authorizing such practice.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no other interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3387 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3387 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3387

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 496 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 5496

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 5496 (Committee Report No. 496), entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO ADOPT POLICIES TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS THE ACTS OF BULLYING IN THEIR INSTITUTIONS.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Angara, sponsor of the measure.

SPONSORSHIPS REMARKS OF SENATOR ANGARA

Senator Angara stated that the measure is an

attempt to provide a solution to the very rampant bullying that occurs within school premises, and with the support of the Department of Education, as well as the Commission on Higher Education, he believed it is about time to state in clear, unequivocal language that school authorities and the education system would neither condone nor tolerate the commission of this anti-social behavior especially among the youth.

INQUIRY OF THE CHAIR

Asked by the Chair if the Sponsor was bullied while still in elementary and high school, Senator Angara replied that he did the bullying which he eventually realized was wrong. He clarified, however, that during those days, bullying was more physical than viral so unlike today because it has become deadlier as it can be done by e-mail or through social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no other interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Angara, there being no objection, the following committee amendments were approved by the Body, one after the other:

Page 3

1. After line 6, insert the following proviso:

PROVIDED, IN ADDITION TO THE DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS IMPOSED UPON A PERPETRATOR OF BULLYING OR RETALIATION, HE/SHE SHALL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO A REHABILITATION PROGRAM WHICH SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE INSTITUTION CONCERNED. THE PARENTS OF SAID PERPETRATORS SHALL BE ENCOURAGED BY SAID INSTITUTION TO JOIN THE SAID REHABILITATION PROGRAM;

2. On line 22, delete the word "and";
3. Replace the entire subsection (f) with the following subsections:

(F) EDUCATE STUDENTS ON THE DYNAMICS OF BULLYING, THE ANTI-

BULLYING POLICIES OF THE SCHOOL AS WELL AS THE MECHANISMS OF SUCH SCHOOL FOR THE ANONYMOUS REPORTING OF ACTS OF BULLYING OR RETALIATION;

- (G) EDUCATE PARENTS AND GUARDIANS ABOUT THE DYNAMICS OF BULLYING, THE ANTI-BULLYING POLICIES OF THE SCHOOL AND HOW PARENTS AND GUARDIANS CAN PROVIDE SUPPORT AND REINFORCE SUCH POLICIES AT HOME; AND
- (H) MAINTAIN A PUBLIC RECORD OF RELEVANT INFORMATION AND STATISTICS ON ACTS OF BULLYING OR RETALIATION IN SCHOOL: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE NAMES OF STUDENTS WHO COMMITTED ACTS OF BULLYING OR RETALIATION SHALL BE STRICTLY HELD CONFIDENTIAL AND ONLY MADE AVAILABLE TO THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION, TEACHERS DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR SAID STUDENTS AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF STUDENTS WHO ARE OR HAD BEEN VICTIMS OF ACTS OF BULLYING OR RETALIATION;

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- 4. On line 6, after the word "Act," insert the phrase AND EVERY FIRST WEEK OF THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR THEREAFTER"; and
- 5. On lines 7 and 8, replace the phrase "shall report to their respective school division superintendents all incidents involving school bullying" with the phrase SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THEIR RESPECTIVE SCHOOL DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION AND STATISTICS ON ACTS OF BULLYING OR RETALIATION.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no other committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion

of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5496 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5496 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5496

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 498 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3228
(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3228 (Committee Report No. 498), entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING RURAL FARM SCHOOLS AS ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Angara, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3228 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3228 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3228

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 310 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1863

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 1863 (Committee Report No. 310), entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE BOARD
OF REGENTS OF THE PARTIDO
STATE UNIVERSITY, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 9029.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Angara, sponsor of the measure.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ANGARA

Senator Angara explained that the measure seeks to reduce the number of members of the Board of Regents of Partido University from the present 22 to the standard number of between 9 and 11.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1863 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 1863 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1863

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 708 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3400

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3400 (Committee Report No. 708), entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE
OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNO-
LOGY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM,
STRENGTHENING THE TEACHING
OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS
IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS BY
PROVIDING INCENTIVES AND
ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF FUND-
ING THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Angara, sponsor of the measure.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Asked by Senator Sotto for a more detailed explanation of the bill, Senator Angara said that the Science and Technology (S&T) Scholarship with Incentives Act aims to increase the critical mass of

scientists and technologists considering that presently, the ratio of scientists and technologists is dismally low at only 157 per million of the population compared to the required ratio of 360 per million population. He added that the crash program will provide a generous scholarship which will pay not only tuition but also living costs of students, including those who are on their third year in Biology, Chemistry, General Science or Math. He expressed hope that the program will enable the school system to train and recruit 10,000 of these young teachers in the next 10 years.

Asked about the incentives being offered by the bill to encourage scholars to pursue a career in teaching, Senator Angara explained that under the bill, scholars will sign a "return service" requiring them to teach in either public or private schools, preferably in their hometowns; however, should these teachers be assigned in another school, they would not only receive a relocation allowance but that they would also be compensated with a special higher entry level salary by the DepEd.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no further interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3400 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3400 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3400

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 601 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6567 (Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 6567 (Committee Report No. 601), entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS, A LUMP SUM RETIREMENT PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE (1) YEAR HONORARIUM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Marcos, sponsor of the measure, and Senator Drilon for his interpellation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Drilon, the session was suspended.

It was 4:47 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:48 p.m., the session was resumed.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR DRILON

Preliminarily, Senator Drilon congratulated Senator Marcos for pushing for the approval of the measure even as the Senate was on its last session week. He said that he also has a pending bill which would grant barangay officials GSIS coverage.

Asked by Senator Drilon on the number of barangay officials who are going to be covered by the bill, Senator Marcos replied that not only official

barangay workers such as the *punong barangay*, secretary and the members of barangay council who currently receive honoraria but even barangay health workers, *lupon ng tagapamayapa*, day care workers and *tanods* would benefit from the measure. However, he admitted that the Committee does not have an exact number of barangay workers including the number of volunteer workers especially those who are members of the *lupon*, and those working in health and day care centers, saying that the Committee was only able to come out with an estimate of around 1.9 to 2.2 million. He stated that the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) would have to generate that data since no records on this particular sector are available.

To Senator Drilon's concern that the bill would be appropriating billions of pesos to an unidentified and unknown number of beneficiaries, Senator Marcos clarified that the qualified beneficiaries have been identified since the measure is a retirement benefit, except that the actual number of beneficiaries would only be determined once the DILG has collected the information needed to make the calculation of the yearly payout.

Asked when the data on the exact number of beneficiaries would be gathered and made available, Senator Marcos said that data collection will be undertaken once the measure is enacted into law and the information is incorporated into its implementing rules and regulations. He explained that the DILG will handle the data gathering and determine the actual number of beneficiaries because it is the agency that would be administering the trust fund. He said that while the Committee had tried to make the analysis on an actuarial basis, the lack of records and information on the specific number of barangay volunteer workers have prevented it from coming out with the specific figure. He said that the data would be made available as soon as the DILG is given the mandate to gather the appropriate information.

But Senator Drilon believed that such a mandate was not necessary to have the data available. He maintained that the data was critical in order to make a rational judgment on whether or not the law ought to be enacted. He cautioned that the measure would be allocating billions of pesos for beneficiaries yet to be identified and the Body is even uncertain whether the proposed budget would be sufficient to cover past liabilities for the estimated two million recipients.

For his part, Senator Marcos pointed out that without the mandate of the law, the DILG has no reason for collecting the necessary data. He believed that once the law is passed, the DILG would be able to acquire the data, use the information to write the implementing rules and regulations, and determine the average annual payout for the beneficiaries in order to create a fund that could sustain the program.

To the contention that the number of beneficiaries must be determined first before the bill is enacted into law, Senator Marcos stressed that the measure aims to establish a national government policy that will ensure that all barangay workers receive death and retirement benefits. He explained that the law was conceived precisely because barangay officials, who are limited to only three terms, cannot possibly comply with the GSIS requirement that a government worker must render a minimum of 15 years of service before he could qualify for such benefits. He also pointed out that the bill recognizes the importance of barangay volunteer workers in providing services at the local government level. He underscored the importance of first having to institute first the law to create the policy that the national government will recognize the contribution of barangay volunteer workers.

For his part, Senator Drilon pointed out that as the bill immediately appropriates billions of pesos to be administered by the DILG for a program of which the number of beneficiaries and the circumstances by which they would be able to access the fund have yet to be determined, in the meantime, it also deprives other poor people and the rest of the population of the benefits that can be derived from these monies. He believed that a careful study of the measure has to be made in light of the huge amount that would be allocated for the implementation of the same.

Senator Marcos said that the situation can be likened to the "chicken-and-egg" question that cannot be resolved.

Senator Drilon said that he would prefer a "chicken-and-egg" situation rather than allocating billions of pesos for something that there was no information about.

Senator Marcos reiterated that absent of a mandate of a law, the DILG would not have any reason to collect the data since barangay volunteer

workers do not receive honoraria or other benefits from the national government. He pointed out that the local government tries but has limited capabilities to compensate volunteer barangay workers, with some providing their volunteers with umbrellas and notepads at best. He believed that the national government must also do its share to compensate barangay volunteer workers since their work is critical to the delivery of basic services.

Senator Drilon maintained that the bill cannot be enacted into law without such data, and he asserted that Congress has sufficient powers to compel the DILG, under pain of contempt, to produce the required information. He refused to accept the proposition that several billions of pesos of public funds would be allocated and entrusted to the DILG for the implementation of the program without even knowing whether or not it is proper to freeze a huge portion of public funds which can be used to build classrooms, health centers, roads and bridges, and especially since the recipients of the money have not been identified.

On whether he was saying that billions of pesos would be allocated on the basis of estimates, Senator Marcos said that, at the very least, the funding would approach the order of magnitude. He disagreed with Senator Drilon's observation that the amount is a huge appropriation considering that it is actually just one percent, or P4,534,560,140.00, of the national share of 60% of the internal revenue allotment (IRA) amounting to P755,760,000,000.00 based on the BIR's collection estimates for 2013. He maintained that P4 billion is not a very large amount compared to the unspent P135 billion that the government has in its coffers, and especially since the beneficiary group is in the millions and are critically placed in the government system.

Senator Drilon noted, however, that Senator Marcos' statement that the government has unspent billions was totally inaccurate because the government was operating on a deficit budget. He explained that the amounts referred to were only authorizations in the budget but no actual fund has been utilized because the government is watching its deficit limits. He said that there might be underspending of appropriated but unfunded amounts because government has to borrow money to fund those appropriations.

For his part, Senator Marcos said that his figures on government's appropriated but unspent funds were sourced from the 2013 budget hearing.

Senator Drilon said that in the 15 years that he has been working on the national budget, the same situation remains — that the appropriation is nothing more than authorization. Therefore, he said that one must take into account the deficit when utilizing such appropriation and authorization because the government is working on a deficit budget and the authorizations have to be funded through loans.

Senator Marcos believed that the main issue at hand was not the available amount for funding the program but the compensation for barangay volunteer workers. He said that with the proposed appropriation, a barangay volunteer worker who retires after 25 years of service would receive up to P70,000 in retirement benefits which is still a reasonable amount. Moreover, he believed that the P4.5 billion allocation is not a huge amount because it is distributed among so many beneficiaries.

Senator Drilon said that if that premise were followed, all 100 million Filipinos ought to be made beneficiaries since what is beneficial to two million barangay members should also be beneficial to all Filipinos. He asked that his interpellations on the bill be suspended until he has been provided with the necessary data.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6567

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

SPECIAL ORDERS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of the following from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders:

1. Committee Report No. 704 on House Bill No. 4549;
2. Committee Report No. 703 on House Bill No. 4550; and
3. Committee Report No. 702 on House Bill No. 4551.

BILLS CREATING BARANGAYS

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of

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Senator Sotto, the following bills were considered, on Second Reading, one after the other:

1. Committee Report No. 704 on House Bill No. 4549, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY BULANAO NORTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA;

2. Committee Report No. 703 on House Bill No. 4550, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY IPIL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA; and

3. Committee Report No. 702 on House Bill No. 4551, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NAVY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CAPAS, PROVINCE OF TARLAC.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the titles of the bills were read without prejudice to the insertion of their full texts into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Marcos for the sponsorship.

OMNIBUS SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR MARCOS

Senator Marcos presented to the Body House Bill No. 4551 or An Act Creating a Barangay to be Known as Barangay Navy in the Municipality of Capas, Province of Tarlac under Committee Report No. 702; House Bill No. 4550 or An Act Creating a Barangay to be Known as Barangay Ipil in the Municipality of Tabuk, Province of Kalinga under Committee Report No. 703; and House Bill No. 4549 on An Act Creating a Barangay to be Known as Barangay Bulanao Norte in the Municipality of Tabuk, Province of Kalinga under Committee Report No. 704. He then sought the indulgence of the Body and asked that he be allowed to deliver an omnibus sponsorship speech for these three bills as they have related backgrounds and similar objectives: they all seek the creation of a barangay which has already been created and continues to exist as a barangay through a *Sangguniang Panlalawigan* resolution pursuant to a mandate under the Local Government

Code. He said that the objective of these bills, as expressed in their respective explanatory notes, is to entitle them to a share in the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA).

The full text of Senator Marcos' omnibus sponsorship speech follows:

Presently, these barangays are not entitled to a share in the IRA and have not been receiving any internal revenue allotment as they were creations of local government units. The provision of the law in point is the last paragraph of Section 285 of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended, which provides that, "the financial requirements of barangays created by the local government units after the effectivity of this Code shall be the responsibility of the local government unit concerned."

Last December 17, 2012, I delivered a privilege speech in order to bring to the attention of the honorable Members of this Chamber the sorry operational condition of many, if not all, of our barangays that had been created by the local government units pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Code of 1991, as amended. I specifically referred to the case of Barangay Ipil in the Municipality of Tabuk, Province of Kalinga, which is the subject of House Bill No. 4550 under Committee Report No. 703. The said barangay was created under Provincial Ordinance 2001-02, as amended by Provincial Ordinance 2003-013. It is reported that the said barangay is receiving an allocation of a meager P100,000.00 as its annual budget from the provincial government of Kalinga. This is far, far lower than, or shall I say grossly incomparable, to the Internal Revenue Allotment received in 2012 by its mother barangay of Bulanao in the amount of P4,577,431.00.

It cannot be overemphasized that the amount of P100,000.00 as annual allocation to these barangays has, in effect, compromised their autonomy. I strongly believe that local autonomy can be measured to a great extent through its fiscal autonomy.

Again, as a way of comparison, the lowest amount of internal revenue allocation of a barangay reported for the fiscal year 2012 is P477,649.00. This amount is the reported IRA share of Barangay 76 of Caloocan City, of Barangay Uauang-Galicia in the Municipality of Sto. Tomas, Province of Isabela, and of Barangay Guinsaugon in the Municipality of Saint Bernard, Province of Southern Leyte. On the other hand, the highest amount of IRA recorded for a

barangay in 2012 was received by Barangay 176 in Caloocan City in the amount of P76,137,370.00.

Certainly, it could not have been the intention of the framers of our Constitution, as well as our predecessors in this Chamber who enacted the Local Government Code of 1991, that barangays created by local government units would be relegated to another, let alone, a lower class of barangays. Unfortunately, the glaring disparity between the funding allocations to the barangays by their creating local government unit on the one hand, and the internal revenue allocations to the other existing barangays, on the other, unfortunately resulted in such a disparate classification.

The enactment of these bills into law will entitle the subject barangays to a fair share in the internal revenue allotment. This will translate into a much-improved delivery of basic services by these barangays, thus making them more functional as a local government unit.

It is for this reason that I earnestly call on my colleagues in this august Chamber to join me in approving House Bill No. 4551 under Committee Report No. 702; House Bill No. 4550 under Committee Report No. 703; and House Bill No. 4549 under Committee Report No. 704.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NOS. 4549, 4550 AND 4551

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Bill Nos. 4549, 4550 and 4551.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 378 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4820

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 4820 (Committee Report No. 378), entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA CAMARINES.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Marcos, sponsor of the measure, who manifested that the senators who were scheduled to interpellate have withdrawn their reservation.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no further interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto manifested that the Committee had previously introduced amendments to the proposed bill.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no further committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 5:19 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:19 p.m., the session was resumed.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4820 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4820 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4820

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

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**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT
ON SENATE BILL NO. 3312 AND
HOUSE BILL NO. 6542**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3312, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9189 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE OVERSEAS ABSENTEE VOTING ACT OF 2003,"

and House Bill No. 6542, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9189, ENTITLED "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF OVERSEAS ABSENTEE VOTING BY QUALIFIED CITIZENS OF THE PHILIPPINES ABROAD, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Pimentel to sponsor the report.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR PIMENTEL

Senator Pimentel informed the Body that the House version of the bill was longer in terms of the number of sections being amended but, in substance, the following changes in the current law were agreed upon:

1. The creation of the Resident Election Registration Board (RERB) in each post which will go over applications for registration as an overseas voter;
2. The deletion of the requirement for foreign-based Filipino citizens, or the so-called immigrants, to execute affidavits to come back within three years so that they will be allowed to vote in the overseas voting system; and
3. The institutionalization of the overseas voting system by creating the Office of Overseas Voting within the Comelec structure.
4. The introduction of a proviso which prohibits candidates to campaign in the country they are visiting within the 30-day voting period for

overseas voting, violation of which shall be considered an election offense.

At the instance of Senator Pimentel, there being no objection, the Body approved the insertion of the Joint Explanation of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3312 and House Bill No. 6542 into the *Journal* and *Record* of the Senate.

Following is the joint explanation of the Conference Committee:

**JOINT EXPLANATION
OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

The Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3312 and House Bill No. 6542, after having met and fully discussed the subject matter in a conference, hereby report to their respective Houses the following, that:

1. The conferees agreed to use the House version as the working draft;
2. Section 1 of the House version was adopted as Section 1 of the reconciled version with the following modifications:
 - a. after the phrase "Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9189", the phrase "otherwise known as "The Overseas Absentee Voting Act of 2003" was deleted;
 - b. after the phrase "Voting Act of [2003]", the year "2012" was changed to the year "2013";
3. Section 2, paragraphs a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, I, j, k, and l of the House version were adopted as Section 2, paragraphs a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, I, j, k, and l of the reconciled version;
4. Section 2, paragraph m of the House version was adopted as Section 2, paragraph m of the reconciled version with the following modifications:
 - a. change the words "PROCESS" to "PROCESSES", "APPROVE" to "APPROVES", and "DISAPPROVE" to "DISAPPROVES"; and
 - b. insert the article "THE" between the words "INCLUDING" and "DEACTIVATION";
5. Section 2, paragraphs n, o, p, and q of the House version were adopted as Section 2, paragraphs n, o, p, and q of the reconciled version;

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6. Section 2, paragraph r of the House version was not adopted in the reconciled version;
7. Section 2, paragraph s of the House version was adopted as Section 2, paragraph r of the reconciled version;
8. Section 3 of the House version was adopted as Section 3 of the reconciled version with the following modifications: capitalize the letter "S" in the word "senator", the letter "P" in the word "party-list", and the letter "R" in the word "representatives";
9. Sections 4 and 5 of the House version were adopted as Sections 4 and 5 of the reconciled version;
10. Section 6 of the House version was adopted as Section 6 of the reconciled version with amendments and a new phraseology to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. A new Section 7 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 7. RESIDENT ELECTION REGISTRATION BOARD (RERB); COMPOSITION, APPOINTMENT, DISQUALIFICATION AND COMPENSATION. – THE RERB SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING:

- A) A CAREER OFFICIAL OF THE DFA, AS CHAIRPERSON;
- B) THE MOST SENIOR OFFICER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY OF THE PHILIPPINES MAINTAINING OFFICES ABROAD, AS MEMBER; *PROVIDED*, THAT, IN CASE OF DISQUALIFICATION OR NON-AVAILABILITY OF THE MOST SENIOR OFFICER FROM THE DOLE OR ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY OF THE PHILIPPINES MAINTAINING OFFICES ABROAD, THE COMMISSION SHALL DESIGNATE A CAREER OFFICIAL FROM THE EMBASSY OR CONSULATE CONCERNED; AND
- C) A REGISTERED OVERSEAS VOTER OF KNOWN PROBITY, AS MEMBER.

THE COMMISSION SHALL APPOINT THE MEMBERS OF THE RERB UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE DFA-OVS.

THE RERB IN THE OFOV SHALL BE BASED IN THE MAIN OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION AND SHALL BE COMPOSED OF A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE

COMMISSION AS THE CHAIRPERSON AND ONE MEMBER EACH FROM THE DFA AND THE DOLE, WHOSE RANK SHALL NOT BE LOWER THAN A DIVISION CHIEF OR ITS EQUIVALENT.

NO MEMBER OF THE RERB SHALL BE RELATED TO EACH OTHER OR TO THE INCUMBENT PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT OR SENATOR OR ANY INCUMBENT MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPRESENTING THE PARTY-LIST SYSTEM OF REPRESENTATION, WITHIN THE FOURTH CIVIL DEGREE OF CONSANGUINITY OR AFFINITY.

EACH MEMBER OF THE RERB SHALL BE ENTITLED TO AN HONORARIUM AT THE RATES APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM)."

11. Section 7 of the House version was adopted as Section 7 of the reconciled version;
12. Section 8 of the House version was adopted as Section 8 of the reconciled version with the deletion of "paragraph 9.2" in the House version and in lieu thereof "**paragraph 28.2**" of the Senate version was adopted;
13. Section 9 of the House version was adopted as Section 9 of the reconciled version;
14. Section 10 of the House version was adopted as Section 10 of the reconciled version with the deletion of the punctuation mark "comma (,)" and the phrase "subject to **SYSTEMS** limitations **AND THOSE** imposed by law";
15. Section 11 of the House version was adopted as Section 11 of the reconciled version with the following amendments:
 - a. The "new paragraph C" of the House version was deleted and in its stead the "**new paragraph C**" of the Senate version was inserted;
 - b. The "new last paragraph" of the House version was deleted and in lieu thereof the "**new last paragraph**" of the Senate version was inserted with an omnibus amendment to delete the word "**ABSENTEE**", the phrase "**IN ABSENTIA**", and the capital letter "A" in the acronym "NROAV";
16. Section 12 of the House version was adopted as Section 12 of the reconciled version;
17. Section 9 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 13 of the reconciled version with

the deletion of the capital letter "A" in the acronyms "NROAV" and "ROAV";

18. Sections 14 and 15 of the House version were adopted as Sections 14 and 15 of the reconciled version;
19. Section 10 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 16 of the reconciled version with the deletion of the words "ABSENTEE";
20. Section 17 of the House version was adopted as Section 17 of the reconciled version;
21. Section 18 of the House version was adopted as Section 18 of the reconciled version with the following amendments:
 - a. after the phrase "FILE WITH THE", the phrase "COMMISSION OR WITH" was deleted and in lieu thereof the phrase "RERB THROUGH THE OFOV OR" was inserted; and
 - b. the sentence "THE RERB SHALL RESOLVE THE APPLICATION WITHIN ONE (1) MONTH FROM RECEIPT THEREOF, OTHERWISE THE APPLICATION SHALL BE DEEMED APPROVED." was inserted as the last paragraph thereof;
22. Section 19 of the House version was adopted as Section 19 of the reconciled version with amendments and a new phraseology to read as follows:

"SEC. 19. A new Section 19 of the same Act is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 19. APPLICATION FOR CORRECTION OF ENTRIES AND CHANGE OF NAME. – ANY REGISTERED OVERSEAS VOTER WHO INTENDS TO CHANGE HER/HIS NAME BY REASON OF MARRIAGE, DEATH OF HUSBAND, OR FINAL COURT JUDGMENT; OR TO CORRECT A MISPELLED NAME OR ANY ERRONEOUS ENTRY IN THE NROV, CLOV AND VOTER'S IDENTIFICATION CARD MAY, PERSONALLY OR THROUGH AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE, FILE AN APPLICATION UNDER OATH FOR CHANGE OF NAME OR CORRECTION OF ENTRIES WITH THE RERB THROUGH THE OFOV OR THE POST EXERCISING JURISDICTION OVER THE VOTER'S RESIDENCE NOT LATER THAN NINETY (90) DAYS BEFORE THE START OF THE VOTING PERIOD.

THE RERB SHALL RESOLVE THE APPLICATION WITHIN ONE (1) MONTH FROM RECEIPT THEREOF, OTHERWISE THE APPLICATION SHALL BE DEEMED APPROVED."

23. Section 20 of the House version was adopted as Section 20 of the reconciled version;
24. Section 21 of the House version was adopted as Section 21 of the reconciled version with the deletion in paragraph [14.4]21.4 of the "open bracket ([)" appearing before the phrase "Unclaimed ballots" and the "close bracket (])" appearing after the phrase "least costly method" in the last sentence thereof;
25. Section 22 of the House version was adopted as Section 22 of the reconciled version with the insertion of the punctuation mark "semicolon (;)" after the word "Philippines [.] and the deletion of the phrase "AND TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY THE LAWS OF THE HOST COUNTRY:";
26. Section 23 of the House version was adopted as Section 23 of the reconciled version;
27. Section 24 of the House version was not adopted in the reconciled version and instead adopted the original provision of Section 16 of Republic Act No. 9189 as Section 24 of the reconciled version with amendments in the following paragraphs:
 - a. in paragraph [16.1] 24.1 - after the phrase "Upon receipt by the", the phrase "designated officer of the embassy, consulate and other foreign service establishments" was deleted and in lieu thereof the acronym "SBEI" was inserted and after the word "paraphernalia," the phrase "his/her" was changed to the word "THEY" and the word "them" after the phrase "shall make" was changed to the word "THESE";
 - b. in paragraph [16.3] 24.3 - after the phrase "COMPOSED OF A Commission[,]", the phrase and sentence "within thirty (30) days before the day of elections. In the case of seafarers, they shall cast their ballots anytime within sixty (60) days before the day of elections as prescribed in the Implementing Rules and Guidelines" was deleted and in lieu thereof the phrase "OR SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS DEEMED BY THE SBEI AT THE POST AS SUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH THE VOTER'S IDENTITY" was inserted;

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- c. in paragraph [16.5] **24.5**, after the phrase "mail is allowed under", the phrase "Section 17" was deleted and changed to "**SECTION 25**";
 - d. paragraph 16.6. was deleted and not adopted in the reconciled version;
 - e. in paragraph [16.8] **24.7**, after the phrase "in accordance with" delete "Section 17" and change the same to "**SECTION 25**" and change "Section 18" to "**SECTION 27**" and thereafter succeeding paragraphs were renumbered accordingly;
28. Section 25 of the House version was not adopted in the reconciled version and instead *adopted the original provision of Section 17 of Republic Act No. 9189 as Section 25 of the reconciled version with the following amendments:*
- a. in the title of the section - the phrase "**MAILING AND SUBMISSION OF BALLOTS**" was deleted; and
 - b. in paragraph [17.3] **25.3** - after the phrase "in accordance with", "Section 18" was deleted and changed to "**SECTION 27**";
29. Section 26 of the House version was not adopted in the reconciled version;
30. Section 27 of the House version was adopted as Section 26 of the reconciled version;
31. Section 28 of the House version was not adopted in the reconciled version and instead *adopted the original provision of Section 18 of Republic Act 9189 as Section 27 of the reconciled version with the following amendments:*
- a. in paragraph [18.2]**27.2** - after the phrase "constitute as many", the phrase "Special Boards of Election Inspectors" was changed to the acronym "**SBEIs**", and after the phrase "as provided in" the word "Section 18.1" was deleted and in lieu thereof the word "**SECTION 27.2**" was inserted;
 - b. in paragraph 18.4 – the phrase "A Special Board of Canvassers" was deleted and in lieu thereof the phrase "**THE SBOC**" was inserted, and after the phrase "composed of" the phrase "a lawyer preferably of the Commission" was deleted and in lieu thereof the phrase "**THE HIGHEST RANKING OFFICER OF THE POST**" was inserted;
 - c. an omnibus amendment was made to change the word "chairman" to "**CHAIRPERSON**"; and
 - d. in paragraph [18.6]**27.6** – capitalize the letter "**P**" in the word "president, the letters "**V**" and "**P**" in "vice-president", and change the phrase "Special Board of Canvassers" to the acronym "**SBOC**";
32. Section 13 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 28 of the reconciled version with the following amendments:
- a. between the phrases "AUTHORITY TO" and "OTHER MODES" the word "ADOPT" was deleted and in lieu thereof the word "**EXPLORE**" was inserted;
 - b. after the phrase "THE COMMISSION MAY EXPLORE" the phrase "AND ADOPT" was deleted; and
 - c. after the phrase "ELECTIONS AND SUBMIT" the phrase "A REPORT" was deleted and in lieu thereof the phrase "**REPORTS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS**" was inserted;
33. Sections 30 and 31 of the House version were adopted as Sections 29 and 30 of the reconciled version, respectively;
34. Section 32 of the House version was adopted as Section 31 of the reconciled version with the deletion of the phrase "**LAW (OVL)**" and in lieu thereof the word "**ACT**" was inserted;
35. Section 33 of the House version was adopted as Section 32 of the reconciled version;
36. Section 34 of the House version was adopted as Section 33 of the reconciled version with the deletion of the new paragraphs 3 and 4 thereof;
37. Sections 35 and 36 of the House version were not adopted in the reconciled version;
38. Section 37 of the House version was adopted as Section 34 of the reconciled version;
39. Section 38 of the House version was adopted as Section 35 of the reconciled version with the deletion of the last sentence of the last paragraph which reads as: "**FEES SHALL BE CHARGED AS USUAL ON ALL OTHER CONSULAR AND DIPLOMATIC SERVICES NOT RELATED TO OVERSEAS VOTING.**"
40. Section 39 of the House version was adopted as Section 36 of the reconciled version with the following amendments:



- a. in the second sentence, the phrase "Committee on Absentee Voting" was deleted and in lieu thereof the acronym "OFOV" was inserted; and
 - b. after the phrase "sanctity of the", the word "absentee" was deleted and changed to the word "OVERSEAS";
41. Sections 40 and 41 of the House version were adopted as Sections 37 and 38 of the reconciled version;
 42. Section 42 of the House version was adopted as Section 39 of the reconciled version;
 43. Section 43 of the House version was not adopted in the reconciled version;
 44. Section 44 of the House version was adopted as Section 40 of the reconciled version;
 45. Section 45 of the House version was adopted as Section 41 of the reconciled version with a new paragraph inserted to read as: **"IN THE FORMULATION OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS, THE COMMISSION SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS AND EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION, OVERSEAS WORKERS' WELFARE ADMINISTRATION AND THE COMMISSION ON FILIPINOS OVERSEAS, NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ACCREDITED FILIPINO ORGANIZATIONS OR ASSOCIATIONS ABROAD SHALL BE CONSULTED."**;
 46. A new Section 42 was inserted in the reconciled bill to read as follows:

"SEC. 42. AMENDING CLAUSE. –
CONSISTENT WITH THE AMENDMENTS
INTRODUCED BY THIS ACT, SECTION 2
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9189, ON THE
DECLARATION OF POLICY, IS HEREBY
AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

"SEC. 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.
– IT IS THE PRIME DUTY OF THE STATE
TO PROVIDE A SYSTEM OF HONEST
AND ORDERLY OVERSEAS [ABSENTEE]
VOTING THAT UPHOLDS THE SECRECY
AND SANCTITY OF THE BALLOT.
TOWARDS THIS END, THE STATE
ENSURES EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO ALL
QUALIFIED CITIZENS OF THE PHILIP-
PINES ABROAD IN THE EXERCISE OF
THIS FUNDAMNTAL RIGHT."
 47. Sections 46, 47, and 48 of the House version were adopted as Sections 43, 44, and 45 of the reconciled version, respectively;

48. An omnibus amendment was made to delete the word "**absentee**", the phrase "**In absentia**," and the capital letter "**A**" in all acronyms with reference to the word "**Absentee**" in the body of the reconciled bill;
49. An omnibus amendment was made to interchange the phrases "he/she" to "**SHE/HE**", "him/her" to "**HER/HIM**", and "his/her" to "**HER/HIS**";
50. The title of the House version was adopted as the title of the reconciled version.

In case of a conflict between the statements/ amendments stated in this Joint Explanation and that of the provisions of the consolidated bill in the accompanying Conference Committee Report, the provisions of the latter shall prevail.

APPROVAL OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3312 and House Bill No. 6542 was approved by the Body.

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 712 on House Bill No. 6537 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 712 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6537

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, House Bill No. 6537 (Committee Report No. 712), entitled

AN ACT NAMING THE DIVERSION ROAD IN SORSOGON CITY, PROVINCE OF SORSOGON AS SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III DIVERSION ROAD.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

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The Chair recognized Senator Revilla for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR REVILLA

Senator Revilla, on behalf of the Committee on Public Works, presented for the approval of the Body House Bill No. 6537, entitled "AN ACT NAMING THE DIVERSION ROAD IN SORSOGON CITY, PROVINCE OF SORSOGON AS SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III DIVERSION ROAD" under Committee Report No. 712.

Senator Revilla believed that the Honorable Salvador H. Escudero III was, is and shall always be beloved to the people of Sorsogon as their hometown boy that made good, who, despite hailing from a political clan, did not let the influence and power he was born into spoil his humanity as he realized early on that being the heir of a prominent political clan, he had a responsibility to be the best man he could be, not only for himself or his family but for the people he knew in his heart he would one day serve — a virtue that endeared him to his fellowmen.

Senator Revilla stated that as Congressman Escudero's deeds and accomplishments reached a national scope, he received more than 300 awards and citations, including Most Outstanding Congressman, Presidential Golden Plow Award, among others, as well as having the distinction of being the youngest ever to be appointed dean at the University of the Philippines at the age of 26, but throughout all these accolades bestowed on him, his heart never left Sorsogon; he served as the province's representative to more than five Congresses from 1984 to 2012, during which he was largely responsible for the laws that have made the thriving Sorsogon that is known today.

Finally, Senator Revilla described Congressman Escudero as an embodiment of a true son of Bicol and therefore, it was but befitting that this diversion road which he was responsible for creating, be named in his honor.

COSPONSORS

Upon their request, Senate President Enrile and all the Members present in the Chamber were made cosponsors of House Bill No. 6537.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto informed the Body that Representative Escudero was the author of the House version of the bill which seeks to amend the Juvenile Justice Act and which has been pending before the Bicameral Conference Committee.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6537

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

SPECIAL ORDERS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of the following from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders:

1. Committee Report No. 713 on House Bill No. 1165;
2. Committee Report No. 714 on House Bill No. 1300;
3. Committee Report No. 715 on House Bill No. 1301;
4. Committee Report No. 716 on House Bill No. 1309;
5. Committee Report No. 717 on House Bill No. 2437; and
6. Committee Report No. 718 on House Bill No. 2634.

BILLS UPGRADING AIRPORTS

With the unanimous consent of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the following bills on the upgrading of airports were considered, on Second Reading, one after the other:

1. Committee Report No. 713 on House Bill No. 1165, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING AND MODERNIZING THE SIARGAO AIRPORT AT BARANGAY SAYAK, DEL CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL NORTE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

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2. Committee Report No. 714 on House Bill No. 1300, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND CONCRETING OF THE CAGAYAN DE TAWI-TAWI AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAPUN, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

3. Committee Report No. 715 on House Bill No. 1301, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE SANGA-SANGA AIRPORT IN THE CAPITAL TOWN OF BONGAO, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

4. Committee Report No. 716 on House Bill No. 1309, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND CONCRETING OF THE SIBUTU AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIBUTU, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

5. Committee Report No. 717 on House Bill No. 2437, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE UBAI AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT TO ACCOMMODATE COMMERCIAL DOMESTIC AND AVIATION TRAINING FLIGHTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; and

6. Committee Report No. 718 on House Bill No. 2634, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF VIRAC AIRPORT IN THE PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the titles of the bills were read without prejudice to the insertion of their full texts into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Revilla for the sponsorship.

OMNIBUS SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR REVILLA

Senator Revilla, in behalf of Committee on Public Works, presented for the approval of the Body the following bills on the upgrading of airports:

1. House Bill No. 1165, entitled AN ACT UPGRADING AND MODERNIZING THE SIARGAO AIRPORT AT BARANGAY SAYAK, DEL CARMEN, SURIGAO DEL NORTE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, under Committee Report No. 713;
2. House Bill No. 1300, entitled AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND CONCRETING OF THE CAGAYAN DE TAWI-TAWI AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAPUN, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, under Committee Report No. 714;
3. House Bill No. 1301, entitled AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE SANGA-SANGA AIRPORT IN THE CAPITAL TOWN OF BONGAO, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, under Committee Report No. 715;
4. House Bill No. 1309, entitled AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND CONCRETING OF THE SIBUTU AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIBUTU, PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, under Committee Report No. 716;
5. House Bill No. 2437, entitled AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE UBAI AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT TO ACCOMMODATE COMMERCIAL DOMESTIC AND AVIATION TRAINING FLIGHTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, under Committee Report No. 717; and
6. House Bill No. 2634, entitled AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF VIRAC AIRPORT IN THE PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, under Committee Report No. 718.

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He stated that the steady increase in population throughout the past decades has brought about the present problem of congestion of the country's existing airports. He said that this congestion is the consequence of airlines increasing their flights to cater to the growing number of passengers. He said that while these additional flights have served well for the industry as well as for local and national tourism, improvement of airport facilities seemed to have been neglected. Thus, he emphasized the need for Congress to grant these airports the support and funding they need from the national government to improve and modernize their facilities. He stated that these improvements could not have come at a better time, as the government is bent on pursuing its aggressive international campaign: "It's More Fun in the Philippines." He then urged his colleagues to vote for the passage of these important measures.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILLS UPGRADING AIRPORTS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Bill Nos. 1165, 1300, 1301, 1309, 2437 and 2634.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3091 ON SECOND READING

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the approval, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3091 (Committee Report No. 94), entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL
LAND USE POLICY, PROVIDING THE
IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

As a consequence, the period of individual amendments was reopened.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Honasan, sponsor of the measure.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATE PRESIDENT ENRILE

Senate President Enrile expressed his support for the bill which seeks to create a land use policy for

the country. However, given the short time and the broad and far-reaching implication of the bill, he requested that he be given time to study carefully the bill for purposes of introducing several amendments, taking into consideration the fact that land problem is a very serious problem in any country from which social issues can arise.

DRILON AMENDMENTS

Before proceeding to his proposed amendments, Senator Drilon associated himself with the manifestation of the Senate President.

As proposed by Senator Drilon and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the following amendments, one after the other:

1. On page 29, line 22, after the word "years," replace the period (.) with a semicolon (;) and insert the following proviso:

*PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NOTHING
HEREIN SHALL PREVENT THE NLUC
FROM REVIEWING AND UPDATING AT
ANYTIME THE NPFP/NLUP WHERE
PUBLIC INTEREST SO REQUIRES.*

Senator Drilon explained that the NLUC should be given the authority to review the NPFP/NLUP earlier than ten years because there might be circumstances and other relevant events which would require such updating and review. He noted that based on the current wording of the bill, the NLUC is totally prevented from conducting a review more often than once every ten years.

2. On page 46, line 22 to page 47, line 6, delete the entire paragraph.

Senator Drilon noted that the membership of the NLUC, which is no less than 27, is quite huge, and on top of it is a consultative body which is still being required to convene every year. He pointed out that adding another layer of consultative body that will perform redundant functions would add to the already big bureaucracy in the NLUC. He said that the amendment would avoid such redundancy.

Senator Honasan agreed, saying that the amendment is consistent with his aim to reengineer an already bloated bureaucracy.

3. On page 78, line 22, after the word "lands," insert the phrase AND WHICH ARE

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EXPRESSLY DECLARED BY AN ACT OF CONGRESS OR PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION THAT THE SAME ARE NO LONGER INTENDED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE OR DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL WEALTH OR OTHERWISE BEEN CONVERTED TO PATRIMONIAL.

Senator Drilon stated that the amendment would conform with existing jurisprudence, specifically in the case of *Heirs of Mario Malabanan v. Republic of the Philippines* (G. R. No. 179987, 29 April 2009), which declared that local government units do not have the authority to dispose of alienable lands which, even if declared as such, shall remain the property of the public dominion. Furthermore, he said that in that same case, the Supreme Court ruled that there must be an express declaration by the President that the property is no longer intended for public service or the development of national wealth and that the same may be used by citizens for private purposes.

4. On page 79, delete lines 7 to 13.

Senator Drilon explained that a housing project constructed within a residential area should not automatically become a non-critical project that entitles it to exemption from the scope of the ECC requirements since the project may still require additional environmental safeguards that can only be determined by the EMB.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR MARCOS

Senator Marcos expressed his support for the measure, noting that many of the things that need to be done in the housing sector are being hampered by the lack of a national framework for land use to guide the local governments in creating their respective CLUPs. However, after seeing some other issues that need to be addressed, he asked for more time to study the measure to be able to formulate his amendments.

HONASAN AMENDMENT

Senator Honasan stated that the bill has been more than ten years in the making and all the possible sectors and stakeholders had been consulted. To assure the Body that the bill is nothing more than a work in progress, he then proposed a transitory provision.

On page 96, between lines 21 and 22, as proposed by Senator Honasan, there being no objection, the

Body approved, subject to style, the insertion of a new paragraph, to read as follows:

PROVIDED, THAT ALL EXISTING LOCATIONAL CLEARANCES AND ZONING PERMITS ISSUED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS OR LGUs SHALL REMAIN VALID PENDING REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE NEW CLUP AND ZONING ORDINANCES: *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT APPROPRIATE MEASURES SHALL BE ADOPTED BY THE LGU CONCERNED SHOULD ANY EXISTING STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES BE COVERED BY A DIFFERENT LAND USE ZONING IN AREAS WHERE THEY ARE CURRENTLY LOCATED: *PROVIDED FINALLY*, THAT THE EXISTING STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES WITHIN HAZARD PRONE AREAS OR DANGER ZONES WHICH CANNOT BE ADDRESSED BY ANY MITIGATING AND/OR PROTECTIVE MEASURES SHALL BE REQUIRED TO RELOCATE.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 5:55 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:00 p.m., the session was resumed.

Senator Honasan stated that during the suspension, he made an appeal to the Members who have signified to introduce their amendments to be ready at the first hour of the session the following day. He reiterated his appeal so that the Body can decide on the measure since it has been certified by the President as urgent.

Senator Sotto assured Senator Honasan that the Members have been informed of the situation and of his appeal.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3091

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

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no

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objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 165 on House Bill No. 187 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 165
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 187**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, House Bill No. 187 (Committee Report No. 165), entitled

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE BAYAWAN
CITY LAND TRANSPORTATION
OFFICE (LTO) EXTENSION OFFICE
INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT
OFFICE.**

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

The Chair recognized Senator Revilla for the sponsorship.

**SPONSORSHIP SPEECH
OF SENATOR REVILLA**

Senator Revilla, on behalf of the Committee on Public Services, jointly with the Committee on Finance, presented to the Body House Bill No. 187, under Committee Report No. 165, a measure seeking to convert the Bayawan City Land Transportation Office (LTO) Extension Office into a regular LTO Office, principally authored by Representative Teves.

He stated that the proposed measure has complied with all the requirements set by the Land Transportation Office (LTO), to wit:

1. That the proposed office is already in operation;
2. That the office is an extension of the regular LTO office in the area;
3. That the majority of the personnel of the extension office were just detailed personnel coming from the LTO regular office; and
4. That the existing regular office cannot anymore service the rapidly growing population and immense increase of vehicles to be registered.

He added that in all categories, including the requirement for the number of registered vehicles and driver's licenses, the proposed measure met the standards set by the LTO.

He also informed the Body that in compliance with the provision of the Local Government Code, the LGU has issued a resolution unanimously endorsing the said conversion.

He expressed confidence that with the passage of the bill, the LTO would be able to provide the citizenry a dependable and reliable service of registering vehicles and the rapid processing and prompt issuance of drivers' licenses. He further pointed out that the conversion would reduce the layers of bureaucracy and would earn substantial increase from the fees it would collect from vehicle registration and licenses which would eventually redound to the benefit of the Filipino people.

Senator Revilla then moved for the approval of the bill for the benefit not only of the residents of Bayawan City but of the Filipino people.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 187**

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

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 469
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3973
(Continuation)**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 3973 (Committee Report No. 469), entitled

**AN ACT DECLARING A PARCEL OF
LAND OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN
LOCATED IN BARANGAY STO.
NIÑO, MUNICIPALITY OF SABLAYAN,
PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL
MINDORO AN AGRICULTURAL
LAND OPEN TO DISPOSITION FOR
RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL,
INDUSTRIAL OR OTHER PRODUC-
TIVE PURPOSES.**

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

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TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no further interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

ESCUDERO AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Sotto, on behalf of Senator Escudero, there being no objection, the Body approved the following amendments, one after the other:

1. On page 1, line 7, delete the phrase "one hundred two (102) hectares, more or less," and in lieu thereof, insert the phrase ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-NINE AND NINETY-SEVEN OVER ONE HUNDRED (179 ^{97/100}) HECTARES;
2. On the same page, line 8, replace the figure "56-30'E." with N 56° 30'E.;
3. On the same page, line 9, after the word "Sablayan," insert a comma (,) and the word AND;
4. On the same page, line 10, replace "Public Land Subdivision" with MINDORO.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no other individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3973 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3973 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3973

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no

objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON SENATE BILL NO. 3209 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 4314

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3209, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE USE AND
PROTECTION OF THE RED CROSS,
RED CRESCENT, AND RED CRYSTAL
EMBLEMS, PROVIDING PENALTIES
FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

and House Bill No. 4314, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE USE AND
PROTECTION OF THE RED CROSS,
THE RED CRESCENT, THE RED
CRYSTAL AND THE RED LION AND
SUN EMBLEMS, PROVIDING PENAL-
TIES FOR VIOLATIONS, THEREOF
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

JOINT EXPLANATION OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

At the instance of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the insertion of the Joint Explanation of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3209 and House Bill No. 4314 into the *Journal* and *Record* of the Senate.

Following is the joint explanation of the Conference Committee:

The Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 4314 and Senate Bill No. 3209, after having met and fully discussed the subject matter in a conference, hereby submits the following joint explanation to both Houses of Congress on the provisions and amendments agreed upon by the conferees in the accompanying Conference Committee Report:

1. The conferees agreed to use the Senate version as the working draft;

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2. The title of Senate version was adopted as the title of the reconciled version, which shall read:

“AN ACT DEFINING THE USE AND PROTECTION OF THE RED CROSS, RED CRESCENT, AND RED CRYSTAL EMBLEMS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

3. Part 1 (Introductory Provisions) – The heading and title of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted in the reconciled version;

4. Section 1 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 1 of the reconciled version but modified by changing the year “2012” to “2013”;

5. Section 2 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 2 of the reconciled version;

6. Section 3 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 3 of the reconciled version, with the following amendments:

- On letter (d), delete the words “International Movement of the Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Crystal,” and in lieu thereof, insert the word “International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement”;
- On letter (e), delete the words “his/her” and in lieu thereof, insert the word “an.” Also, delete the words “he or she,” and in lieu thereof, insert the words “the person”;

7. On Part 2 – heading and title of the Senate version was adopted in the reconciled version to read as follows:

“PART 2 RULES IN THE USE OF THE RED CROSS, THE RED CRESCENT, AND THE RED CRYSTAL EMBLEMS”;

8. Section 4 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 4 of the reconciled version, with modification to delete the words “armed forces” from the 3rd paragraph, and replace the, with the acronym “AFP”;

9. Section 5 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 5 of the reconciled version, with amendments from the House version as follows:

- On 1st paragraph, delete the phrase “and Local Government Units”;
- On same paragraph, after the word “assistance,” insert the sentence, “The DND shall authorize medical personnel,

units and transports of uniformed personnel in government other than the AFP to be marked with the emblem used as a protective device in time of armed conflict.”;

10. Section 6 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 6 of the reconciled version, with amendment to delete the words “laws and” and in lieu thereof, insert the word “security” before the word “regulations”;

11. Section 7 of the House version was adopted as Section 7 of the reconciled version;

12. Section 8 of the House version was adopted as Section 8 of the reconciled version;

13. PART 3 (CONTROL AND PENALTIES) of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted in the reconciled version;

14. Section 9 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 9 of the reconciled version;

15. Section 10 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 10 of the reconciled version;

16. Section 11 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 11 of the reconciled version, with modifications as follows:

- Delete 1st paragraph, in lieu thereof, insert a new one to read as follows:

“Any person who willfully, and without entitlement, make use of the Red Cross, Red Crescent, or Red Crystal emblem; the words “Red Cross,” “Red Crescent,” and “Red Crystal” or their translation in any official language and dialect; a distinctive signal or any other sign, designation or signal which constitutes an imitation thereof or likely to cause confusion or mistake or to deceive the general public, irrespective of the purpose of such use; as well as any person who has displayed the said emblems or words on signs, posters, announcements, leaflets or commercial documents, or has affixed them to goods or packaging, or has sold, offered for sale or placed in circulation goods thus marked shall be punished by the penalty of arresto mayor, or a fine of not less than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) or both, at the discretion of the court for each and every violation.”

17. Section 12 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 12 of the reconciled version, with modifications as follows:

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- Delete the first paragraph of subsection (a) and in lieu thereof, insert a new one, to read:

“(a) Any person who willfully commits or gives the order to commit acts resulting in the death of, the wounding, or the capture of an adversary by making perfidious use of the Red Cross, Red Crescent, or Red Crystal emblem or a distinctive signal shall be deemed to have committed a war crime. When the crime results in death or serious physical injury of an adversary and considering the individual circumstances of the offender, the penalty of reclusion perpetua and a fine ranging from Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) to One million pesos (P1,000,000.00) shall be imposed.

- Delete 2nd paragraph of section (a), in lieu thereof, insert the following:

“Perfidious use of the Red Cross, the Red Crescent, or the Red Crystal emblem, or a protective device, or a distinctive signal which does not result in death or serious harm to the body or health of an adversary, shall be punished by the penalty of *reclusion temporal* in its medium to maximum period and a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than Five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) at the discretion of the court”;

- Delete 1st paragraph of subsection (b), in lieu thereof, insert a new one, to read:

“(b) Any person who, in time of armed conflict and without entitlement, has willfully used the Red Cross, Red Crescent or the Red Crystal emblem, or a distinctive signal or any other sign or signal which constitutes and imitation thereof or which might lead to confusion, shall be punished by *prision correccional* in its medium period and a fine of not less than Forty thousand pesos (P40,000.00) but not more than Eight thousand pesos (P80,000.00) at the discretion of the court.”

18. Section 13 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 13 of the reconciled version, with modifications as follows:

- On 2nd paragraph, delete the phrase “8 December 2005” and in lieu thereof, insert the phrase “the adoption of Additional Protocol III (Adoption of an Additional Distinctive Emblem)”;

- On 3rd paragraph, after the word “emblem,” insert the phrase “or any sign constituting an imitation thereof”;

19. Section 14 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 14 of the reconciled version, with amendment to add the word “business-names” both in the section title and in the text, to be inserted after the word “Tradenames”;
20. PART 4 (RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER LAWS) of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted in the reconciled version;
21. Section 15 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 15 of the reconciled version;
22. Section 16 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 16 of the reconciled version;
23. Section 17 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 17 of the reconciled version;
24. Section 18 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 18 of the reconciled version;
25. Section 19 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 19 of the reconciled version;
26. PART 5 (FINAL PROVISIONS) of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted in the reconciled version;
27. Section 20 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 20 of the reconciled version;
28. Section 21 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 22 of the reconciled version;
29. Section 22 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 22 of the reconciled version;
30. Section 23 of both Senate and House versions, being similar, was adopted as Section 23 of the reconciled version;
31. Section 24 of Senate version was adopted as Section 24 of the reconciled version.

In case of a conflict between the statements/ amendments stated in this Joint Explanation and

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the provisions of the consolidated bill in the accompanying Conference Committee Report, the latter shall prevail.

APPROVAL OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3209 and House Bill No. 4314 was approved by the Body.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 6:10 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:10 p.m., the session was resumed.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Deputy Secretary for Legislation read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 28 January 2013, the House of Representatives passed the following House bills, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate:

House Bill No. 1021, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE BINOBONG HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BINOBONG, MUNICIPALITY OF PILI, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR FROM THE BINANUAANAN HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS BINOBONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 5341, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THREE (3) ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCHES IN THE PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON WITH TWO (2) SEATS TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF MALAYBALAY AND ONE (1) SEAT AT THE CITY OF VALENCIA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (K) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committee on Rules

House Bill No. 5698, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE MALAGUIP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY 19 MASINTOC, MUNICIPALITY OF PAOAY, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE INTO AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS MALAGUIP INTEGRATED SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 5805, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – TALIFUGO ANNEX IN BARANGAY TALIFUGO, MUNICIPALITY OF CONNER, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS TALIFUGO NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND TRADE HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 5936, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SILAE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ST. PETER ANNEX IN BARANGAY ST. PETER, CITY OF MALAYBALAY, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE SILAE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ST. PETER NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6041, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE HALAPITAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LITTLE BAGUIO ANNEX IN BARANGAY LITTLE BAGUIO, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FERNANDO, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE HALAPITAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LITTLE BAGUIO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6161, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ILI ANNEX IV IN BARANGAY ILI, MUNICIPALITY OF CONNER, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ILI SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6761, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE MONKAYO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CASOON ANNEX IN BARANGAY CASOON, MUNICIPALITY OF MONKAYO, PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY FROM THE MONKAYO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CASOON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6770, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE DAVAO REGIONAL HOSPITAL INTO DAVAO REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7179;

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

House Bill No. 6777, entitled

AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF CALBAYOG, PROVINCE OF WESTERN SAMAR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980,” AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6779, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL

TRIAL COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA TO BE STATIONED IN CAUAYAN CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (B) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committee on Rules

House Bill No. 6780, entitled

AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF ORMOC, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (I) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committee on Rules

House Bill No. 6781, entitled

AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF MEYCAUAYAN, PROVINCE OF BULACAN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (C) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6821, entitled

AN ACT CREATING FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE

REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN SAN JOSE CITY, THE SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, AND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RIZAL, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (C) AND SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

House Bill No. 6828, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE PROSPERIDAD NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – AZPETIA ANNEX IN BARANGAY AZPETIA, MUNICIPALITY OF PROSPERIDAD, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR FROM THE PROSPERIDAD NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS AZPETIA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6829, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SAN LUIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CECILIA ANNEX IN BARANGAY CECILIA, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN LUIS, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR FROM THE SAN LUIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CECILIA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6830, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE ESPERANZA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – SAN TORIBIO ANNEX IN BARANGAY SAN TORIBIO, MUNICIPALITY OF ESPERANZA, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR FROM THE ESPERANZA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SAN TORIBIO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

House Bill No. 6831, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE LOS ARCOS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – MABUHAY ANNEX IN BARANGAY MABUHAY, MUNICIPALITY OF PROSPERIDAD, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR FROM THE LOS ARCOS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS MABUHAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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

and House Bill No. 6832, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SAN LUIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LAMINGA ANNEX IN BARANGAY DON ALEJANDRO, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN LUIS, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR FROM THE SAN LUIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LAMINGA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

Letters from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 30 January 2013, the House of Representatives concurred with the amendments introduced by the Senate on the following House bills:

House Bill No. 6450, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE ESTEBAN MADRONA MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL – BINONGAAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY BINONGAAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN AGUSTIN, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON FROM THE ESTEBAN MADRONA MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS BINONGAAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

House Bill No. 2789, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIVISION OF CITY SCHOOLS IN THE CITY OF TAGBILARAN, PROVINCE OF BOHOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

House Bill No. 6232, entitled

AN ACT CHANGING THE NAME OF STA. MARIA AGRO-INDUSTRIAL HIGH SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STA. MARIA, PROVINCE OF BULACAN TO STA. MARIA NATIONAL AGRO-INDUSTRIAL HIGH SCHOOL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8397;

House Bill No. 5786, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN PEDRO IN THE PROVINCE OF LAGUNA INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF SAN PEDRO;

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House Bill No. 3211, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING RIZAL STREET IN ILOILO CITY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

and House Bill No. 3296, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE RIZAL STREET IN ILOILO CITY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

To the Archives

Letters from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 30 January 2013, the House of Representatives adopted Senate Bill No. 3345, as an amendment to House Bill No. 709, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING AND PENALIZING THE PILFERAGE AND THEFT, UNAUTHORIZED USE, INTERCONNECTION OR RECEPTION OF ANY SIGNAL OR SERVICE OFFERED OVER A CABLE TELEVISION (CATV) OR CABLE INTERNET SYSTEM AND/OR NETWORK OR THROUGH ANY UNAUTHORIZED INSTALLATION, ACCESS OR CONNECTION THERETO THROUGH THE USE OF CABLE OR OTHER EQUIPMENT AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR;

Senate Bill No. 3059 as an amendment to House Bill No. 6774, entitled

AN ACT CREATING FIVE (5) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN MALABON CITY, METRO MANILA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(D) AND SECTION 27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION

ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Senate Bill No. 3366 as an amendment to House Bill No. 6131, entitled

ACT PROVIDING FOR STIFFER PENALTIES FOR THE UNAUTHORIZED CUTTING OF COCONUT TREES, GRANTING POLICE POWERS TO THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY (PCA), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8048, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COCONUT PRESERVATION ACT OF 1995;

Senate Bill No. 3013 as an amendment to House Bill No. 6767, entitled

AN ACT CREATING TWENTY-TWO (22) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT QUEZON CITY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 27 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

and Senate Bill No. 3328 as an amendment to House Bill No. 834, entitled

AN ACT HONORING AND GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO FILIPINO CENTENARIANS, DECLARING THE 25TH OF SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL RESPECT FOR CENTENARIANS DAY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

To the Archives

Letters from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 30 January 2013, the House of Representatives approved the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6685, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING TRIPARTISM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE

ARTICLE 275 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES;

and Senate Bill No. 2921, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING TRIPARTISM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 275 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED;

and House Bill No. 6643 and Senate Bill No. 3286, both entitled

AN ACT ENHANCING THE PHILIPPINE BASIC EDUCATION SYSTEM BY STRENGTHENING ITS CURRICULUM AND INCREASING THE NUMBER OF YEARS FOR BASIC EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

To the Archives

BILL ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 3402, entitled

AN ACT REPEALING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 133 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Cayetano (P.)

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

COMMUNICATION

Letter from the Office of the President of the Philippines, transmitting to the Senate two (2) original copies of Republic Act No. 10363, entitled "AN ACT CREATING SEVEN (7) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE CITY OF MANDAUE, PROVINCE OF CEBU, FURTHER AMENDING FOR

THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980", AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

which was signed by His Excellency, President Benigno S. Aquino III on 28 January 2013.

To the Archives

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Report No. 724, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 2522, introduced by Representative Sema, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING THE COTABATO SUBDISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE TO BE KNOWN AS THE COTABATO CITY DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 725, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 1990, introduced by Representative Romarate, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY IPIL, SURIGAO CITY – SAN FRANCISCO – MALIMONO – MAINIT PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF SAN FRANCISCO, MALIMONO AND MAINIT AND IN THE CITY OF SURIGAO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 726, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 2790, introduced by Representative Garcia-Albano, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY ROAD FROM BARANGAY BUHANGIN TO THE BARANGAY BUNAWAN JUNCTION OF THE DAVAO-AGUSAN ROAD, PASSING THROUGH BARANGAYS CABANTIAN, INDANGAN, ACACIA AND MAHAYAG, ALL IN DAVAO CITY, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 727, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 5213, introduced by Representative Fariñas, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAOAG – VINTAR ROAD IN LAOAG CITY, ILOCOS NORTE INTO A SECONDARY NATIONAL HIGHWAY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 728, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 5214, introduced by Representative Fariñas, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BUTTONG – RARABURAN – DARAYDAY – MANGATO ROAD IN LAOAG CITY, ILOCOS NORTE INTO A SECONDARY NATIONAL HIGHWAY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 729, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 5466, introduced by Representative Apacible, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE NASUGBU – TERNATE ROAD WHICH CONNECTS THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NASUGBU, BATANGAS VIA BARANGAYS PAPAYA, CALAYO, BALAYTIGUE, NATIPUAN AND WAWA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NASUGBU, BATANGAS INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 730, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 6207, introduced by Representative Matugas, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROXAS – SAN ISIDRO – MABINI – LIBERTAD – BAILAN – T. ARLAN – STA. MONICA ROAD IN THE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 731, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 6208, introduced by Representative Matugas, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE CORAZON – STA. CRUZ – STA. FE – LIBERTAD – CABITONAN – CATANGHAN – GEN. LUNA ROAD IN THE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 732, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 6230, introduced by Representative Matugas, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE HIGHWAY JUNCTION – ANTIPOLO – TUBURAN – QUEZON – DEL CARMEN – MABINI – PILAR ROAD IN THE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 733, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 6453, introduced by Representative Daza, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN ISIDRO – LOPE DE VEGA ROAD IN THE FIRST DISTRICT, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR INTO A NATIONAL ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

**SECOND ADDITIONAL
REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT
OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Letters of His Excellency, President Benigno S. Aquino III, certifying to the necessity of the immediate enactment of House Bill No. 6887, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR) AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR,

in order to address the public emergency consisting of the deteriorating state of our country's prison system and the endemic problems of dilapidated facilities, poor personnel standards, inadequate funding, obsolete prison equipment as well as to pursue our commitment towards a restorative penal system and to conform to international standards of inmate safekeeping;

and Senate Bill No. 3389, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION (NEA) FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 269 AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION DECREE,

in order to address the public emergency consisting of the failure of electric cooperatives to provide adequate and sustainable electric services. There is a looming threat of power disconnection in critical areas due to the failure of several debt-ridden electric cooperatives to remain financially and operationally viable. In order to avert widespread blackouts within these areas, there is an urgent need to amend to provisions of the National Electrification Administration (NEA) decree by appointing the NEA as a supervisory body that would oversee and, in dire situations, control the operations of an electric cooperative. Furthermore, the bill provides for incentives and other support measures in favor of electric cooperatives to ensure their continued operation.

To the Committee on Rules

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MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Letters from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 4 February 2013, the House of Representatives passed the following House bills, in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate:

House Bill No. 6877, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE
CAREER EXECUTIVE SERVICE;**

House Bill No. 6868, entitled

**AN ACT EXPANDING THE UTILIZATION
OF THE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE IN
LAMA O, LIMAY, BATAAN FOR
BUSINESSES ENGAGED IN ENERGY
AND ENERGY-RELATED INFRA-
STRUCTURE PROJECTS AND
OTHER GAINFUL ECONOMIC
ACTIVITIES IN ADDITION TO
PETROCHEMICAL AND RELATED
INDUSTRIES, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL
DECREE NO. 949;**

To the Committee on Rules

and House Bill No. 6882, entitled

**AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE
CITIZENSHIP TO PETER LESLIE
WALLACE.**

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

RESOLUTION

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 936, entitled

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN
REFORM, TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
INTO THE REPORTED ANOMALOUS
TRANSFER OF PRIVATE LANDS
TO COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN
REFORM PROGRAM BENEFICI-
CIARIES DESPITE THE LAND-**

**HOLDING'S CLEAR EXEMPTION
FROM ITS COVERAGE AND NON-
COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROCE-
DURES LAID DOWN BY REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 6657 AS AMENDED, WITH
THE END IN VIEW OF DETER-
MINING WHAT CORRECTIVE AND
REMEDIAL MEASURES ARE NECES-
SARY IN ORDER TO PREVENT
FURTHER OCCURRENCE OF SAID
ANOMALIES THAT TEND TO
DESTROY THE OBJECTIVES OF
THE CARP LAW**

Introduced by Senator Lacson

To the Committee on Agrarian Reform

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Report No. 734, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4879, introduced by Representative Vargas-Alfonso, entitled

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD
WHICH STARTS FROM LUCBAN
(SITIO AYAGA JUNCTION) –
BANGUIAN – ALINUNU – ABULUG
(CENTRO) TO BALLESTEROS
(CENTRO) – (ZITANGA JUNCTION)
IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF
ABULUG AND BALLESTEROS,
PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN INTO A
NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD,**

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 735, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 3490, introduced by Representative Agyao, entitled

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE BULANAO
JUNCTION – DAGUPAN – PINOCOC
– MALALINTA ROAD CONNECT-
ING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF
TABUK, AND PINUKPUK, PROVINCE
OF KALINGA AND THE MUNICI-**

PALITY OF TUAO, PROVINCE OF
CAGAYAN INTO A NATIONAL
ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 736, submitted jointly by the
Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on
House Bill No. 2324, introduced by Represent-
atives Agyao and Bulut-Begtang, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE APAYAO
– KALINGA – ABRA PROVINCIAL
ROAD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 737, submitted jointly by
the Committees on Public Works; and Finance,
on House Bill No. 2139, introduced by
Representative Agyao, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE TABUK –
BANAUE ROAD VIA TANUDAN –
BARLIG ROAD INTO A NATIONAL
ROAD AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 738, submitted jointly by the
Committees on Foreign Relations; and Environ-
ment and Natural Resources on Proposed Senate
Resolution No. 894, introduced by Senator
Legarda, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELA-
TIONS AND THE COMMITTEE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL
RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A JOINT

INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORTED DUMPING OF
TOXIC WASTE IN PHILIPPINE
WATERS BY A FOREIGN FIRM AND
ITS ALLEGED CLAIM OF COVERAGE
UNDER THE VISITING FORCES
AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED
STATES TO AVOID INVESTIGATION
AND POSSIBLE CRIMINAL LIABILITY,
WITH THE END VIEW OF ENSUR-
ING THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF
PHILIPPINE TREATIES AND AGREE-
MENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES
WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE THE
PARAMOUNT OBJECTIVE OF
PROTECTING THE NATIONAL
INTEREST;

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 895, introduced
by Senator Defensor Santiago, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER
SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT
AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLA-
TION ON THE REPORTED DUMP-
ING OF TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS
WASTES IN SUBIC BAY BY GLENN
DEFENSE MARINE ASIA;

and Proposed Senate Resolution No. 896,
introduced by Senator Pimentel III, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COM-
MITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS
AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE
COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORTED DUMPING OF
HAZARDOUS WASTES IN OUR
TERRITORIAL SEAS ABUTTING
SUBIC BAY AND IF NECESSARY
TO REVISIT THE PROVISIONS OF
THE RP-USA VISITING FORCES
AGREEMENT TO PREVENT A
RECURRENCE OF THE INCIDENT
SUBJECT OF THIS RESOLUTION,

recommending the adoption of the recommend-
ations and their immediate implementation.

Sponsors: Senators Legarda and Escudero

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

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Committee Report No. 739, prepared and submitted by the Committee on Foreign Relations, on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 937, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY ON EXTRADITION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Legarda and Angara

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 740, prepared and submitted by the Committee on Foreign Relations, on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 938, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Legarda and Angara

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 741, prepared and submitted by the Committee on Foreign Relations, on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 939, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Legarda and Angara

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 742, submitted by the Committee on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 3371, introduced by Representative Garcia-Albano, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY ROAD FROM BARANGAY BUHANGIN TO BARANGAY CALLAWA, PASSING THROUGH BARANGAYS TIGATTO AND MANDUG, ALL IN DAVAO CITY, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

SPECIAL ORDERS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of the following from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders:

1. Committee Report No. 719 on House Bill No. 6368 (Northern Mindanao Medical Center - Cagayan De Oro City);
2. Committee Report No. 720 on House Bill No. 3840 (Medical Center In Dagupan City, Pangasinan);
3. Committee Report No. 721 on House Bill No. 1801 (Eversly Childs Sanitarium Hospital);
4. Committee Report No. 722 on House Bill No. 425 (Zamboanga City Medical Center); and
5. Committee Report No. 723 on House Bill No. 5396 (Amending R.A. No. 6876 Re the Tanudan Municipal Hospital).

BILLS UPGRADING HOSPITALS

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the following bills were considered on Second Reading, one after the other:

1. Committee Report No. 719 on House Bill No. 6368, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE NORTHERN MINDANAO MEDICAL CENTER IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7938, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

2. Committee Report No. 720 on House Bill No. 3840, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF REGION I MEDICAL CENTER IN DAGUPAN CITY, PANGASINAN FROM THREE HUNDRED (300) TO SIX HUNDRED (600), AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

3. Committee Report No. 721 on House Bill No. 1801, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF EVERSLY CHILDS SANITARIUM HOSPITAL IN THE PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM FIFTY (50)-BED CAPACITY TO ONE HUNDRED (100), UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH-CARE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

4. Committee Report No. 722 on House Bill No. 425, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM BED CAPACITY OF THE ZAMBOANGA CITY MEDICAL CENTER FROM TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7272; and

5. Committee Report No. 723 on House Bill No. 5396, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6876, ENTITLED "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY SI-IT, MUNICIPALITY OF TANUDAN, PROVINCE OF KALINGA APAYAO, TO BE KNOWN AS THE TANUDAN MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL," AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon

motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bills were read without prejudice to the insertion of their full texts into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Cayetano (P), sponsor of the measure, who manifested that House Bill Nos. 6368, 3840, 1801, 425 and 5396 would be covered under her omnibus sponsorship speech.

OMNIBUS SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR CAYETANO (P)

Senator Cayetano (P) presented to the Body House Bill Nos. 6368, 3840, 1801, 425 and 5396, all Department of Health-retained hospital bills that aim to improve the delivery of public health care by increasing the bed capacity of the hospitals. She stated that these bills were endorsed and supported by the DOH and the funding required for these measures was already included in the current General Appropriations Act. She believed that enacting these bills would not only improve hospital efficiency and increase accessibility to health care services, but would also move closer to the goal of attaining universal health care.

She then sought the immediate approval of these bills so that the government can provide the citizens with quality health care services that they deserve.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILLS UPGRADING HOSPITALS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Bill Nos. 6368, 3840, 1801, 425 and 5396.

ADOPTION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6877

In behalf of Senator Trillanes, Chairman of the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body adopted *in toto* House Bill No. 6877, the House version of Senate Bill No. 3215 (Career Executive Service Act of 2012).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 6:36 p.m.

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RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 7:00 p.m., the session was resumed.

**THIRD ADDITIONAL
REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

The Acting Secretary of the Senate read Committee Report No. 743, submitted jointly by the Committees on Science and Technology; and Finance, on House Bill No. 6546, introduced by Representatives Teodoro, *et al.*, which the Chair assigned to the Calendar for Ordinary Business, entitled

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

recommending its approval without amendment, taking into consideration Senate Bill Nos. 73, 572, 1039, 1406 and 2489.

Sponsors: Senators Angara and Drilon

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 743 on House Bill No. 6546 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 743
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6546**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, House Bill No. 6546 (Committee Report No. 743), entitled

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

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon

motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

The Chair recognized Senator Angara for the sponsorship.

**SPONSORSHIP SPEECH
OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Senator Angara stated that in this age of climate change, the need for modernization is even more acute and very timely.

The PAGASA, he said, has been in the past a recipient or the butt of jokes, and people do not pay attention to its warnings because sometimes they are either wrong or late. But he pointed out that the fault lies in the lack of funding for modern equipment and additional personnel, and not on its current manpower personnel. He said that PAGASA has some of the best technical people and meteorologists in the country, in fact, many institutions around the world have been pirating them, including the U.S. Air Force.

Senator Angara disclosed that most of the modern equipment which PAGASA has been using are mostly donations and grants from foreign governments, i.e., the Doppler radars installed in strategic areas throughout the Philippines — five in Luzon, two in Mindanao, and two in the Visayas — as well as the automated weather stations placed in major river basins to monitor the rising of water levels and to issue warnings during flood situations.

Senator Angara said that it is about time to put good money in a necessary and crucial institution like PAGASA. He said that the proposed measure came from both Houses, but, the Committee adopted the House version as it was more comprehensive than any of the Senate versions.

Lastly, he said that the measure is one of the priorities of NEDA, and the DOST even committed to submit a certification from the President to have the bill approved on Second and Third Readings before the adjournment of the session.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6546**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no

objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 7:07 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:50 p.m., Wednesday, February 6, 2013, the session was resumed with Senate President Enrile presiding.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto stated that the session would be suspended to enable the Body to go into an all-senators' caucus as requested by Senator Lacson.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 3:51 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:20 p.m., the session was resumed with Senate President Pro Tempore Estrada presiding.

FOURTH ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 4 February 2013, the House of Representatives agreed to a conference and designated Representatives Apostol, Romarate Jr., Angara, Mandanas, Calimbas-Villarosa, Aggabao and Benaldo as its conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 4867, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 612, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE INSURANCE CODE,

and Senate Bill No. 3280, 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.

To the Committee on Rules

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 4 February 2013, the House of Representatives passed House Bill No. 6724, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE FIRST BAY POWER CORPORATION (FBPC) A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO THE END-USERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAUAN, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS,

in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

To the Committee on Public Services

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 4 February 2013, the House of Representatives adopted Senate Bill No. 3389 as an amendment to House Bill No. 6214, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 269, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION DECREE.

To the Archives

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 4 February 2013, the House of Representatives concurred with the amendments introduced by the Senate on House Bill No. 5495, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING JARO CATHEDRAL, MOLO CHURCH, THE ILOILO CITY CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, FORT SAN PEDRO, JARO PLAZA COMPLEX, MOLO PLAZA COMPLEX AND PLAZA LIBERTAD COMPLEX, ALL LOCATED IN THE CITY OF ILOILO, AS HERITAGE AND TOURIST SPOTS.

To the Archives

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 4 February 2013, the House of Representatives approved the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5360, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING FOREIGN EQUITY IN RURAL BANKS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7353, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RURAL BANKS ACT OF 1992,

and Senate Bill No. 3282, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING THE INFUSION OF FOREIGN EQUITY IN THE CAPITAL OF RURAL BANKS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7353, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RURAL BANK ACT OF 1992, AS AMENDED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

To the Archives

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 5 February 2013, the House of Representatives passed House Bill No. 6887, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR) AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR,

in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

To the Committee on Rules

RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 940, entitled

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 5 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION

Introduced by Senator Osmeña III

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 942, entitled

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE MANILA ZOO ADMINISTRATION TO EFFECT THE IMMEDIATE TRANSFER OF ITS LONE ELEPHANT TO A PROPER SANCTUARY

Introduced by Senator Lapid

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Environment and Natural Resources

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Report No. 744, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 201, introduced by Representative Villafuerte, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN BARANGAY SABANG, MUNICIPALITY OF CALABANGA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 745, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 3080, introduced by Representative Daza, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN VICENTE, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 746, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 3208, introduced by Representative Salimbangon, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN BARANGAY HAGNAYA, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN REMIGIO, PROVINCE OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 747, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4149, introduced by Representative Gullas, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MINGLANILLA, PROVINCE OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 748, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4445, introduced by Representative De Venecia, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FISH PORT IN THE CITY OF DAGUPAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 749, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4697, introduced by Representative Matugas, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FISH PORT AND COLD STORAGE FACILITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DAPA, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 750, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 5009, introduced by Representative Sahidulla, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FISH PORTS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TONGKIL, TAPUL, LUGUS, KALINGGALAN CALUANG AND SIASI, PROVINCE OF SULU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 751, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 6171, introduced by Representative Bagasina, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FISH PORT AND COLD STORAGE FACILITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SASMUAN, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 752, submitted by the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on House Bill No. 6215, introduced by Representatives Gullas and Matugas, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING CERTAIN PARCELS OF LANDS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NAGA, PROVINCE OF CEBU AS AGRICULTURAL LAND OPEN TO DISPOSITION FOR AGRICULTURAL, RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL OR OTHER PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES,

recommending its approval with amendments by substitution.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 753, prepared and submitted by the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs, on Senate Bill No. 3403, with Senators Sotto III, Ejercito Estrada, Villar and Honasan II, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 21 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 46 and 674, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 312, taking into consideration House Bill No. 4660.

Sponsor: Senator Honasan II

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

**FIFTH ADDITIONAL
REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee Report No. 754, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 3929, introduced by Representative Banal, *et al.*, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING ANONAS STREET IN QUEZON CITY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 755, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4246, introduced by Representative Defensor, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE DUEÑAS — CARVASANA — CALINOG PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 756, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4247, introduced by Representative Defensor, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE TABUCAN — CABATUAN — CONSOLACION — SAN MIGUEL PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 757, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4852, introduced by Representative Fariñas, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE FEDERICO L. FARIÑAS AVENUE IN LAOAG CITY, ILOCOS NORTE INTO A SECONDARY NATIONAL HIGHWAY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 758, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 4908, introduced by Representative Quimbo, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING BAGONG FARMER'S AVENUE 1 TRAVERSING BARANGAY TUMANA IN THE SECOND DISTRICT, CITY OF MARIKINA INTO A NATIONAL ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 759, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 5469, introduced by Representative Apacible, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE CALATAGAN -- CALAMBUYAN PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALATAGAN, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS WHICH TRAVERSES THE TOURISM AREA OF CALATAGAN, BATANGAS VIA CALATAGAN AND CALAMBUYAN INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 760, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 5591, introduced by Representatives Arnaiz and Teves, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE METRO DUMAGUETE DIVERSION ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL NEGROS INTO A NATIONAL ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Revilla Jr.

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

Committee Report No. 761, submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Works; and Finance, on House Bill No. 2372, introduced by Representative Romarate, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY LOWER LIBAS JUNCTION -- POBLACION -- BARANGAY HIMAMAUG PROVINCIAL ROAD, ALL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGANAAN TO SURIGAO CITY IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD,

recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla Jr. and Drilon

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

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

- Professors Imelda Ronda, Lorinol Precissimo, Gerry Liones and Ma. Elena Pelacho of the University of the Philippines;
- Students and faculty members of the Ifugao State University, Adamson

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University, Polytechnic University of the Philippines and San Juan de Dios Educational Foundation, Inc.; and

- Mayor Efren Alvarez and Ms. Tekila Grace Alvarez of Science City, Muñoz, Nueva Ecija.

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

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON SENATE BILL NO. 3317 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 5627

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3317 and House Bill No. 5627, both entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

The Chair recognized Senator Escudero to sponsor the report.

JOINT EXPLANATION OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Upon motion of Senator Escudero, there being no objection, the Body approved the insertion of the joint explanation of the Conference Committee into the Journal and Record of the Senate which was adopted as the sponsorship speech.

Following is the full text of the Joint Explanation:

The Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5627 and Senate Bill No. 3317, after having met and fully discussed the subject matter in a conference, hereby reports to their respective Houses the following, that:

1. The conferees agreed to use the Senate version as the working draft;
2. Section 1 of the House Version on *Short Title* was adopted as Section 1 of the reconciled bill, but change the year "2012" to 2013;

3. Section 2 of both versions on *Declaration of Principles and State Policies* was adopted as Section 2 of the reconciled bill, to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. *Declaration of Principles and State Policies.* – Consistent with the principles enshrined in the 1987 Constitution, the standards set by international humanitarian law and human rights laws, international treaties and conventions adhered to by the Philippines, it is also hereby declared a State policy to promote and protect the rights of internally displaced persons in situations of armed conflict, generalized violence, tribal/clan wars, violations of human rights, aggressive implementation of development projects, natural and man-made disasters.

When armed conflict of a non-international character is inevitable, the State shall ensure the promotion and protection of the rights of the citizens who are noncombatants and who shall enjoy in full equality, the same rights and freedoms under international and domestic law as do other persons in the country. These citizens shall not be discriminated against in the enjoyment of any rights and freedoms on the ground that they are internally displaced."

4. In Section 3 of both versions on *Definition of Terms*, in Sub-section (a) on the definition of *Internal Displacement*, the Senate version was adopted; in (b) on the definition of *Arbitrary Internal Displacement*, the Senate version was adopted, but delete the word "internal" between the words "of" and "displacement"; in (c), on the definition of *Internally Displaced Person*, the Senate version was adopted; in (d), on the definition of *Order of Battle/Watchlist*, the Senate version was adopted; in (e), on the definition of *Apartheid*, the House Version was adopted; in (f), on the definition of *Ethnic Cleansing*, the House version was adopted; and in (g), on the definition of *Tribal/Clan War*, the House version was adopted;

This shall be Section 3 of the reconciled bill;

5. Section 4 of the Senate version on *Scope* was adopted as Section 4 of the reconciled bill;
6. Section 5 of both versions on *Prevention of Arbitrary Internal Displacement* were adopted as Section 5 of the reconciled bill, to read as follows:

“SEC. 5. *Prevention of Arbitrary Internal Displacement.* – State authorities, including local government units (LGUs) and parties to an armed conflict, irrespective of their legal status and applied without any adverse distinction, shall respect and ensure compliance with their obligations under international law, including human rights law and humanitarian law, so as to prevent and avoid conditions that might lead to arbitrary internal displacement of persons.”

7. Section 6 of both versions on *Prohibited Acts of Arbitrary Internal Displacement* were adopted as Section 6 of the reconciled bill, to read as follows:

“SEC. 6. *Prohibited Acts of Arbitrary Internal Displacement.* – The prohibited acts of arbitrary internal displacement shall include, but are not limited to, those committed:

- (a) based on policies of apartheid, “ethnic cleansing” or similar practices aimed at or resulting in altering the ethnic, religious or racial composition of the affected population;
- (b) in situations of armed conflict, unless the security of civilians is involved;
- (c) in cases of large-scale development projects, including land conversion and any other land conflict, which are not justified by compelling and overriding public interest;
- (d) in cases of natural and man-made disasters, unless the safety and health of those affected require their evacuation;
- (e) when used as a form of collective punishment;
- (f) in cases of tribal/clan wars, unless the security of those civilians not involved in the conflict is endangered; and
- (g) in violation of the rights of IDPs during displacement under Section 9 of this Act.

An Order of Battle/Watchlist issued by the military or any law enforcement agency of the government shall not justify arbitrary internal displacement and shall subject the perpetrators to the penalties provided under Section 13 of this Act.”

8. Section 7 of the Senate version on *Protection from Arbitrary Internal Displacement* was adopted as Section 7 of the reconciled bill, but was modified to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. *Protection from Arbitrary Internal Displacement.* – All authorities, including the LGUs concerned, groups and persons, irrespective of their legal status and applied without any adverse distinction, shall protect its citizens against being arbitrarily displaced from their homes or places of habitual residence.

Displacement shall not be carried out in a manner that violates the rights to life, liberty, dignity and security of those affected.

In addition, the following safeguards against arbitrary internal displacement shall be observed by all concerned authorities, groups and persons:

- (a) All feasible alternatives shall be explored in order to avoid displacement. Where no alternatives exist, all measures shall be undertaken to minimize displacement and its adverse effects on the population that will be affected;
- (b) If displacement is inevitable, the authorities shall ensure, to the greatest practicable extent, that proper accommodation is effected in satisfactory conditions of safety, nutrition, water and sanitation, health and hygiene, and that members of the same family, especially women and children, are not separated;
- (c) Indigenous peoples, minorities, peasants, pastoralists and other groups with special dependency on and attachment to their lands shall be protected from arbitrary internal displacement, in accordance with Republic Act No. 8371, otherwise known as the Indigenous People’s Rights Act of 1997; and
- (d) In situations other than during the emergency stages of armed conflicts and disasters, the following guarantees shall be complied with:
 - (1) a specific decision shall be taken by the authority empowered by law to order such measures;
 - (2) full disclosure of information on the reasons and procedures for the displacement and when applicable, also on compensation and relocation;
 - (3) free and informed consent of those persons to be displaced shall be sought;
 - (4) authorities concerned shall endeavor to involve those affected, particu-

larly women, in the planning and management of their relocation, resettlement and reintegration;

- (5) law enforcement measures, when required, shall be carried out by competent legal authorities; and
- (6) the right to an effective remedy, including the review of such decisions by appropriate judicial authorities, shall be respected.”

9. Section 8 of the House version on *Permanent Prohibition Against Arbitrary Internal Displacement* was adopted as Section 8 of the reconciled bill;

10. Section 9 of both versions on *Rights During and After Displacement* were adopted as Section 9 of the reconciled bill, to read as follows:

“SEC. 9. *Rights During and After Displacement.* – Pursuant to the provisions of the Bill of Rights under Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the following rights shall be afforded to IDPs during and after their displacement, without discrimination of any kind, such as those based on race, color, sex, language, religion or belief, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, legal or social status, age, disability, property, birth or on any other similar criteria:

(a) *Provision and Access to Basic Necessities.* – At the minimum, regardless of the circumstances, and without discrimination, competent authorities shall provide IDPs with and ensure safe access to:

- (1) essential and adequate food and nutrition and potable water;
- (2) basic shelter and housing;
- (3) appropriate clothing; and
- (4) essential medical and dental services and sanitation, including psychological and social services and essential drugs and medicines;

(b) *Protection Against Criminal Offenses and Other Unlawful Acts.* –

- (1) It shall be prohibited to commit any of the following acts against IDPs in all circumstances:
 - (i) Murder;
 - (ii) Hostage-taking;

(iii) Summary or arbitrary execution and enforced disappearance, including abduction or unacknowledged detention, threatening or resulting in death; and

(iv) Unlawful confinement;

(2) Attacks or other acts of violence against IDPs who do not or no longer participate in hostilities shall be prohibited in all circumstances, without prejudice to being held liable for any offense committed by them. In particular, IDPs shall be protected against:

(i) direct or indiscriminate attacks or other acts of violence, including the creation of areas wherein attacks on civilians are permitted;

(ii) starvation as a method of combat;

(iii) their being used to shield military objectives from attack, or to shield, favor or impede the operations of the military, police or any armed group;

(iv) attacks against any evacuation center, facility, encampment or other settlements; and

(v) use of anti-personnel landmines;

(3) IDPs, whether or not their liberty has been restricted, shall be protected in particular against:

(i) rape, mutilation, torture, cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment, and other outrages upon personal dignity, such as acts of gender-specific violence, forced prostitution and any form of indecent assault;

(ii) slavery or any contemporary form of slavery, such as sale into marriage, sexual exploitation or forced labor of children; and

(iii) acts of violence intended to spread terror among IDPs.

Threats and incitement to commit any of the foregoing acts under paragraph (b), subsections 1 and 3 herein shall be prohibited;

- (4) IDPs shall not be interned in or confined in any evacuation center, facility, encampment or other settlements. If in exceptional circumstances such internment or confinement is necessary, it shall not last longer than what is required by the circumstances, as may be determined by the Commission on Human Rights (CHR); and
 - (5) IDPs shall be protected against discriminatory practices of recruitment into the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), law enforcement agencies or any armed group as a result of their displacement. In particular, any cruel, inhumane or degrading practice that compel compliance or punish noncompliance with recruitment shall be prohibited in all circumstances;
- (c) *Freedom of Movement.* – (1) Every IDP has the right to liberty of movement and freedom to choose a residence. In particular, the IDP has the right to move freely in and out of any evacuation center, encampment or other settlements, subject to its existing rules and regulations;
- (2) IDPs, whether or not they are living in an evacuation center, encampment or other settlements, shall not be discriminated against in the enjoyment of the following rights:
- (i) to enjoy freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief, opinion and expression;
 - (ii) to seek freely opportunities for employment and to participate in economic activities;
 - (iii) to associate freely and participate equally in community affairs;
 - (iv) to vote and participate in governmental and public affairs, including the right to have access to the means necessary to exercise these rights; and
 - (v) to communicate in a language they understand;
- (3) IDPs have the right to:
- (i) seek safety in another part of the country;
 - (ii) leave the country;
 - (iii) seek asylum in another country; and
 - (iv) be protected against forcible return to resettlement in any place where their lives, safety, liberty and/or health would be at risk;
- (d) *Recognition, Issuance and Replacement of Documents.* – The authorities concerned shall issue to the IDPs all documents necessary for the enjoyment and exercise of their legal rights. In particular, these authorities shall facilitate the issuance of new documents or the replacement of documents lost in the course of displacement, without imposing unreasonable conditions and without discrimination against men and women, who shall have equal rights to obtain and to be issued the same in their own names;
- (e) *Family Unity and Missing Persons.* –
- (1) Members of internally displaced families who wish to remain together shall be allowed to do so. Families that are separated by displacement and whose personal liberty have been restricted by internment or confinement in any evacuation center, facility, encampment or other settlements should be reunited immediately, with appropriate measures taken to expedite the reunion, particularly when children are involved;
 - (2) The State shall encourage cooperation among international and local humanitarian organizations engaged in the task of family reunification;
 - (3) The authorities concerned shall endeavor to establish the fate and whereabouts of IDPs reported missing and cooperate with relevant international organizations engaged in this task. They shall inform the next-of-kin on the progress of the investigation and notify them of any result;
 - (4) The authorities concerned shall endeavor to collect and identify the mortal remains of the deceased, prevent their despoliation or mutilation and facilitate the return of those remains to the next-of-kin or dispose of them respectfully; and

- (5) Grave sites of IDPs shall be protected and respected in all circumstances and shall have the right of access to the grave sites of their deceased relatives;
- (f) *Health and Education.* – (1) Certain IDPs, such as children, especially unaccompanied minors, expectant mothers, mothers with young children, female heads of households, persons with disabilities and elderly persons, shall be entitled to protection and assistance required by their condition and to treatment which takes into account their special needs;
- (2) All wounded and sick IDPs, as well as those with disabilities, shall receive to the fullest extent practicable and with the least possible delay the medical care and attention they require, without distinction on any ground other than the medical ones. When necessary, IDPs shall have access to psychological and social services;
- (3) Special attention shall be paid to the health needs of women, including access to female health care, providers and services, as well as appropriate counseling for victims of sexual and other abuses;
- (4) Special attention shall also be given to the prevention of contagious and infectious diseases, including AIDS, among IDPs; and
- (5) The authorities concerned shall ensure that IDPs, in particular, displaced children, receive education that shall be free and compulsory at the primary level. Special efforts shall be made to ensure the full and equal participation of women and girls in educational programs, and that respect for their cultural identity, language and religion, educational and training facilities shall be made available to them as soon as circumstances permit; and
- (g) *Property and Possessions.* – The property and possessions of IDPs shall, in all circumstances, be protected against the following acts:
 - (1) pillage;
 - (2) direct and indiscriminate attacks or other acts of violence;

- (3) being used to shield military operations or objectives;
- (4) being made the object of reprisal;
- (5) being destroyed or appropriated as a form of collective punishment; and
- (6) destruction, arbitrary and illegal appropriation, occupation or use. The rights and obligations herein shall not be interpreted as restricting, modifying or impairing the provisions of any international human rights or international humanitarian law or rights granted to persons under domestic law.”

11. Section 10 of the Senate version on *Assistance During Displacement of IDPs* was adopted as Section 10 of the reconciled bill, but was modified to read as follows:

“SEC. 10. *Assistance during Displacement of IDPs.* – The primary duty and responsibility for providing humanitarian assistance to IDPs lie with national authorities, in close collaboration with the LGUs exercising territorial jurisdiction over the affected area/s. As such, the military and law enforcement agencies conducting operations, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Health (DOH), the local government hospitals, the LGUs concerned and other appropriate government agencies shall provide immediate relief and humanitarian assistance to IDPs, families and communities.

Humanitarian assistance to IDPs shall not be diverted for any political or military reasons. All authorities concerned shall grant and facilitate the free passage of humanitarian assistance to the internally displaced and ensure rapid, safe and unimpeded access of persons engaged in giving such assistance, their transport and supplies to the displaced communities. They shall not be the objects of attack or other acts of violence.

All concerned authorities shall assist the IDPs in the recovery of their property and possessions, and shall provide or assist these persons in obtaining appropriate compensation or other forms of just reparation.”

12. Section 11 of the House version on *Return, Resettlement and Reintegration* was adopted as Section 11 of the reconciled bill;

13. Section 12 of the House version on *Mechanisms for International Humanitarian Assistance* was adopted as Section 12 of the reconciled bill, but on the 3rd paragraph, insert the acronym "GAA" in open-close parenthesis between the words "Act" and "as";
14. Section 13 of the House version on *Penalties* was adopted as Section 13 of the reconciled bill;
15. Section 14 of the Senate version on *Applicability of the Revised Penal Code and Special Penal Laws* was adopted as Section 14 of the reconciled bill;
16. Section 15 of the Senate version on *Jurisdiction of the Court* was adopted as Section 15 of the reconciled bill;
17. Section 16 of the Senate version on *Financial Assistance to IDPs* was adopted as Section 16 of the reconciled bill;
18. Section 17 of the House version on *Compensation* was adopted as Section 17 of the reconciled bill;
19. Section 18 of the Senate version on *Role of the CHR* was adopted as Section 18 of the reconciled bill;
20. Section 19 of the Senate version on *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee* was adopted as Section 19 of the reconciled bill, but in the last paragraph, change the word "would" to "shall" between the words "recommendations" and "thereafter", to read as follows:

"SEC. 19. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee*. – A Joint Congressional Oversight Committee is hereby created, composed of the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights and seven (7) other Senators designated by the Senate President, and the Chairman of the House Committee on Human Rights and seven (7) other Members of the House of Representatives, designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives: *Provided*, That, of the seven (7) Members to be designated by each House of Congress, four (4) shall represent the Majority and three (3) from the Minority.

The Joint Congressional Oversight Committee shall also have the power to inquire into, summon and investigate the Orders of Battle as defined under this Act, as well as the legal and factual justifications for the inclusion of specific persons and

groups in said Orders of Battle. In this regard, the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee may issue mandatory process directing the transmission of all such documents relevant and necessary for the Committee to determine the validity of the inclusion of specific persons or groups in the Orders of Battle. For this purpose, the highest ranking officers or heads of offices shall be charged with testifying before the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee in relation to any inquiries on the Orders of Battle.

The invocation of national security as a defense may not prevent the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee from inquiring into the factual and/or legal bases for the existence of an Order of Battle or the inclusion of specific persons or groups in said Orders of Battle. Should there be a need to inquire into the factual basis for the invocation of national security, the Committee shall convene in an executive session and hear the officials invoking it. Should the basis not be satisfactory to the Committee, the public hearing/s will continue and appropriate recommendations shall thereafter be made by the Committee."

21. Section 20 of the Senate version on *Monitoring of Compliance with this Act* was adopted as Section 20 of the reconciled bill;
22. Section 19 of the House version on *Appropriations* was adopted and renumbered as Section 21 of the reconciled bill;
23. Section 22 of the Senate version on the *Implementing Rules and Regulations* was adopted as Section 22 of the reconciled bill, but was modified to read as follows:

"SEC. 22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. – The CHR shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

In the formulation of the rules and regulations, the CHR shall take the lead and coordinate with DSWD, DND, DILG, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), DOH, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), Presidential Commission on Urban Poor (PCUP), Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Coordinating Council (NDRRMCC), National Housing Authority (NHA) and consult with the LGUs

concerned, human rights non-governmental organizations and people's organizations."

24. Section 23 of the Senate version on the *Repealing Clause* was adopted as Section 23 of the reconciled bill;
25. Section 24 of the Senate version on the *Separability Clause* was adopted as Section 24 of the reconciled bill;
26. Section 25 of the Senate version and Section 24 of the House Version on the *Effectivity* of the measure was adopted as Section 25 of the reconciled bill, to read as follows:

"SEC. 24. *Effectivity*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation."

- 27 For the title, adopt the Senate version, to read as follows:

AN ACT PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

In case of a conflict between the statements/amendments stated in this Joint Explanatory Statement and that of the provisions of the consolidated bill in the accompanying Conference Committee Report, the provisions of the latter shall prevail.

APPROVAL OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3317 and House Bill No. 5627 was approved by the Body.

ADOPTION OF HOUSE BILL NOS. 6887 AND 6868

Senator Escudero informed the Body that the Senate would adopt House Bill No. 6887, in lieu of Senate Bill No. 3335 (The Bureau of Corrections Act of 2012), and House Bill No. 6868, in lieu of Senate Bill No. 2916 (Philippine National Oil Company).

Upon motion of Senator Escudero, there being no objection, the Body approved the adoption of House Bill Nos. 6887 and 6868 in lieu of Senate Bill Nos. 3335 and 2916, respectively.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON SENATE BILL NO. 3123 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 6565

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3123 and House Bill No. 6565, both entitled

AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING 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.

The Chair recognized Senator Guingona to sponsor the report.

JOINT EXPLANATION OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Senator Guingona read the Joint Explanation of the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3123 and House Bill No. 6565, to wit:

The Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6565 and Senate Bill No. 3123, after having met and fully discussed the subject matter in a Conference, hereby report to their respective Houses the following:

- I. The conferees agreed to adopt the Senate version as their working draft;
- II. **Section 1** of the Senate version was adopted as Section 1 by the reconciled version with the following modifications:
 - The word "**institution**" was deleted and in lieu thereof, the phrase "**PERSONS, NATURAL OR JURIDICAL**" was inserted after the word "**covered**"; likewise the deletion of "**s**" in the word "**refer**", hence:

"(a) Covered **PERSONS, NATURAL OR JURIDICAL** refer to:
 - After the word banks, the phrase "**non-banks**" was inserted; likewise the phrase "**foreign exchange dealers, pawnshops, money changers, remittance and transfer companies and other similar**

entities” was inserted after the phrase “trust entities,” hence:

- (1) banks, **non-banks**, quasi-banks, trust entities, **FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEALERS, PAWNSHOPS, MONEY CHANGERS, REMITTANCE AND TRANSFER COMPANIES AND OTHER SIMILAR ENTITIES** and all other institutions and their subsidiaries and affiliates supervised or regulated by the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP);
- The phrase “**pre-need companies**” was inserted after the “comma” (,);
- The word “**institutions**” was deleted and in lieu thereof, the word “**persons**” was inserted;
- After the punctuation (;) the conjunction “**and**” was deleted,

Hence:

- (2) insurance companies, **PRE-NEED COMPANIES** and all other **PERSONS** supervised or regulated by the Insurance Commission (IC);
- On sub-section (3) (i) the word “**entities**” was deleted on page 1, line 14 and page 2, line 2 and in lieu thereof, the word “**persons**” was inserted;
- Subsequent relettering was reflected in view of the deletion of the item (iii); hence:
 - (3)(i) securities dealers, brokers, salesmen, investment houses and other similar **PERSONS** managing securities or rendering services as investment agent, advisor, or consultant, (ii) mutual funds, close-end investment companies, common trust funds, and other similar **PERSONS**, and (iii) other entities administering or otherwise dealing in currency, commodities or financial derivatives based thereon, valuable objects, cash substitutes and other similar monetary instruments or property supervised or regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC);
- (4) The provision was deleted “*in toto*”;
- Subsections 5. and 6 from the provision in the Senate version were adopted as subsection (4) and (5) of the reconciled

version with the insertion of “**JEWELRY**” before the word dealers, and the succeeding sections also renumbered accordingly; hence:

- (4) JEWELRY DEALERS IN PRECIOUS METALS, WHO, AS A BUSINESS, TRADE IN PRECIOUS METALS, FOR TRANSACTIONS IN EXCESS OF ONE MILLION (P1,000,000) PESOS;
- (5) JEWELRY DEALERS IN PRECIOUS STONES, WHO, AS A BUSINESS, TRADE IN PRECIOUS STONES FOR TRANSACTIONS IN EXCESS OF ONE MILLION (P1,000,000.00) PESOS;
- (6) COMPANY SERVICE PROVIDERS WHICH, AS A BUSINESS, PROVIDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES TO THIRD PARTIES: (I) ACTING AS A FORMATION AGENT OF JURIDICAL PERSONS; (II) ACTING AS (OR ARRANGING FOR ANOTHER PERSON TO ACT AS) A DIRECTOR OR CORPORATE SECRETARY OF A COMPANY, A PARTNER OF A PARTNERSHIP, OR A SIMILAR POSITION IN RELATION TO OTHER JURIDICAL PERSONS; (III) PROVIDING A REGISTERED OFFICE; BUSINESS ADDRESS OR ACCOMMODATION, CORRESPONDENCE OR ADMINISTRATIVE ADDRESS FOR A COMPANY, A PARTNERSHIP OR ANY OTHER LEGAL PERSON OR ARRANGEMENT; AND (IV) ACTING AS (OR ARRANGING FOR ANOTHER PERSON TO ACT AS) A NOMINEE SHAREHOLDER FOR ANOTHER PERSON.
- (7) PERSONS WHO PROVIDE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:
 - a. MANAGING OF CLIENT MONEY, SECURITIES OR OTHER ASSETS;
 - b. MANAGEMENT OF BANK, SAVINGS OR SECURITIES ACCOUNTS;
 - c. ORGANIZATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE CREATION, OPERATION OR MANAGEMENT OF COMPANIES; AND
 - d. CREATION, OPERATION OR

MANAGEMENT OF JURIDICAL PERSONS OR ARRANGEMENTS, AND BUYING AND SELLING BUSINESS ENTITIES.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, THE TERM "COVERED PERSONS" SHALL EXCLUDE LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS ACTING AS INDEPENDENT LEGAL PROFESSIONALS IN RELATION TO INFORMATION CONCERNING THEIR CLIENTS OR WHERE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION WOULD COMPROMISE CLIENT CONFIDENCES OR THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT RELATIONSHIP: *PROVIDED*, THAT THESE LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS ARE AUTHORIZED TO PRACTICE IN THE PHILIPPINES AND SHALL CONTINUE TO BE SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CODES OF CONDUCT AND/OR PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OR ANY OF ITS AMENDMENTS".

III. Section 2 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 2 of the reconciled version with the following modifications and additions:

- Subsection (9) on page 5, line 7, the phrase "**AND OTHER FORMS OF SWINDLING UNDER ARTICLE 316**" was inserted after the "Article 15", hence:

(9) Swindling under Article 315 **AND OTHER FORMS OF SWINDLING UNDER ARTICLE 316** of the Revised Penal Code, as amended;
- On page 5, line 11, the word "under" was deleted and in lieu thereof, insert "**OF**", hence:

(11) Violations **OF** Republic Act No. 8792, otherwise known as the Electronic Commerce Act of 2000;
- The following provisions in the Senate version were adopted:

(13) **TERRORISM AND CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT TERRORISM AS DEFINED AND PENALIZED UNDER SECTIONS 3 AND 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9372;**

(14) **FINANCING OF TERRORISM UNDER SECTION 4 AND OFFENSES PUNISHABLE UNDER SECTIONS 5, 6, 7 AND 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10168, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TERRORISM FINANCING PREVENTION AND SUPPRESSION ACT OF 2012;**

(15) **BRIBERY UNDER ARTICLES 210, 211, 211-A OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED AND CORRUPTION OF PUBLIC OFFICERS UNDER ARTICLE 212 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED;**

(16) **FRAUDS AND ILLEGAL EXACTIONS AND TRANSACTIONS UNDER ARTICLES 213, 214, 215, AND 216 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED;**

(17) **MALVERSATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND PROPERTY UNDER ARTICLES 217 AND 222 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED;**

(18) **FORGERIES AND COUNTERFEITING UNDER ARTICLES 163, 166, 167, 168, 169, AND 176 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED;**

(19) **VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 4 TO 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9208, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS ACT OF 2003;**

(20) **VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 78 TO 79 OF CHAPTER IV, OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 705, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED FORESTRY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED;**

(21) **VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 86 TO 106 OF CHAPTER VI, OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998;**

(22) **VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 101 TO 107, AND 110 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7942, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE MINING ACT OF 1995;**

(23) **VIOLATIONS OF SECTION 27 (C), (E), (F), (G) AND (I), OF REPUBLIC**

ACT NO. 9147, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE WILDLIFE RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION ACT;

- (24) VIOLATION OF SECTION 7(B) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9072, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL CAVES AND CAVE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROTECTION ACT;
- (25) VIOLATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6539, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-CARNAPPING ACT OF 2002, AS AMENDED;
- (26) VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 1, 3 AND 5 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1866, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE DECREE CODIFYING THE LAWS ON ILLEGAL/UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE, DEALING IN, ACQUISITION OR DISPOSITION OF FIREARMS, AMMUNITION OR EXPLOSIVES;
- (27) VIOLATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1612, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-FENCING LAW;
- (28) VIOLATION OF SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10022;
- (29) VIOLATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8293, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES;
- (30) VIOLATION OF SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9995, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-PHOTO AND VIDEO VOYEURISM ACT OF 2009;
- (31) VIOLATION OF SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9775, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ACT OF 2009;
- (32) VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 5, 7, 8, 9, 10(C), (D), AND (E), 11, 12 AND 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE

SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION;

- Subsequent items were renumbered accordingly;
- IV. **Section 3** of the Senate version was adopted as Section 3 of the reconciled version with the deletion of reference to paragraphs (F) and (G) and in lieu thereof, paragraph "(J)" and "(K)" respectively, hence:

SEC. 3. SECTION 3 OF THE SAME ACT SHALL HAVE NEW PARAGRAPHS (J) AND (K).

(J) PRECIOUS METALS SHALL MEAN GOLD, SILVER, PLATINUM, PALLADIUM, RHODIUM, RUTHENIUM, IRIIDIUM AND OSMIUM. THESE INCLUDE ALLOYS OF PRECIOUS METALS, SOLDERS AND PLATING CHEMICALS SUCH AS RHODIUM AND PALLADIUM PLATING SOLUTIONS AND POTASSIUM GOLD CYANIDE AND POTASSIUM SILVER CYANIDE AND SILVER CYANIDE IN SALT SOLUTION.

(K) PRECIOUS STONES SHALL MEAN DIAMOND, RUBY, EMERALD, SAPPHIRE, OPAL, AMETHYST, BERYL, TOPAZ, GARNET THAT ARE USED IN JEWELRY MAKING, INCLUDING THOSE FORMERLY CLASSIFIED AS SEMI-PRECIOUS STONES.

- V. **Section 4** of the Senate version was adopted as Section 4 of the reconciled version, to read as:

"Sec. 4. *Money Laundering Offense.* – **MONEY LAUNDERING IS COMMITTED BY ANY PERSON WHO, ANY KNOWING THAT MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY REPRESENTS, INVOLVES, OR RELATES TO THE PROCEEDS OF ANY UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY:**

- (a) TRANSACTS SAID MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY;
- (b) CONVERTS, TRANSFERS, DISPOSES OF, MOVES, ACQUIRES, POSSESSES OR USES SAID MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY;
- (c) CONCEALS OR DISGUISES THE TRUE NATURE, SOURCE, LOCATION, DISPOSITION, MOVEMENT OR OWNERSHIP OF OR RIGHTS WITH RESPECT TO

SAID MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY;

- (d) ATTEMPTS OR CONSPIRES TO COMMIT MONEY LAUNDERING OFFENSES REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPHS (A), (B) OR (C);
- (e) AIDS, ABETS, ASSISTS IN OR COUNSELS THE COMMISSION OF THE MONEY LAUNDERING OFFENSES REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPHS (A), (B) OR (C) ABOVE; AND
- (f) PERFORMS OR FAILS TO PERFORM ANY ACT AS A RESULT OF WHICH HE FACILITATES THE OFFENSE OF MONEY LAUNDERING REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPHS (A), (B) OR (C) ABOVE.

MONEY LAUNDERING IS ALSO COMMITTED BY ANY COVERED PERSON WHO, KNOWING THAT A COVERED OR SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTION IS REQUIRED UNDER THIS ACT TO BE REPORTED TO THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING COUNCIL (AMLC), FAILS TO DO SO”.

VI. Section 5 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 5 of the reconciled version with the deletion of the last paragraph and rephrased, hence:

- (b) The prosecution of any offense or violation under this Act **SHALL PROCEED INDEPENDENTLY OF ANY PROCEEDING RELATING TO THE UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY”**.

VII. Section 6 of the Senate versions was adopted as Section 6 of the reconciled version with modification in item (6), hence

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- (6) to apply before the Court of Appeals, *ex parte*, for the freezing of any monetary instrument or property alleged to be **LAUNDERED, PROCEEDS FROM, OR INSTRUMENTALITIES USED IN OR INTENDED FOR USE IN** any unlawful activity as defined in Section 3(i) hereof;

- A new item (12) was inserted, **subject to style**, to read as;

(12) TO REQUIRE THE LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY AND ALL ITS REGISTRIES OF DEEDS TO SUBMIT TO THE AMLC, REPORTS ON ALL REAL ESTATE TRANSAC-

TIONS INVOLVING AN AMOUNT IN EXCESS OF FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00) WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF REGISTRATION OF SAID TRANSACTION IN A FORM TO BE PRESCRIBED BY THE AMLC. THE AMLC MAY ALSO REQUIRE THE LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY AND ALL ITS REGISTRIES OF DEEDS TO SUBMIT COPIES OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS OF ALL REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS.”

VIII. Section 7 of the Senate version was adopted as Section 7 of the reconciled version with modifications in Item c to read as follows;

- (c) Reporting of Covered and Suspicious Transactions – Covered **PERSONS** shall report to the AMLC all covered transactions and suspicious transactions within five (5) working days from occurrence thereof, unless the AMLC prescribes a **DIFFERENT** period not exceeding **FIFTEEN (15)** working days.

LAWYERS AND ACCOUNTANTS ACTING AS INDEPENDENT LEGAL PROFESSIONALS ARE NOT REQUIRED TO REPORT COVERED AND SUSPICIOUS TRANSACTIONS IF THE RELEVANT INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THEY ARE SUBJECT TO PROFESSIONAL SECRECY OR LEGAL PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGE.

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When reporting covered or suspicious transactions to the AMLC, covered **PERSONS** and their officers and employees xxx are prohibited from communicating, directly or indirectly, in any manner or by any means, to any person or entity, the media, the fact that a covered or suspicious transaction **HAS BEEN REPORTED OR IS ABOUT TO BE REPORTED**, the contents **OF THE REPORT**, or any other information in relation thereto. Neither may such reporting be published or aired in any manner or form by the mass media, electronic mail, or other similar devices. In case of violation thereof, the

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concerned officer and employee of the covered person and media shall be held criminally liable.”

- IX. **Section 8** of the Senate version was adopted as Section 8 of the reconciled version to read as;

On the second to the last paragraph the phrase “**Twenty (20) day original**” was deleted (page15, line3)

“SEC. 10. *Freezing of Monetary Instrument or Property.* – Upon A verified *ex-parte* petition by the AMLC and after determination that probable cause exists that any monetary instrument or property is in any way related to an unlawful activity as defined in Section 3(i) hereof, the Court of Appeals may issue a freeze order **WHICH SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY, AND which shall NOT EXCEED SIX (6) MONTHS DEPENDING UPON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE: PROVIDED, THAT IF THERE IS NO CASE FILED AGAINST A PERSON WHOSE ACCOUNT HAS BEEN FROZEN WITHIN THE PERIOD DETERMINED BY THE COURT, THE FREEZE ORDER SHALL BE DEEMED IPSO FACTO LIFTED: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THIS NEW RULE SHALL NOT APPLY TO PENDING CASES IN THE COURTS.**” In any case, the court should act on the petition to freeze within twenty-four (24) hours from filing of the petition. If the application is filed a day before a nonworking day, the computation of the twenty-four (24)-hour period shall exclude the nonworking days.”

“A person whose account has been frozen may file a motion to lift the freeze order and the court must resolve this motion before the expiration of the freeze order.”

“No court shall issue a temporary restraining order or a writ of injunction against any freeze order, except the Supreme Court.”

- X. **Section 9** of the Senate version was adopted as Section 9 of the reconciled version to read as:

SEC 9. Section 12 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(a) *Civil Forfeiture.* **UPON DETERMINATION BY THE AMLC THAT PROBABLE CAUSE EXISTS THAT ANY MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PRO-**

PERTY IS IN ANY WAY RELATED TO AN UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY AS DEFINED IN SECTION 3(I) OR A MONEY LAUNDERING OFFENSE UNDER SECTION 4 HEREOF, THE AMLC SHALL FILE WITH THE APPROPRIATE COURT THROUGH THE OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL, A VERIFIED EX PARTE PETITION FOR FORFEITURE, AND THE RULES OF COURT ON CIVIL FORFEITURE SHALL APPLY.

THE FORFEITURE SHALL INCLUDE THOSE OTHER MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY HAVING AN EQUIVALENT VALUE TO THAT OF THE MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY FOUND TO BE RELATED IN ANY WAY TO AN UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY OR A MONEY LAUNDERING OFFENSE, WHEN WITH DUE DILIGENCE, THE FORMER CANNOT BE LOCATED, OR IT HAS BEEN SUBSTANTIALLY ALTERED, DESTROYED, DIMINISHED IN VALUE OR OTHERWISE RENDERED WORTHLESS BY ANY ACT OR OMISSION, OR IT HAS BEEN CONCEALED, REMOVED, CONVERTED, OR OTHERWISE TRANSFERRED, OR IT IS LOCATED OUTSIDE THE PHILIPPINES OR HAS BEEN PLACED OR BROUGHT OUTSIDE THE JURISDICTION OF THE COURT, OR IT HAS BEEN COMMINGLED WITH OTHER MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY BELONGING TO EITHER THE OFFENDER HIMSELF OR A THIRD PERSON OR ENTITY, THEREBY RENDERING THE SAME DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY OR BE SEGREGATED FOR PURPOSES OF FORFEITURE.

- On page 16, line 19, delete the phrase “conviction and order of” before the word “forfeiture” and insert the phrase “**FINALITY OF THE**” on line 20 before the word “order”; to read as;
- (b) *Claim on Forfeited Assets.* – Where the court has issued an order of forfeiture of the monetary instrument or property in a criminal prosecution for any money laundering offense defined under Section 4 of this Act, the offender or any other person claiming an interest therein may apply, by verified petition, for a declaration that the same legitimately belongs to him and for segregation

or exclusion of the monetary instrument or property corresponding thereto. The verified petition shall be filed with the court which rendered the judgment of forfeiture, within fifteen (15) days from the date of the **FINALITY OF THE** order of forfeiture, in default of which the said order shall become final and executory. This provision shall apply in both civil and criminal forfeiture.

- XI. **Section 10** of the Senate version was adopted as Section 10 of the reconciled version with modifications, hence:

SEC. 10. Section 14 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 14. *Penal Provisions.* – (a) Penalties for the Crime of Money Laundering. The penalty of imprisonment ranging from seven (7) to fourteen (14) years and a fine of not less than Three million Philippine pesos (Php3,000,000.00) but not more than twice the value of the monetary instrument or property involved in the offense, shall be imposed upon a person convicted under Section 4(a), **(B), (C) AND (D)** of this Act.

“The penalty of imprisonment from four (4) to seven (7) years and a fine of not less than One million five hundred thousand Philippine pesos (Php1,500,000.00) but not more than Three million Philippine pesos (Php3,000,000.00), shall be imposed upon a person convicted under **SECTION 4(E) AND (F)** of this Act.

“The penalty of imprisonment from six (6) months to four (4) years or a fine of not less than One hundred thousand Philippine pesos (Php100,000.00) but not more than Five hundred thousand Philippine pesos (Php500,000.00), or both, shall be imposed on a person convicted under **THE LAST PARAGRAPH OF** Section 4 of this Act.

“(b) x x x

“(c) x x x

“(d) x x x

- (E) THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT RANGING FROM FOUR (4) TO SEVEN (7) YEARS AND A FINE CORRESPONDING TO NOT MORE THAN 200% OF THE VALUE OF THE MONETARY INSTRUMENT OR PROPERTY LAUNDERED SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON THE COVERED PERSON, ITS DIREC-

TORS, OFFICERS OR PERSONNEL WHO KNOWINGLY PARTICIPATED IN THE COMMISSION OF THE CRIME OF MONEY LAUNDERING.

- (F) IMPOSITION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS. – THE IMPOSITION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE FILING OF CRIMINAL CHARGES AGAINST THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE VIOLATION.

AFTER DUE NOTICE AND HEARING, THE AMLC SHALL, AT ITS DISCRETION, IMPOSE SANCTIONS, INCLUDING MONETARY PENALTIES, WARNING OR REPRIMAND, UPON ANY COVERED PERSON, ITS DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES OR ANY OTHER PERSON FOR THE VIOLATION OF THIS ACT, ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS, OR FOR FAILURE OR REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH AMLC ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS AND OTHER ISSUANCES. SUCH MONETARY PENALTIES SHALL BE IN AMOUNTS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE AMLC TO BE APPROPRIATE, WHICH SHALL NOT BE MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (P500,000.00) PESOS PER VIOLATION.

THE AMLC MAY PROMULGATE RULES ON FINES AND PENALTIES TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE ATTENDANT CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH AS THE NATURE AND GRAVITY OF THE VIOLATION OR IRREGULARITY.

- (G) THE PROVISION OF THIS LAW SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED OR IMPLEMENTED IN A MANNER THAT WILL DISCRIMINATE AGAINST CERTAIN CUSTOMER TYPES, SUCH AS POLITICALLY-EXPOSED PERSONS, AS WELL AS THEIR RELATIVES, OR AGAINST A CERTAIN RELIGION, RACE OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, OR SUCH OTHER ATTRIBUTES OR PROFILES WHEN USED AS THE ONLY BASIS TO DENY THESE PERSONS ACCESS TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COVERED INSTITUTIONS. WHENEVER A BANK, OR QUASI-BANK, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OR WHENEVER ANY PERSON OR ENTITY COMMITS SAID DISCRIMINATORY ACT THE

SAID DISCRIMINATORY ACT THE PERSON OR PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH VIOLATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO SANCTIONS AS MAY BE DEEMED APPROPRIATE BY THEIR RESPECTIVE REGULATORS.”

XII. **Section 11** of the Senate version was adopted as Section 11 of the reconciled version to read as:

SEC. 11. NEW SECTIONS ARE HEREBY INSERTED AFTER SECTION 19 OF THE SAME ACT, AS AMENDED, TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

“SECTION 20. *NON-INTERVENTION IN BIR OPERATIONS*. – NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ACT NOR IN RELATED ANTECEDENT LAWS OR EXISTING AGREEMENTS SHALL BE CONSTRUED TO ALLOW THE AMLC TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY MANNER IN THE OPERATIONS OF THE BIR.”

“SECTION 21. THE AUTHORITY TO INQUIRE INTO OR EXAMINE THE MAIN ACCOUNT AND THE RELATED ACCOUNTS SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 2 AND 3 OF THE 1987 CONSTITUTION, WHICH ARE HEREBY INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE. LIKEWISE, THE CONSTITUTIONAL INJUNCTION AGAINST *EX POST FACTO* LAWS AND BILLS OF ATTAINDER SHALL BE RESPECTED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.”

SUCCEEDING SECTIONS ARE HEREBY RENUMBERED ACCORDINGLY.

XIII. **Sections 13, 14, 15** of the Senate version were adopted as Sections 12, 13, 14 respectively

XIV. **Omnibus amendment:**

Reference to “covered institution/s” should be “covered person/s”

XV. The **title** of both versions are the same, hence

AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING 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.

In case of conflict between the statements/ amendments stated in this Joint Explanation and

that of the provisions of the consolidated bill in the accompanying Bicameral Conference Committee Report, the provisions of the latter shall prevail.

APPROVAL OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3123 and House Bill No. 6565 was approved by the Body.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF SENATOR LEGARDA

Senator Legarda rose on a question of personal privilege to disprove what she described as negative, vicious, malicious and black propaganda that has been circulating through text messages and social media, that she authored a bill purportedly to reduce the leave credits and retirement benefits of government employees.

The full text of Senator Legarda's question of personal privilege follows:

It has come to my knowledge that certain individuals with ill motives have spread within several government institutions malicious, false, inaccurate and baseless information that I purportedly authored a bill which will reduce the leave credits and retirement benefits of our hard-working public servants.

This information is totally false and fabricated, with no other purpose than to destroy my reputation as a champion for the rights of our dedicated government workers. No legislator, senator or congressman will ever introduce a bill which will diminish the salaries and benefits of our personnel in government institutions that provide services critical to public safety and order such as the Department of National Defense (DND), the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP). I will never support measures that will diminish the salaries and benefits of our uniformed and non-uniformed personnel from the police organizations, as well as our teachers, nurses and public health workers. I am a lieutenant colonel in the armed forces, I was taken care of by a dedicated nurse who is my aunt, and my grandmother was a public school teacher.

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In addition, I have always supported measures that seek to improve the compensation of our government employees and provide protection to those employed on a casual or contractual basis. For instance, I filed Senate Bill No. 2355 which seeks to increase the combat duty pay of all enlisted personnel of the AFP to 25% of their base pay. In Tagalog, *ako po ay nag-file ng panukalang batas para taasan ng 25% ang combat duty pay ng mga enlisted personnel, mga sundalo ng AFP, at hindi para bawasan.*

This Representation, as a reserve officer of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, understands the need to uplift the living standards of our rank-and-file employees who are overworked and underpaid. Rest assured — and I want to put this on record — that they will always find a partner in this Representation, a staunch partner who will protect and promote their rights to achieve a better life.

I wish to urge the source of these malicious and baseless messages to stop perpetrating falsehoods so as not to demoralize and confuse our beloved government employees and their families.

In closing, I would like to underscore our responsibilities towards each other, as nothing less than our best efforts is demanded from us by the challenges of our times. We should be cooperating and creating positive change, not spreading lies that will distract us from our goals and result in unnecessary conflict.

Uulitin ko, walang gayong panukalang batas sa Senadong ito na ginawa ko o maski sino pang nakaupong senador, at hindi magkakaroon kailanman dahil walang tao na nasa tamang kaisipan ang magpa-file ng bill para tanggalin ang benepisyo o suweldo ng pulis, sundalo, nars, bumbero o titser. Naimbento na ito noong 2004, inulit noong 2007, ginamit noong 2010 at sa tuwing ako ay nangunguna sa survey bilang senador, umiikot ang text at e-mail na ito. Gusto ko lamang maglingkod, una, pangalawa o pangatlo, okay lang iyon sa akin. Gusto ko lamang din bigyan ng katapusan at maitala sa record ng Senado na wala akong panukalang batas na inihain para tanggalin ang suweldo ng titser, pulis at sundalo.

This is the last you will hear from me about this because I have always fought for hardworking and dedicated public servants.

INQUIRY OF THE CHAIR

Asked by the Chair who could be behind the

black propaganda against her, Senator Legarda replied that while she already knew who was behind it, she would not want to waste her time and energy in dealing with it, confident that the people appreciate and love the work that she does. She clarified that the only reason she gave her statement was only to allay the fears of the police and armed forces personnel about the false information.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 94 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3091

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3091 (Committee Report No. 94), entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL
LAND USE POLICY, PROVIDING
THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Honasan, sponsor of the measure, and Senator Recto for his individual amendments.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Recto, the session was suspended.

It was 6:19 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:20 p.m., the session was resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto informed the Sponsor that the committee of Senator Marcos has received 53 proposed amendments from the Chamber of Real Estate and Builders' Associations, Inc. (CREBA) and from other housing agencies which it was still in the process of reviewing. He said that a copy of the amendments would be provided to Senator Honasan.

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MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR HONASAN

Senator Honasan stated that his Committee has labored on the measure for an extended period of time and has consulted all the stakeholders. He said that while it is the Committee's desire to hear from all sectors, the measure was already in plenary and should be dealt with urgency considering that there was little time left before the adjournment of session.

Senator Sotto gave assurance that Senator Marcos' committee, to which the bill has been referred twice, would be asked to transmit the 53 amendments to the plenary within the day.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3091

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

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 940

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 940, entitled

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 5 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION.

With the permission of the Body, only the title of the resolution was read without prejudice to the insertion of its text into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Osmeña for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR OSMEÑA

Senator Osmeña stated that in a meeting and caucus more than two weeks ago, no objections were raised to the proposed amendments to the *Rules of Procedure Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation*.

He explained that Section 18 (*Contempt*) which currently requires a majority vote of all the committee

members to obtain an order to cite a witness in contempt, makes the process long and unwieldy. Thus, to address this concern, he said it was unanimously approved in caucus that the chairman, with the concurrence of at least one member, may punish for contempt any witness.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 940

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 940 was adopted by the Body, subject to style.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 445 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3311 (Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3311 (Committee Report No. 445), entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE FOOD SAFETY REGULATORY SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY TO PROTECT CONSUMER HEALTH AND FACILITATE MARKET ACCESS OF LOCAL FOODS AND FOOD PRODUCTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Villar, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

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APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3311 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3311 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3311

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 525 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3367

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3367 (Committee Report No. 525), entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR TOY AND
GAME SAFETY LABELING, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Villar, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Villar, on behalf of Senator Cayetano (P), there being no objection, the Body approved the following amendments:

1. On page 2, line 18, before the word "Provided," insert a proviso to read as follows:

*PROVIDED, THAT THIS SHALL NOT
APPLY TO TOYS AND GAMES WHICH
ARE NOT INTENDED FOR CHILDREN*

INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO,
MEMORABILIA OR COLLECTIBLES;

2. On the same page and line, replace the word "That" with the word FURTHER.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no other committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3367 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3367 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3367

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 600 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6229

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 6229 (Committee Report No. 600), entitled

**AN ACT REORGANIZING THE
PHILIPPINE STATISTICAL SYSTEM,
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBERED
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE,
ENTITLED "REORGANIZING AND
STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE
STATISTICAL SYSTEM AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES."**

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Villar, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6229 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 6229 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6229

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

With the permission of the Body, the Chair suspended the session.

It was 6:31 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:31 p.m., the session was resumed.

SIXTH ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Deputy Secretary for Legislation read the letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 4 February 2013, the House of Representatives passed House Bill No. 6852, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING AND STRENGTHENING FILIPINO DESIGN, PROVIDING FOR THE PURPOSE A NATIONAL DESIGN POLICY AND RENAMING THE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES INTO THE DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

and requested the concurrence of the Senate.

To the Committee on Rules

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 478 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3329 (Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3329 (Committee Report No. 478), entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8485, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT OF 1998.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Pangilinan, sponsor of the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3329 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection,

Senate Bill No. 3329 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3329

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

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 488 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 897

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of House Bill No. 897 (Committee Report No. 488), entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE CAMOTES ISLANDS, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PROCLAMATION NO. 2152 DATED DECEMBER 29, 1981, ENTITLED "DECLARING THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND CERTAIN PARCELS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND/OR PARTS OF THE COUNTRY AS MANGROVE SWAMP FOREST RESERVES."

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Escudero, sponsor of the measure, who manifested that the explanatory note on Senate Bill No. 2463 be considered as additional sponsorship remark for the said measure.

Following is the full text of the explanatory note:

Senate Bill No. 2463

By Senator Zubiri

This bill seeks to exclude the alienable and disposable drylands of the islands of Ponson, Poro and Pajican known as the Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserves and to classify Ponson Island.

Presidential Proclamation No. 2152 which was issued by President Ferdinand E. Marcos on December 20, 1981 declares the islands of Ponson, Poro and Pajican known as Camotes Island in the Province of Cebu among the Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserves in the country wherein no entry, sales, settlement or other form of disposition is allowed of whatever mode.

Presidential Proclamation No. 2152 is very sweeping as to include the dryland areas which are not considered as mangrove swamps forest. Camotes Island has a total area of 20,765 has., 17,397 has. are alienable and disposable drylands, 2518 has. are upland timberland, 850 has. are mangrove swamp forest and 685 has. Danao Lake. Long before the issuance of the Presidential proclamation, a flowing settlement pattern already existed in the place, proof of that are four (4) municipalities already developed with complete government offices. Facilities such as concrete road network, port market buildings, water system, schools and others are already in place.

There is a need to protect the natural resources and the environment of Camotes Island without restricting the use of these resources from economic development. Sustainable management of the environment and natural resource of Camotes Island are among the most the important concerns of the Local Government Units. To attain such, the LGUs of the four municipalities have prepared the Comprehensive Land Use Plans pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991, and have sub-mitted these to the Provincial Land Use Committee for review. The CLUPS are still under review by the Provincial Land Use Committee and the present status of the Island which is pursuant to Republic Act No. 7586 considered as the initial component of the Protected Area System hinders and delays the review process and approval of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no committee amendment, upon

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motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

OSMEÑA AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Osmeña, and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the following individual amendments, one after the other:

1. On page 47, lines 18 and 19, delete the entire subsection (b);
2. On the same page, lines 23 to 25, delete the entire subsection (e); and
3. On page 48, lines 1 and 2, delete the entire subsection (g).

REMARK OF SENATOR OSMEÑA

Senator Osmeña stated that the Committee was able to cut down the membership in the Camotes Islands Co-Management Steering Committee from 13 to seven.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no other individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 897 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 897 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 897

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

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 516 on Senate Bill No. 3358

from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 516 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3358

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 3358 (Committee Report No. 516), entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT CORPORATE COUNSEL, BY RE-DEFINING, EXPANDING, STRENGTHENING, RATIONALIZING AND FURTHER PROFESSIONALIZING ITS ORGANIZATION, UPGRADING EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Escudero for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR ESCUDERO

At the instance of Senator Escudero, his explanatory note of Senate Bill No. 2364, and the explanatory note on Senate Bill No. 299, introduced by Senator Trillanes, were adopted as part of the sponsorship speech on Senate Bill No. 3358.

Senate Bill No. 2364

By Senator Escudero

It shall be the policy of the State to protect and promote the welfare, rights and interests of government-owned and -controlled corporations, their subsidiaries, other corporate offspring, including government-acquired asset corporations, government corporate entities and government instrumentalities with corporate powers, government financial institutions, and other government entities, agencies and offices hereafter referred to as "government corporations."

Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, has defined the mandate of the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC) as the premier law office of government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs), their subsidiaries, other corporate offspring and government-acquired asset corporations. As such, it is mandated to safeguard their legal interests in a competent, speedy and adequate legal service in its commitment to uphold justice under the rule of law.

Every year, an increasing number of requests for legal advice and cases are being responded to and handled by the OGCC, in addition to the performance of its adjudicatory and other functions.

To efficiently and effectively address the expanding needs of these government corporations, this proposed bill seeks to strengthen the OGCC by re-defining, expanding, strengthening, rationalizing and further professionalizing the OGCC as an organization and upgrading the employee benefits.

In view thereof, the approval of this proposed bill is earnestly sought.

Senate Bill No. 299

By Senator Trillanes

The Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC) was founded on December 01, 1935 under the DOJ. It was then known as the Government Counsel Division of the DOJ. It acts as the premier law office of government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs), their subsidiaries, other corporate offspring and government-acquired asset corporations. As such, the OGCC safeguards the legal interest of all government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), their subsidiaries, other corporate offspring and government-acquired asset corporations.

This bill seeks to strengthen and further professionalize the OGCC by re-defining, expanding, strengthening and rationalizing its organization. This bill also seeks to provide an upgrade to the compensation as well as the benefits being received by the employees of the OGCC.

It is hoped that through the passage of this bill, we would have a more effective and efficient OGCC, and that we would retain the services of the people in the OGCC, men and women who are committed to providing excellent and professional service for our country.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3358 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3358 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3358

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

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 709 on Senate Bill No. 1689 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 709 ON SENATE BILL NO. 1689

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 1689 (Committee Report No. 709), entitled

AN ACT AMENDING THE REVISED PENAL CODE PENALIZING THE ROBBERY OF CEMETERY ARTICLES.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules

of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Escudero for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR ESCUDERO

At the instance of Senator Escudero, the explanatory note on Senate Bill No. 1689, introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago, was adopted as his sponsorship speech.

Senate Bill No. 1689

By Senator Defensor Santiago

"In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it was thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return." (Genesis 3:19)

Grave robbery has always been a problem since time immemorial. In a culture as rich as ours, we have always honored our dead with many gifts to commemorate their lives as well as graves fit to be their final resting place. As the time for remembering those who preceded us approaches, a few unfortunate souls would find that the final resting place of their loved ones has been desecrated by grave robbers. The damage done goes beyond the measurable as it not only dishonors the deceased, it also causes anguish to those who survived them. According to a U.S. case, "the gravamen of an action for desecration of a grave is the mental suffering caused by the disturbance of a loved one's final resting place."

No matter the description of the grave, from the grandiose pyramids to Jean Valjean's simple and unnamed gravestone, this type of theft must be severely addressed.

This bill seeks to create a separate act of robbery under the Revised Penal Code for the robbery of cemetery items or the ones committed in cemeteries, graveyards or burial grounds.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Asked by Senator Sotto on the present status of robberies in cemeteries, Senator Escudero said that he did not have any data on the number of crimes committed in relation to the measure because the

crime is not yet penalized under existing laws. This, he said, was the reason for the proposed insertion of paragraph (a) in Article 302 of the Revised Penal Code.

As regards the description of items considered as cemetery articles, Senator Escudero said that cemetery articles would include gold teeth and other valuable items that have been left with the remains of the deceased based on superstition that such articles could still be used by the soul in the afterlife.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no further interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 1689 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 1689 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1689

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

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 710 on House Bill No. 2683 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 710 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2683

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading,

House Bill No. 2683 (Committee Report No.710), entitled

**AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE
CITIZENSHIP TO XIAOJING ZHENG.**

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Escudero for the sponsorship.

**SPONSORSHIP REMARKS
OF SENATOR ESCUDERO**

At the instance of Senator Escudero, the explanatory note on House Bill No. 2683 by Representative Puno was adopted as the sponsorship speech of the aforementioned bill.

House Bill No. 2683

By Representative Puno

The International Basketball Federation or FIBA, the governing body in international basketball competitions, allows naturalized players to play for the national team. In the past, several countries have taken advantage of this rule and naturalized women basketball players, such as American-born Chantelle Denise Anderson, a former WNBA player, who was naturalized by Lebanon in 2009. Another example is American-born Rebecca "Becky" Hammon, also a former WNBA player who was naturalized by Russia and played for the Russian National Team at the Olympic Games in Beijing, China in 2008.

In line with this, the Republic of the Philippines' Women's Senior National Team has been participating in the Asian Basketball Championship or FIBA Asia since 1965. Having participated also in the Southeast Asia Basketball Association and the Southeast Asian Games for the last fifteen (15) years, the team was able to play competitively each time they joined the competitions, but has never been able to win past the silver medal that they brought home after the 1995 SEAGAMES.

Having a healthy mix of veteran, reliable collegiate standouts and provincial homegrown recruits, the Republic of the Philippines' Discovery Women's basketball team is complete with almost all positions except for the center

position. Though we have our good local centers, we need an international impact center in the current line-up that will practically boost the team's potential and eventually make the team complete. It is in this purpose that this bill seeks to grant Philippine citizenship to Xiaojing Zheng.

Born on February 11, 1984 in Fuzhou, China, Xiaojing Zheng is a member of the Fujian basketball team since 1998. Being part of the team significantly contributed in achieving their goals in women's basketball, where Xiaojing Zheng was also awarded the state level master sportsman title by the General Administration of National Sports. Her height and athleticism is expected to help the Philippine team against the national teams of other countries with much taller players than our present players. Her experience and exposure will be beneficial to the training and development of the National team.

Xiaojing Zheng has expressed her willingness to become a citizen of the Philippines, being given a chance to be naturalized. Previously, she joined the RP Discovery Women's Basketball Team developmental pool in various international invitations like the 2008 Singapore Women's Invitational and 2010 Doha, Qatar Women's Invitational, where the RP Discovery team represented the Philippines and finished first (1st).

This Representation, together with the *Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas* in its aspiration to pull together a women's national team, which could bring back honor in international competitions, seeks to address the height problem of the national team with the naturalization of 6'3" Xiaojing Zheng, so she may play center for the Philippine team for the upcoming 7th SEABA Women's championship on October 24-29, 2010 in Manila, Philippines and Asian Games on November 12-27 in Guangzhou, China.

Recent legislation has shown that Congress confers Philippine citizenship to those who have contributed immensely to the development of the Philippines. Xiaojing Zheng is in a position to make a significant contribution to Philippine basketball and Philippine sports and is accordingly eligible for conferment of the honor of being a Philippine citizen.

In consideration of all the above, approval of this measure is respectfully sought.

INQUIRIES OF THE CHAIR

Asked by the Chair whether Xiaojing Zheng was playing basketball with the Philippine team,

Senator Escudero replied in the affirmative, adding that the athlete began residing in the country in early 2012 while training with the Philippine women's basketball team.

Asked whether there is an existing law regarding the number of years required for a foreigner to obtain Philippine citizenship, Senator Escudero believed that there is so by judicial grant, but none if by legislative fiat, as Congress is presumed to be exercising its wisdom one way or the other.

The Chair remarked that it was quite odd to grant Philippine citizenship to someone who would just be playing basketball for the country.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Escudero, the session was suspended.

It was 6:47 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:49 p.m., the session was resumed.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2683

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

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto informed the Body that the Senate was in receipt of a letter from the House of Representatives informing that the House of Representatives had passed House Bill No. 6852 (National Design Policy Framework) which was earlier referred to the Committee on Rules.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR VILLAR

Senator Villar informed the Body that the Senate Committee on Trade and Commerce, which he chairs, and the House Committee on Trade and Commerce, have agreed to no longer conduct a bicameral conference committee meeting on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3071 and House Bill No. 6852 because the Senate Committee had decided to adopt the House version.

He believed that with the passage of the measure, the Philippines would be able to reassert its place as a country that is a rich breeding ground for creative talents.

ADOPTION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6852

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body adopted House Bill No. 6852, the House version of Senate Bill No. 3071.

SPECIAL ORDERS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of the following from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders:

1. Committee Report No. 744 on House Bill No. 201;
2. Committee Report No. 745 on House Bill No. 3080;
3. Committee Report No. 746 on House Bill No. 3208;
4. Committee Report No. 747 on House Bill No. 4149;
5. Committee Report No. 748 on House Bill No. 4445;
6. Committee Report No. 749 on House Bill No. 4697;
7. Committee Report No. 750 on House Bill No. 5009; and
8. Committee Report No. 751 on House Bill No. 6171.

PUBLIC WORKS BILLS

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the following bills were considered, on Second Reading, one after the other:

1. Committee Report No. 744 on House Bill No. 201, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN BARANGAY SABANG, MUNICIPALITY OF CALABANGA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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2. Committee Report No. 745 on House Bill No. 3080, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN VICENTE, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

3. Committee Report No. 746 on House Bill No. 3208, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN BARANGAY HAGNAYA, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN REMIGIO, PROVINCE OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

4. Committee Report No. 747 on House Bill No. 4149, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FISH PORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MINGLANILLA, PROVINCE OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

5. Committee Report No. 748 on House Bill No. 4445, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FISH PORT IN THE CITY OF DAGUPAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

6. Committee Report No. 749 on House Bill No. 4697, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FISH PORT AND COLD STORAGE FACILITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DAPA, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

7. Committee Report No. 750 on House Bill No. 5009, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF FISH PORTS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TONGKIL, TAPUL, LUGUS, KALINGGALAN CALUANG AND SIASI, PROVINCE OF SULU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR; and

8. Committee Report No. 751 on House Bill No. 6171, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FISH PORT AND COLD STORAGE FACILITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SASMUAN, PROVINCE OF

PAMPANGA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the titles of the bills were read without prejudice to the insertion of their full texts into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Revilla for the sponsorship.

OMNIBUS SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR REVILLA

Senator Revilla noted that the steady increase in population throughout the country in the past decades has brought about the need to create more fish ports that would not only bring additional livelihood to surrounding areas but would also enhance productive trade.

He said that the government must do what it can to utilize its rich marine resources, and he believed that the creation of additional ports would positively impact the economy by opening up productive and lucrative competitiveness in local as well as international trade, and could consequently result in more jobs and the ultimate lowering of prices of seafood. He then urged the Body to pass the measure.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 6:58 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:58 p.m., the session was resumed.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amend-

ment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 201
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 201 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3080
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3080 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3208
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3208 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4149
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4149 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4445
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4445 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4697
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4697 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5009
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5009 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6171
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 6171 was approved on Second Reading.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF PUBLIC WORKS BILLS**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Bill Nos. 201, 3080, 3208, 4149, 4445, 4697, 5009 and 6171.

SPECIAL ORDERS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of the following extradition treaty resolutions from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders:

1. Committee Report No. 739 on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 937;
2. Committee Report No. 740 on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 938; and
3. Committee Report No. 741 on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 939.

EXTRADITION TREATIES

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the following Proposed Senate resolutions were considered, on Second Reading, one after the other:

1. Committee Report No. 739 on Proposed Senate Resolution No. 937, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY ON EXTRADITION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN;

2. Committee Report No. 740 on Proposed Resolution No. 938, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY ON EXTRADITION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA; and

3. Committee Report No. 741 on Proposed Senate Resolution No.939, entitled

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the titles of the resolutions were read without prejudice to the insertion of their full texts into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Legarda for the sponsorship.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Legarda, the session was suspended.

It was 7:01 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 7:01 p.m., the session was resumed.

OMNIBUS SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR LEGARDA

For purposes of sponsoring the three resolutions on extradition treaties, Senator Legarda delivered an omnibus sponsorship speech as follows:

I have the honor to seek approval of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 937 under Committee Report No. 739, entitled "Resolution Concurring in the Ratification of the Treaty on Extradition between the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Spain; "Proposed Senate Resolution No. 938 under Committee Report No. 740, entitled "Resolution Concurring in the Ratification of the Extradition Treaty between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of India"; and Proposed Senate Resolution No. 939 under Committee Report No. 741, entitled "Resolution Concurring in the Ratification of the Extradition Treaty between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland."

Effect of the Treaties

The treaties oblige the contracting parties to extradite to each other any person charged with or convicted of an extraditable offense. Extraditable offenses are acts or omissions, which are punishable under the laws of both parties by imprisonment or other deprivation of liberty for a maximum period of at least one year or by a more severe penalty.

Benefits

As contained in the extradition treaties, the Agreements will facilitate the return of fugitives who have fled from the Philippines to Spain, India or the United Kingdom or vice versa. It will provide a legal framework for their extradition to face charges or serve their sentences for offenses which they have been convicted of in the Philippines or in the partner countries.

The treaties I submit before this Chamber strengthens cooperation among treaty partners in the investigation, prosecution and suppression of crimes, particularly at a time when borders have become more porous. These Treaties will serve as a vital tool in ensuring that criminals do not escape justice by simply seeking refuge outside our borders.

Transnational Crimes

Executive Director Yury Fedotov of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime made a statement during the sixth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Crimes in 2012, which I paraphrase, as follows: "Crime preyed on countries where the rule of law and other institutions were vulnerable to criminals." That it was, "important to recognize that crime was smart, sophisticated and largely opportunistic and capable of moving when successfully challenged." Thus, he stressed that: "Our collective goal must be to end the 'era of displacement,' which sees crime simply moving elsewhere when challenged, and to begin a time of interconnected cooperation, coordination, and communication against crimes. Where the criminals are smart, we must be smarter. Where the criminals are sophisticated, we must be even more sophisticated, and where crime transcends borders, so must our cooperation."

Other Extradition Treaties

We have already started our legal cooperation with other countries and have concluded similar extradition treaties with Australia, Canada, China, Indonesia, South Korea, Switzerland, Thailand and the United States of America.

Closing

The Philippines has been an active member of the global community in the fight against crimes that knows no borders, that victimize our women and children, and that lure our citizens to participate in the commission of crimes that cost lives and that leaves a tremendous economic strain on nations, currently estimated at about \$870 billion.

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In view of these, I respectfully urge the Senate to concur in the ratification of these treaties and make known to our partner countries that we are serious in our intent to cooperate with them by sealing these cooperative mechanisms now.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

With the permission of the Body, the session was suspended.

It was 7:07 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 7:08 p.m., the session was resumed.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Referring to Proposed Senate Resolution No. 938, on page 2, on the first "WHEREAS" clause, after the phrase "ratification of the," as proposed by Senator Legarda, there being no objection, the Body approved the replacement of the title "Treaty on Extradition between the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Spain" with EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no other committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion

of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 937 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 937 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 938 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 938 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 939 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 939 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTIONS NOS. 937, 938 AND 939

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of Proposed Senate Resolution Nos. 937, 938 and 939.

INQUIRY OF SENATOR LEGARDA

Senator Legarda asked whether, indeed, the proposed resolutions may be approved on Second and Third Readings that day, as advised by the Parliamentary Counseling Service. Senator Sotto said that the number of senators in the building was not enough to approve the resolutions.

COSPONSOR

Senator Legarda manifested that Senator Angara is a cosponsor of Proposed Senate Resolution Nos. 937, 938 and 939.

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of

Committee Report No. 738 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 738

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the Body considered Committee Report No. 738 on the following resolutions:

1. Proposed Senate Resolution No. 894, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED DUMPING OF TOXIC WASTE IN PHILIPPINE WATERS BY A FOREIGN FIRM AND ITS ALLEGED CLAIM OF COVERAGE UNDER THE VISITING FORCES AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES TO AVOID INVESTIGATION AND POSSIBLE CRIMINAL LIABILITY, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF PHILIPPINE TREATIES AND AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE THE PARAMOUNT OBJECTIVE OF PROTECTING THE NATIONAL INTEREST;

2. Proposed Senate Resolution No. 895, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE REPORTED DUMPING OF TOXIC AND HAZARDOUS WASTES IN SUBIC BAY BY GLENN DEFENSE MARINE ASIA; and

3. Proposed Senate Resolution No. 896, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED DUMPING OF HAZARDOUS WASTES IN OUR TERRITORIAL SEAS ABUTTING SUBIC BAY AND IF NECESSARY TO REVISIT THE PROVISIONS OF THE RP-USA VISITING FORCES AGREEMENT TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF THE INCIDENT SUBJECT OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Legarda for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR LEGARDA

Senator Legarda presented to the Body the results of the joint investigation conducted by the Committees on Foreign Relations and Environment and Natural Resources on the alleged dumping of wastes in seawaters by MT Glenn Guardian, a vessel owned by Glenn Defense Marine Asia Pte Ltd. She said that the investigation was conducted pursuant to Proposed Senate Resolution No. 894, which she authored; Proposed Senate Resolution No. 895, authored by Senator Defensor Santiago; and Proposed Senate Resolution No. 896, authored by Senator Pimentel, which were filed in response to various news reports in October 2012 on the nature and volume of wastes, as well as the manner by which Glenn Defense had allegedly disposed the sewage wastes and bilge water taken from visiting U.S. ships under the VFA.

The full text of Senator Legarda's sponsorship speech follows:

The investigation conducted by our Committees was extensive and produced wide-ranging inputs from various stakeholders. Nearly three months after we started the investigation, we now have a 134-page report, the highlights of which I will outline today.

Our investigation focused on the following issues:

1. Glenn Defense's claim of coverage under the VFA;
2. The factual information and circumstances on the alleged waste dumping by Glenn Defense Marine Asia Philippines, Inc. in the waters of Subic or in the Philippine Exclusive Economic Zone;
3. Legislation, rules and regulations pertinent to the aforementioned allegations;
4. Nature, type, and volume of wastes allegedly dumped into the seawaters, if any;
5. Attendant issues and circumstances on the alleged illegal dumping of wastes by Glenn Defense such as:
 - a. Area where the dumping was done;
 - b. Compliance issues with respect to Annex IV of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL);

- c. Compliance issues with respect to the provisions of RA 6969;
- d. Compliance issues with respect to existing laws, rules and regulations.
- 6. Degree/extent of waste dumping in seawaters;
- 7. Relevant factors or circumstances;
- 8. Actions and findings of government agencies; and
- 9. Recommendations.

Findings

The following are our findings:

1. GLENN DEFENSE IS NOT COVERED BY THE VFA

Glenn Defense Marine Asia Philippines, Inc., which I shall refer to as Glenn Defense henceforth, is a Philippine-registered company providing husbanding and related services to visiting U.S. ships. It is not operating vessels for the United States Armed Forces and its employees are not part of the United States personnel, as defined in the VFA. These were false claims made by Glenn Defense to escape coverage from Philippine laws and regulations. It operates under a service agreement with Glenn Defense Marine (Asia) Pte Ltd, a private corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of Singapore. Glenn Defense, therefore, can be likened to a sub-contractor that is liable for any omission or violation it may have committed in the course of providing contracted services to U.S. Navy ships.

2. GLENN DEFENSE FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATORY AND PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT WHEN IT DUMPED AROUND 200,000 LITERS OF SEWAGE WASTE IN SEAWATERS ON OCTOBER 15, 2012.

The investigation established that Glenn Defense failed to acquire the necessary permits and authorization from pertinent agencies of the government prior to dumping untreated sewage wastes into the sea. The PCG, in its report to the Senate, declared that "there is no record to show that subject vessel or the owner/operator of Glenn Defense Marine (Asia) Philippines, Incorporated had forwarded any request for dumping or discharging of sewage waste" to the PCG.

3. GLENN DEFENSE, BY PRACTICE, HAS BEEN DUMPING SEWAGE WASTE INTO THE

SEAWATERS OVER THE YEARS WITHOUT PERMITS FROM THE GOVERNMENT

Glenn Defense, during a recorded meeting on December 3, 2012, confirmed that by practice, the company has been disposing the sewage wastes collected from U.S. Navy ships into seawaters.

A certification from Subic Water showed that from October 15 to November 19, 2012, more than four million liters of sewage were collected from just one U.S. ship. Had it not been for the investigation, these wastes would have probably found its way again into our seawaters.

A total of 357 U.S. vessels visited the Philippines from 2007 to October 2012, and 56% or 191 ships were serviced by Glenn Defense.

In 2011, there were only three instances wherein Glenn Defense had caused the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage and hazardous wastes through the facilities of DENR-accredited land-based facilities. This gives an alarming picture as to the millions of untreated sewage wastes that may have been dumped in seawaters by Glenn Marine over time.

4. THE SEWAGE WASTES DUMPED BY GLENN GUARDIAN ON OCTOBER 15, 2012 IN SEAWATERS WERE FOUND TO BE IN EXCESS OF PERMITTED EFFLUENT STANDARDS IN VIOLATION OF DENR STANDARDS. THE LABORATORY RESULTS ALSO INDICATED THE PRESENCE OF ALARMING LEVELS OF OIL AND GREASE — WASTES THAT ARE CONSIDERED HAZARDOUS UNDER RA 6969.

Oil and grease, which are considered hazardous wastes under RA 6969 and its implementing rules and regulations, have been detected at alarming levels in the samples collected from M/T Glenn Marine and Glenn Enterprise on October 15, exceeding the DENR DAO permissible level of 5 mg per liter by more than 198,000% at 9,953 mg per liter.

5. GLENN DEFENSE IS NOT AN ACCREDITED SEWAGE WASTE COLLECTOR OR COLLECTOR OF OTHER RELATED HARMFUL SUBSTANCES IN VIOLATION OF PCG MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR 03-2005

SBMA and DENR submitted reports to the Senate, indicating that apart from sewage wastes, Glenn Defense also

collected hazardous wastes from U. S. ships that visited in the past. As a collector of waste and hazardous waste, Glenn Defense is required to secure accreditation from pertinent agencies of the government before it can discharge such services. Since it was incorporated in 2007, Glenn Defense was able to secure only two (2) term-specific accreditations from the Philippine Coast Guard and none from the DENR and SBMA. Glenn Defense, after September 24, 2011, did not have a valid accreditation to undertake sewage waste and oily waste collection and collection of other related harmful substances.

6. GLENN DEFENSE DID NOT DUMP THE SEWAGE WASTES IN THE DULY-DESIGNATED DUMPING AREAS IDENTIFIED IN PCG PER MC 01-2006

The PCG, in its report to the Senate, concluded that Glenn Defense dumped the sewage wastes in an area outside of the designated dumping areas in violation of PCG-MC-1-2006. This finding disputes the earlier report of the SBMA that indicated that "the destination of M/T Glenn Defense for the purpose of discharge is compliant with the PCG Standard."

The basis of PCG's conclusion is detailed in the report, using the guidelines issued by MARPOL.

7. PCG DEBUNKS THE CLAIM OF GLENN DEFENSE THAT MT GLENN GUARDIAN HAD DUMPED THE SEWAGE WASTES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PCG AND MARPOL GUIDELINES.

Using Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) and MARPOL guidelines, PCG concluded that it should have taken at least 6.6 days, not 9 hours and 50 minutes based on the ship log, for Glenn Guardian, at a speed of 4 knots, to have completed the sewage dumping process at sea in accordance with MARPOL guidelines. This estimate does not even include the steaming time to the discharge area and back to the port.

Even at a speed of 12 knots, it would have taken at least 2.2 days for Glenn Guardian just to discharge the sewage waste.

8. GLENN DEFENSE SECURED FROM MARINA ONLY TWO EXEMPTION PERMITS IN 2011 EVEN AS MARINA REGULATIONS, EFFECTIVE AT THAT TIME, REQUIRED

SUCH PERMITS AS A PRE-REQUISITE FOR THE TEMPORARY OPERATION OF FOREIGN VESSELS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

While only two Exemption Certificates were issued to Glenn Defense, it must be noted that there were a total of 11 ship visits handled by Glenn Defense beginning August to December 2011.

In November 2011, MARINA issued a revised circular that exempts entities such as Glenn Defense from regulatory requirements governing the temporary utilization of foreign-registered ships within the national territory. Glenn Defense was made to enjoy this privilege even absent the requisite "formal implementing arrangement" required under the circular, thereby resulting in millions of pesos in revenues lost.

This action on the part of MARINA deserves scrutiny considering that this action contravenes the very policies that RA 9295, the Domestic Shipping Development Act of 2004, sought to promote, including that of ensuring the continued viability of domestic shipping operations and the provision of necessary assistance and incentives for the continued growth of the Philippine domestic merchant marine fleet.

9. THE VFACOM MANDATE OF "ENSURING RESPECT FOR PHILIPPINE LAWS, STATE POLICIES, AND STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE CONCERNED DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES" UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 199 NEEDS TO BE STRONGLY ENFORCED.

The issue at hand highlights the need for the VFACOM to ensure that pertinent laws and regulations of the Philippines are respected and observed by all parties directly participating, incidental to, or merely providing contracted services to transport, haul, and treat sewage and hazardous wastes of U. S. ships participating in VFA exercises. This is only possible if VFACOM pro-actively pursues its coordinative functions under EO 199.

10. THE DENR DID NOT CARRY OUT ITS MANDATED FUNCTIONS IN RELATION TO MARINE POLLUTION CONTROL.

Although the DENR is mandated to serve as the primary government agency responsible for the implementation of the country's environmental laws, it has shirked in its responsibilities insofar as "coordinat-

ing and cooperating with the PCG in the enforcement of the country's maritime laws." It may also be noted that the DENR is tasked, under the country's Clean Water Act, to review and update the country's effluent standards that need to be observed by pertinent government agencies in the enforcement of the country's maritime laws. Those guidelines have not been revised since 1990. In the instant case, DENR failed to take a pro-active role in addressing complaints of maritime pollution control even after the VFACOM allegedly stopped it from further pursuing its investigation.

There are at least 25 laws and implementing rules and regulations on marine pollution control that need to be reviewed and harmonized.

11. WHILE CONFLICTING INTERESTS ARE EVIDENT IN THE ISSUES AT HAND, IT IS INDISPUTABLE THAT GLENN DEFENSE HAS VIOLATED PHILIPPINE LAWS

While it may have been so that competing business interests may have motivated certain quarters to complain about the violations being committed by Glenn Defense, the fact remains that violations were committed by Glenn Defense.

It may be noted that as early as March 2007, a complaint had already been lodged by the Lighterage Association with the MARINA on the alleged failure of Glenn Defense to secure the necessary permits from that agency. Notwithstanding this, Glenn Defense has done very little to comply with all the regulatory requirements of the government, while government agencies have also failed to enforce its regulations.

Recommendations

In view of the foregoing, the following recommendations are hereby respectfully submitted:

1. For the SBMA, PCG, and DENR to initiate administrative proceedings against Glenn Defense for its failure to comply with the country's environmental and marine protection laws and regulations and to impose the necessary penalties as warranted;
2. For the SBMA, PCG, DENR to suspend all permits issued to Glenn Defense until such time that the administrative proceedings shall have been completed and appropriate sanctions shall have been meted out;

3. For the DENR, in coordination with the PCG and DOJ, to conduct further investigation to determine if the filing of criminal/civil cases against Glenn Defense, and its blacklisting, is warranted. The findings in this report shall be used as an input to the investigation;
4. For the DENR, in coordination with the PCG and DOJ, to conduct a full review and investigation to identify other individuals or entities that may have violated the country's marine protection laws, particularly with respect to the collection, hauling, treatment, and dumping of hazardous and sewage wastes from ships and to initiate the appropriate administrative cases, and if warranted, civil or criminal cases, against these violators. In view of this, the past and present operations of other entities providing marine husbanding and logistical services shall likewise be reviewed to determine if these entities have been compliant in the discharge of the services;
5. For the Office of the President to review the coordinative mechanisms of the VFACOM with the end-view of ensuring that the country's laws, rules and regulations are faithfully complied with in the implementation of activities under the VFA;
6. For MARINA to review its decision to exempt Glenn Defense from the government's permitting requirements covering the temporary use of foreign ships in Philippine territory on what is now established as a misplaced assumption on the part of Glenn Defense that it is covered and entitled to the privileges accorded under the VFA. This review is also recommended given the fact that item 15 of MARINA Memorandum Circular 2011-04 provides that such exemption shall be covered by an implementing arrangement between MARINA and the appropriate government agency, which up to this date, is absent;
7. For MARINA to suspend the implementation of item 15 of its Memorandum Circular 2011-04 until such time that appropriate implementing guidelines and arrangements between MARINA and appropriate agencies, including the DENR and PCG, are in place;
8. For the Department of Transportation and Communications, as the agency exercising administrative control over MARINA, to determine possible culpabilities on the part of its officers and staff for failing to enforce MARINA regulations on Glenn Defense,

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except on two occasions in 2011 wherein its permitting requirements were imposed;

9. For MARINA to review the extent of permitting violations by Glenn Defense prior to the adoption of MARINA Memorandum Circular 2011-04 and to impose the necessary penalties for such violations;
10. For the DENR, jointly with the PCG, to convene a Task Force, with representatives from the civil society, that will pursue the harmonization of policies, rules, and regulations governing maritime protection;
11. For the DENR and PCG to submit to the Philippine Senate proposals to strengthen the country's marine protection laws;
12. For the Office of the President and the Department of Foreign Affairs, as chair and vice-chair respectively of the VFACOM, respectively, to immediately convene an inter-agency committee that will formulate the implementing rules and regulations that will provide clear guidelines on the protection and the preservation of the environment, among others, toward ensuring respect for Philippine laws in the implementation of the VFA;
13. For the government, through the DENR, PCG, MARINA, PPA, SBMA, and other port authorities to develop appropriate protocols for the immediate coordinated response to water-related incidents, including incidents of waste dumping at sea;
14. For Congress to undertake a review of legislations related to marine pollution control and initiate amendments, as necessary, with the view to strengthening its enforcement provisions, reconciling and harmonizing their provisions, and imposing stiffer penalties in a way that is commensurate to the damage inflicted upon the environment and marine life by violators; and
15. For Congress to consider legislating measures and stiffer penalties that will apply to violations in the country's Exclusive Economic Zone.

Conclusion

This incident and the unfortunate grounding of a U.S. minesweeper in Tubbataha Reef are two different incidents, grounded on the same issue — the need for better coordinative and implementing arrangements to ensure “respect for Philippine laws, state policies and strict compliance with rules and regulations” by our treaty partner and all entities performing services

outside of the Visiting Forces Agreement, but related to its implementation.

There is something terribly wrong when a private commercial entity, instead of rectifying its omissions and violation of laws, claim that a Senate investigation results in waste of government time and resources. The findings in this report speak for itself.

Our government agencies need to understand that in any agreement or treaty, national interest is first and second to none.

I hereby submit this report in the hope that it will be adopted as a collective act and expression of this Chamber's commitment to preserve and promote the inviolability of our laws and policies in the course of our co-existence and cooperation with other countries.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 738

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved and adopted the findings and recommendations contained in Committee Report No. 738.

SPECIAL ORDERS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of the following road conversion bills from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders:

1. Committee Report No. 695 on House Bill No. 853;
2. Committee Report No. 725 on House Bill No. 1990;
3. Committee Report No. 726 on House Bill No. 2790;
4. Committee Report No. 727 on House Bill No. 5213;
5. Committee Report No. 728 on House Bill No. 5214;
6. Committee Report No. 729 on House Bill No. 5466;
7. Committee Report No. 730 on House Bill No. 6207;
8. Committee Report No. 731 on House Bill No. 6208;

9. Committee Report No. 732 on House Bill No. 6230;
10. Committee Report No. 733 on House Bill No. 6453;
11. Committee Report No. 734 on House Bill No. 4879;
12. Committee Report No. 735 on House Bill No. 3490;
13. Committee Report No. 736 on House Bill No. 2324;
14. Committee Report No. 737 on House Bill No. 2139;
15. Committee Report No. 742 on House Bill No. 3371;
16. Committee Report No. 754 on House Bill No. 3929;
17. Committee Report No. 755 on House Bill No. 4246;
18. Committee Report No. 756 on House Bill No. 4247;
19. Committee Report No. 757 on House Bill No. 4852;
20. Committee Report No. 758 on House Bill No. 4908;
21. Committee Report No. 759 on House Bill No. 5469;
22. Committee Report No. 760 on House Bill No. 5591; and
23. Committee Report No. 761 on House Bill No. 2372.

ROAD CONVERSION BILLS

With the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the following road conversion bills were considered, on Second Reading, one after the other:

1. Committee Report No. 695 on House Bill No. 853, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL ROAD FROM JUNCTION LUTIMAN TO GUICAM ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALICIA, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

2. Committee Report No. 725 on House Bill No. 1990, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY IPIL, SURIGAO CITY – SAN FRANCISCO – MALIMONO – MAINIT PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF SAN FRANCISCO, MALIMONO AND MAINIT AND IN THE CITY OF SURIGAO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD;

3. Committee Report No. 726 on House Bill No. 2790, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY ROAD FROM BARANGAY BUHANGIN TO THE BARANGAY BUNAWAN JUNCTION OF THE DAVAO – AGUSAN ROAD, PASSING THROUGH BARANGAYS CABANTIAN, INDANGAN, ACACIA AND MAHAYAG, ALL IN DAVAO CITY, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

4. Committee Report No. 727 on House Bill No. 5213, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAOAG – VINTAR ROAD IN LAOAG CITY, ILOCOS NORTE INTO A SECONDARY NATIONAL HIGHWAY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

5. Committee Report No. 728 on House Bill No. 5214, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BUTTONG – RARABURAN – DARAYDAY – MANGATO ROAD IN LAOAG CITY, ILOCOS NORTE INTO A SECONDARY NATIONAL HIGHWAY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF;

6. Committee Report No. 729 on House Bill No. 5466, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE NASUGBU – TERNATE ROAD WHICH CONNECTS THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF NASUGBU, BATANGAS VIA BARANGAYS PAPAYA, CALAYO, BALAYTIGUE, NATIPUAN AND WAWA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NASUGBU, BATANGAS INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

7. Committee Report No. 730 on House Bill No. 6207, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROXAS – SAN ISIDRO – MABINI – LIBERTAD –

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BAILAN – T. ARLAN – STA. MONICA ROAD IN THE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

8. Committee Report No. 731 on House Bill No. 6208, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE CORAZON – STA. CRUZ – STA. FE – LIBERTAD – CABITOONAN – CATANGHAN – GEN LUNA ROAD IN THE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;
9. Committee Report No. 732 on House Bill No. 6230, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE HIGHWAY JUNCTION – ANTIPOLLO – TUBURAN – QUEZON – DEL CARMEN – MABINI – PILAR ROAD IN THE 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;
10. Committee Report No. 733 on House Bill No. 6453, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN ISIDRO – LOPE DE VEGA ROAD IN THE FIRST DISTRICT, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR INTO A NATIONAL ROAD;
11. Committee Report No. 734 on House Bill No. 4879, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD WHICH STARTS FROM LUCBAN (SITIO AYAGA JUNCTION) – BANGUIAN – ALINUNU – ABULUG (CENTRO) TO BALLESTEROS (CENTRO) – (ZITANGA JUNCTION) IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF ABULUG AND BALLESTEROS, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD;
12. Committee Report No. 735 on House Bill No. 3490, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE BULANAO JUNCTION – DAGUPAN – PINOCOC – MALALINTA ROAD CONNECTING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TABUK AND PINUKPUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF TUAO, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN INTO A NATIONAL ROAD;
13. Committee Report No. 736 on House Bill No. 2324, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE APAYAO – KALINGA – ABRA PROVINCIAL ROAD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD;
14. Committee Report No. 737 on House Bill No. 2139, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE TABUK – BANAUE ROAD VIA TANUDAN – BARLIG ROAD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;
15. Committee Report No. 742 on House Bill No. 3371, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY ROAD FROM BARANGAY BUHANGIN TO BARANGAY CALLAWA, PASSING THROUGH BARANGAYS TIGATTO AND MANDUG, ALL IN DAVAO CITY, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;
16. Committee Report No. 754 on House Bill No. 3929, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING ANONAS STREET IN QUEZON CITY INTO A NATIONAL ROAD;
17. Committee Report No. 755 on House Bill No. 4246, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE DUEÑAS – CARVASANA – CALINOG PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;
18. Committee Report No. 756 on House Bill No. 4247, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE TABUCAN – CABATUAN – CONSOLACION – SAN MIGUEL PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;
19. Committee Report No. 757 on House Bill No. 4852, entitled
AN ACT CONVERTING THE FEDERICO L. FARIÑAS AVENUE IN LAOAG CITY, ILOCOS NORTE INTO A SECONDARY NATIONAL HIGHWAY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;
20. Committee Report No. 758 on House Bill No. 4908, entitled

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AN ACT CONVERTING BAGONG FARMER'S AVENUE 1 TRAVERSING BARANGAY TUMANA IN THE SECOND DISTRICT, CITY OF MARIKINA INTO A NATIONAL ROAD;

21. Committee Report No. 759 on House Bill No. 5469, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE CALATAGAN – CALAMBUYAN PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALATAGAN, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS WHICH TRAVERSES THE TOURISM AREA OF CALATAGAN, BATANGAS VIA CALATAGAN AND CALAMBUYAN INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

22. Committee Report No. 760 on House Bill No. 5591, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE METRO DUMAGUETE DIVERSION ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL NEGROS INTO A NATIONAL ROAD; and

23. Committee Report No. 761 on House Bill No. 2372, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY LOWER LIBAS JUNCTION – POBLACION – BARANGAY HIMAMAUG PROVINCIAL ROAD, ALL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGANAAN TO SURIGAO CITY IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the titles of the bills were read without prejudice to the insertion of their full texts into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Revilla for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR REVILLA

At the instance of Senator Revilla, the omnibus sponsorship speech he delivered on January 21, 2013, on the 62 House bills pertaining to the conversion of local roads to national roads was adopted as the sponsorship speech of the aforementioned road conversion bills.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 853 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 853 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1990 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 1990 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2790 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 2790 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5213 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5213 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5214 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5214 was approved on Second Reading.

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**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5466
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5466 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6207
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 6207 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6208
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 6208 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6230
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 6230 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6453
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 6453 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4879
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4879 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3490
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3490 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2324
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection,

House Bill No. 2324 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2139
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 2139 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3371
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3371 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3929
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3929 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4246
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4246 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4247
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4247 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4852
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4852 was approved on Second Reading.

**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4908
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 4908 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5469 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5469 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5591 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5591 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2372 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 2372 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF ROAD CONVERSION BILLS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Bill Nos. 853, 1990, 2790, 5213, 5214, 5466, 6207, 6208, 6230, 6453, 4879, 3490, 2324, 2139, 3371, 3929, 4246, 4247, 4852, 4908, 5469, 5591 and 2372.

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 724 on House Bill No. 2522 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 724 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2522

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, House Bill No. 2522 (Committee Report No. 724), entitled

**AN ACT UPGRADING THE COTABATO
SUBDISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE
INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT
ENGINEERING OFFICE TO BE
KNOWN AS THE COTABATO CITY
DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR.**

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate.

The Chair recognized Senator Revilla for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR REVILLA

At the instance of Senator Revilla, the explanatory note on House Bill No. 2522, introduced by Representative Sema, was adopted as the sponsorship speech of the aforementioned bill.

House Bill No. 2522

By Representative Sema

This bill seeks to strengthen the engineering office of the Department of Public Works and Highways in Cotabato City.

The First Legislative District of Maguindanao and Cotabato City consists of (a) the eleven municipalities of Maguindanao Province and (b) Cotabato City. Congress through Republic Act No. 9054 transferred and devolved the administrative and fiscal management of public works and funds for public works to the Autonomous Regional Government as far as the eleven municipalities are concerned, namely, Barira, Buldon, Datu Blah T. Sinsuat, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Kabuntalan, Matanog, Northern Kabuntalan, Parang, Sultan Kudat, Sultan Mastura, and Upin with a total population of 562,886. Cotabato City, with a population of 259,153, remains to be under the administrative and fiscal management of the national government. At present, however, national infrastructure projects and facilities in Cotabato City are under the jurisdiction of a sub-district engineering office created through a DPWH Department Order in 2001. It was proper that this sub-engineering office be now convened into a regular district engineering office. Hence, this bill.

Immediate approval hereof of earnestly sought.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee and individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2522 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 2522 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2522

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

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON SENATE BILL NO. 3280 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 4867

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3280, 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,

and House Bill No. 4867, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 612, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE INSURANCE CODE.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Osmeña to sponsor the report.

JOINT EXPLANATION OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Senator Osmeña submitted to the Chamber the Conference Committee Report on the Disagreeing Provisions of Senate Bill No. 3280 and House Bill No. 4867, and proceeded to read the Joint Explanation of the Conference Committee, to wit:

The Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 4867 and Senate Bill No. 3280, after having met and fully discussed the subject matter in a conference, hereby report to their respective Houses the following, that:

1. The conferees agreed to use a consolidated version of the Senate Bill 3280 and House Bill No. 4867 as the working draft;
2. Sections 1 up to 10 of the Senate version was adopted;
3. On Section 11, the House proposed the insertion of the phrase "NOTWITHSTANDING THE FOREGOING, IN THE EVENT THE INSURED DOES NOT CHANGE THE BENEFICIARY DURING HIS LIFETIME, THE DESIGNATION SHALL BE DEEMED IRREVOCABLE."
4. As proposed by the House with amendment Section 12 was adopted of the reconciled bills to read as follows:

The interest of a beneficiary in a life insurance policy shall be forfeited when the beneficiary is the principal, accomplice, or accessory in willfully bringing about the death of the insured; [in which event, the nearest relative of the insured shall receive the proceeds of said insurance if not otherwise disqualified.] IN SUCH A CASE, THE SHARE FORFEITED SHALL PASS ON TO THE OTHER BENEFICIARIES, UNLESS OTHERWISE DISQUALIFIED. IN THE ABSENCE OF OTHER BENEFICIARIES, THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE PAID IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY CONTRACT. IF THE POLICY CONTRACT IS SILENT, THE PROCEEDS SHALL BE PAID TO THE ESTATE OF THE INSURED.

5. Sections 13 up to 25, Title 3 (Insurable Interest) of the Senate version were adopted;
6. Sections 26 up to 35, Title 4 (Concealment) of the Senate version were adopted;
7. Sections 36 up to 48, Title 5 (Representation) of the Senate version were adopted;

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8. Sections 49 up to 59, Title 6 (The Policy) of the Senate version were adopted;
9. Section 60 of the House version with proposed insertion was adopted to read as: An open policy is one in which the value of the thing insured is not agreed upon, [but is left to be ascertained in case of loss.] "AND THE AMOUNT OF THE INSURANCE MERELY REPRESENTS THE INSURER'S MAXIMUM LIABILITY. THE VALUE OF SUCH THING INSURED SHALL BE ASCERTAINED AT THE TIME OF THE LOSS."
10. Sections 61 up to 63 of the Senate version were adopted;
11. Section 64, Subparagraphs (f) & [f](G) of the House version were adopted to read as: (f) DISCOVERY OF OTHER INSURANCE COVERAGE THAT MAKES THE TOTAL INSURANCE IN EXCESS OF THE VALUE OF THE PROPERTY INSURED; OR
[f](G) a determination by the Commissioner that the continuation of the policy would violate or would place the insurer in violation of this Code;
12. Sections 65 and 66 of the Senate version were adopted;
13. Sections 67 up to 76, Title 7 (Warranties) of the Senate version were adopted;
14. Sections 77, 79 to 81 Title 8 (Premium) of the Senate version were adopted;
15. Sections 78-A of the House version of the same title was adopted to read as: SEC. 78. EMPLOYEES OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, INCLUDING ITS POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AND INSTRUMENTALITIES, AND GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, MAY PAY THEIR INSURANCE PREMIUMS AND LOAN OBLIGATIONS THROUGH SALARY DEDUCTION: *PROVIDED, THAT* THE TREASURER, CASHIER, PAYMASTER OR OFFICIAL OF THE ENTITY EMPLOYING THE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE IS AUTHORIZED, NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF ANY EXISTING LAW, RULES AND REGULATIONS TO THE CONTRARY, TO MAKE DEDUCTIONS FROM THE SALARY, WAGE OR INCOME OF THE LATTER PURSUANT TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INSURER AND THE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE AND TO REMIT SUCH DEDUCTIONS TO THE INSURER CONCERNED, AND COLLECT SUCH REASONABLE FEE FOR ITS SERVICES.
16. In Section 82, Sec. 81 of the House version was adopted;
17. In Section 83, Sec. 82 of the House version was adopted;
18. Section 84 of the Senate version was adopted;
19. Sections 85 to 89, Title 9 (Loss) of the Senate version were adopted;
20. Sections 90 to 94, Title 10 (Notice of Loss) of the Senate version were adopted;
21. Sections 95 to 96, Title 11 (Double Insurance) of the Senate version were adopted;
22. Sections 97 to 100, Title 12 (Reinsurance) of the Senate version were adopted;
23. Section 101, (Chapter II, on Classes of Insurance, Title 1, Marine Insurance) of the Senate version was adopted;
24. Sections 102 to 108, Sub-Title 1-B (Insurable Interest) of the Senate version were adopted;
25. Sections 109 to 112, Sub-Title 1-C (Concealment) of the Senate version were adopted;
26. Sections 113 to 114, Sub-Title 1-D (Representation) of the Senate version were adopted;
27. Sections 115 to 122, Sub-Title 1-E (Implied Warranties) of the Senate version were adopted;
28. Sections 123 to 128, Sub-Title 1-F (The Voyage And Deviation) of the Senate version were adopted;
29. Sections 129 to 139, Sub-Title 1-G (Loss) of the Senate version were adopted;
30. Sections 140 to 157, Sub-Title 1-H (Abandonment) of the Senate version were adopted;
31. Sections 158 to 168, Sub-Title 1-I (Measure Of Indemnity) of the Senate version were adopted;
32. Sections 169 to 175, Title 2 (Fire Insurance) of the Senate version were adopted;
33. Sections 176, Title 3 (Casualty) of the Senate version was adopted;
34. Sections 177 to 180, Title 4 (Suretyship) of the Senate version were adopted;
35. Sections 181, and 183 to 186, Title 5 (Life Insurance) of the Senate version were adopted;
36. Sec. 180 of the House version with insertion was adopted as Section 182;
37. Section 187, TITLE 6 (MICROINSURANCE) of the Senate version with slight amendment

was adopted to read as: (a) The amount of contributions, premiums, fees or charges, computed on a daily basis, does not exceed [five percent (5%)] SEVEN AND A HALF PERCENT (7.5%) of the current daily minimum wage rate for non-agricultural workers in Metro Manila; and

(b) The maximum sum of guaranteed benefits is not more than [five hundred (500)] ONE THOUSAND (1,000) times of the current daily minimum wage rate for non-agricultural workers in Metro Manila.

38. The last subparagraph, SEC. 83-A of the House version was adopted as Section 188 to read as: "SEC. 188. NO INSURANCE COMPANY OR MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION SHALL ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF MICROINSURANCE UNLESS IT POSSESSES ALL THE REQUIREMENTS AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL ISSUE SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING MICROINSURANCE.";
39. Section 189, (CHAPTER II-A, FINANCIAL REPORTING FRAMEWORK) of the Senate version was adopted;
40. Sections 190, 191, 192 (Chapter III, The Business Of Insurance, Title 1, Insurance Companies, Organization, Capitalization And Authorization), of the Senate version were adopted;
41. Sec. 186 of the House version was adopted as Section 193;
42. Sec. 187 of the House version insertion in subparagraph 5 was adopted in subparagraph 6 of Section 194 to read as: "THE COMMISSIONER MAY ISSUE RULES AND REGULATIONS ON THE USE OF NAMES OF INSURANCE COMPANIES AND OTHER SUPERVISED PERSONS OR ENTITIES.";
43. Sec. 188 of the House version (first, third and fourth subparagraphs) with amendment was inserted in Section 195 of the Senate version;
44. On the same Section 195, 3 new subparagraphs were inserted to read as:

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS SECTION, NET WORTH SHALL CONSIST OF:

- a) PAID-UP CAPITAL;
- b) RETAINED EARNINGS;
- c) UNIMPAIRED SURPLUS; AND
- d) REVALUATION OF ASSETS AS MAY BE APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER.

THE COMMISSION MAY ADOPT FOR PURPOSES OF COMPLIANCE WITH CAPITAL BUILD UP REQUIREMENT UNDER THIS CODE THE RECOGNITION AS PART OF THE CAPITAL ACCOUNT, CAPITAL NOTES OR DEBENTURES WHICH ARE SUBORDINATE TO ALL CREDITS AND SENIOR ONLY TO COMMON CAPITAL STOCKS.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES MAY ORDER A PERIODIC REVIEW EVERY TWO YEARS THE CAPITAL STRUCTURE SET OUT ABOVE TO DETERMINE THE CAPITAL ADEQUACY OF THE LOCAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY FROM AND AFTER THE INTEGRATION AND LIBERALIZATION OF THE FINANCIAL SERVICES, INCLUDING INSURANCE, IN THE ASEAN REGION. FOR THIS PURPOSE, A REVIEW COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF), INSURANCE COMMISSION (IC), NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA), SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) AND OTHER AGENCIES WHICH THE PRESIDENT MAY DESIGNATE SHALL CONDUCT THE REVIEW AND MAY RECOMMEND TO THE PRESIDENT TO ADOPT FOR IMPLEMENTATION THE NECESSARY CAPITAL ADJUSTMENT.

45. Sections 196 and 197 of the Senate version were adopted;
46. In Section 198, Sec. 191 of the House version was adopted with amendment;
47. Sections 199 to 200 of the Senate version were adopted;
48. Sections 201 and 202 (Title 2 Solvency) of the Senate version were adopted;
49. Section 203 of the Senate version was adopted and subparagraph 10 of the House version was adopted;
50. Section 204 (Title 3 Assets) of the Senate version was adopted inserting subparagraph 10 of Sec. [196]200. of the House version;
51. In Section 205 of the Senate version, the first and second paragraphs (Title 4 Investments) were adopted inserting subparagraphs A)10 to F) up to subparagraph (4) II) of Sec. 198 of the House version;
52. Section 206 of the Senate version was adopted;

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53. Section 207 of the Senate version was adopted with insertions on subparagraphs (b), to (d); and

Sec. 200. (g) of the House version with amendment was adopted to read as: "SECURITIES ISSUED BY A 'REGISTERED ENTERPRISE', AS THIS TERM IS DEFINED IN [REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5186] E.O. 226, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE OMNIBUS INVESTMENTS [INCENTIVES ACT] CODE OF 1987, AS AMENDED: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE TOTAL INVESTMENT OF A DOMESTIC NON-LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY IN ANY REGISTERED ENTERPRISE SHALL NOT EXCEED TWENTY PER CENT (20%) OF THE NET WORTH OF SAID INSURANCE COMPANY AS SHOWN BY ITS AFORESAID FINANCIAL STATEMENT UNLESS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED BY THE COMMISSIONER."

54. Section 208 to 216 of the Senate version were adopted;
55. Section 217 to 219 (Title 5 Reserves) of the Senate version were adopted;
56. Sec. 213 of the House version was adopted as Section 220;
57. Section 221 of the Senate version was adopted;
58. Section 222 (Title 6 Limit Of Single Risk) of the Senate version was adopted;
59. Section 223 to 226 (Title 7 Reinsurance Transactions) of the Senate version were adopted;
60. In Section 227 Sec. [220] 224, of the House version was adopted;
61. Section 228 and 229 of the Senate version were adopted;
62. Section 230 and 231 (Title 8 Annual Statement) of the Senate version were adopted;
63. In Section 232 Secs. [225] and 225-A of the House version were adopted;
64. Sections 233 to 238 (Title 9 Policy Forms) of the Senate version were adopted;
65. Sections 239 to 247 (Title 10 Variable Contracts) of the Senate version were adopted;
66. Sections 248 to 251 (Title 11 Claims Settlement) of the Senate version were adopted;
67. Sections 252 and 253 (Title 12 Examination of Companies) of the Senate version were adopted;
68. In Section 253 Sec. 246-A of the House version was adopted;
69. Section 254 (Title 13 Suspension Or Revocation of Authority) of the Senate Version was adopted;
70. Section 255 (Title 14 Appointment Of Conservator) of the Senate version was adopted;
71. Sections 256 to 258 (Title 15 Proceedings Upon Insolvency) of the Senate version were adopted;
72. Sections 259 to 268 (Title 16 Consolidation And Merger of Insurance Companies) of the Senate version were adopted;
73. Sections 269 to 280 (Title 17 Mutualization Of Stock Life Insurance Companies) of the Senate version were adopted;
74. In Section 281, Sec. 272-A of the House version was adopted;
75. Section 282 (Title 18 Withdrawal of Foreign Insurance Companies) of the Senate version was adopted;
76. In Section 283 Sec. 274 of the House version was adopted;
77. Sections 284 to 288 of the Senate version were adopted;
78. In Section 289 (Title 19 Professional Reinsurers) Sec. 280 of the House version was adopted;
79. In Section 290, Sec. 281 of the House version was adopted;
80. Sections 291 to 307 (Title 20 Holding Companies) of the Senate version were adopted;
81. In Section 308 (Chapter IV, Sales Agencies And Technical Services, Title 1, Insurance Agents and Insurance Brokers), 2nd paragraph of Sec. 299 of the House version was adopted;
82. In Section 309, 2nd paragraph of Sec. 300 of the House version was adopted;
83. Sections 310 to 314 of the Senate version were adopted;
84. In Section 315, 2nd paragraph of Sec. 306 of the House version was adopted;
85. Sections 316 to 318 of the Senate version were adopted;
86. Sections 319 to 321 (Title 2 Reinsurance Brokers) of the Senate version were adopted;
87. Sections 322 to 326 (Title 3 Resident Agent) of the Senate version were adopted;

88. Sections 327 to 331 (Title 4 Non-Life Company Underwriter) of the Senate version were adopted;
89. Sections 332 to 343 (Title 5 Adjusters) of the Senate version were adopted;
90. Section 344 (Title 6 Actuaries) of the Senate version was adopted;
91. In Section 345, Sec. 366 of the House version was adopted except the last paragraph;
92. Section 346 of the Senate version was adopted;
93. In Section 347, Sec. 338-A of the House version was inserted;
94. Sections 348 to 372 (Title 7, Rating Organization And Rate Making) of the Senate version were adopted;
95. Sections 373 and 374 (Title 8 Provision Common to Agents, Brokers, And Adjusters) of the Senate version were adopted;
96. 2nd paragraph of Section 375 (Title 9 BANCASSURANCE) of the Senate version was deleted;
97. Sections 376 and 377 of the Senate version were adopted;
98. Sections 379 to 385 (Chapter V Security Fund) of the Senate version were adopted;
99. Sections 386 to 402 (Chapter VI Compulsory Motor Vehicle Liability Insurance) of the Senate version were adopted;
100. Sections 403 to 423, Chapter VII Mutual Benefit Associations and Trusts For Charitable Uses, Title 1, Mutual Benefit Associations) of the Senate version were adopted;
101. Sections 424 to 426 (Title 2 Trusts For Charitable Uses) of the Senate version were adopted
102. In Section 427, Sec. 413 of the House version was adopted;
103. Section 428 of the Senate version was adopted;
104. Section 429, Chapter VIII Trust Business In General) of the Senate version was adopted;
105. The entire Chapter VII-B of the House version was adopted as Chapter IX, Section 430-A;
106. Section 431, (Chapter X the Insurance Commissioner, Title 1, Administrative And Adjudicatory Powers) Sec. 414 of the House

version up to 414 subparagraph (P) were adopted;

107. Sections 432 and 433 of the Senate version were adopted;
108. Sections 434 and 435 of the Senate version were adopted;
109. Sections 436 and 437 of the Senate version were adopted;
110. In Section 438, a new TRANSITORY PROVISION was inserted to read as RENEWAL OF EXISTING LICENSES, CERTIFICATES OF AUTHORITY OR ACCREDITATION WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2013 SHALL BE VALID UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2015. THEREAFTER, RENEWAL SHALL BE FILED ON THE LAST DAY OF DECEMBER EVERY THIRD YEAR FOLLOWING THE DATE OF EXPIRY OF THE LICENSE, CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY OR ACCREDITATION;
111. Sections 439 to 441 of the Senate version were adopted;
112. The title of the Senate version and the House version were adopted with amendment to read as follows:

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY, FURTHER AMENDING 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 BLDG. 874, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

In case of conflict between the statements/ amendments stated in this Joint Explanation and that of the provisions of the consolidated bill in the accompanying Conference Committee Report, the provisions of the latter shall prevail.

APPROVAL OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 3280 and House Bill No. 4867 was approved by the Body.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR OSMEÑA

Senator Osmeña informed the Body that the Senate received an official communication from the House of Representatives on February 5, 2013, to

inform that it had adopted Senate Bill No. 3389 as an amendment to House Bill No. 6214, entitled "An Act Strengthening the National Electrification Administration, Further Amending for This Purpose Presidential Decree No. 269, as Amended, Otherwise known as the National Electrification Administration Decree." He said that since both Houses have adopted the bill on Third Reading, there will be no need for a Bicameral Conference Committee meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 763

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Committee Report No. 763 on the privilege speech of Senate President Enrile on July 25, 2012 on rice smuggling at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

Acting on Senator Pangilinan's request, at the instance of Senator Sotto, Senator Pangilinan's sponsorship speech was deemed read and inserted into the record.

Hereunder is the full text of Senator Pangilinan's sponsorship speech:

REPORT & RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING RICE SMUGGLING

Mr. President, distinguished colleagues, in view of a privilege speech delivered by the Senate President on July 25, 2012, regarding rice smuggling at the Subic Bay Freeport Zone, and in view of subsequent investigations that followed, please allow me to share the report and recommendations of the Committees on Agriculture and Food, Ways and Means, Trade and Commerce, and Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations on the matter. This covers not only recent cases of Indian and Vietnamese rice smuggling into the Subic Bay Freeport Zone in Olongapo, but also rice smuggling done at the Port of Legazpi in Albay.

Smuggling, as defined by the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines, is committed by any person who (1) fraudulently imports or brings into the Philippines or assists in importing or bringing into the Philippines any article, contrary to law; or (2) receives, conceals, buys, sells, or in any manner facilitates the transportation, concealment or sale of such article after importation, knowing the same to have been imported contrary to law.

Mr. President, distinguished colleagues, smuggling is a crime not only against our State

and its laws. Rice smuggling, in particular, is also a crime against our farmers who toil day in and day out to put food on our tables, who themselves have barely enough to eat. Smuggling not only sabotages our economy, it sabotages the livelihood of our farmers and endangers their very existence.

To many of these farmers and their families, smuggling is a matter of life and death.

Following the privilege speech delivered by our very own Senate President on July 25, 2012, a series of investigations and public hearings and inquiries were conducted by the four aforementioned Senate committees between August 1 and December 17, 2012. The cases involved three separate rice shipments:

- (1) 420,000 bags or 21,000 metric tons of Indian White Rice originating from India, and which arrived at the Port of Subic from Singapore on April 4, 2012;
- (2) Approximately ninety (90) container vans or 45,000 bags of Premium White Rice from Vietnam, which arrived at the Port of Subic in two batches on June 13 and 20, 2012; and
- (3) 94,000 bags or 4,700 metric tons of Vietnamese Long Grain Rice, which arrived on September 2, 2012 at the Port of Legazpi, *without* the Bureau of Customs' prior knowledge of the arrival of MV Minh Tuan 68.

All in all, the estimated volume of these seized rice shipments amount to **559,000 bags or approximately 28,000 tons** of smuggled rice.

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Our investigations reveal a rather sophisticated *modus operandi* involving a large web of characters from the government, farmers' cooperatives, private brokerage firms, and foreign rice suppliers—all colluding to commit a multi-billion peso scam against the Filipino people. This document I present to this august chamber today details the sordid details of this web of deceit.

In view of the foregoing, the Committees on Agriculture and Food, Ways and Means, Trade and Commerce, and Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations strongly recommend that the following policy measures be undertaken in order to crush rice smuggling while empowering our rice farmers and allowing them to earn what they are due:

1. **For the Department of Agriculture, National Food Authority, and Department of Finance, to study and make policy recommendations**

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to the President and to Congress on whether the Philippines should liberalize the rice industry, continue with the policy on the regulation of rice and continue with quantitative restrictions on rice, or a combination of both;

2. In case of continuance of the government policy on private sector participation on rice importation, for the NFA Council to study and make policy recommendations to the President and to Congress on how to further improve the PSF – TES and the MAV – CSQ so as not to become a tool for financiers, big-time rice traders, and syndicates to control rice trading and deceitfully use farmers' organizations and cooperatives and private entities as fronts in getting hold of import allocations/permits from the National Food Authority;
3. For the NFA to amend and make stringent rules on the qualification of entities allowed to participate in the PSF – TES and the MAV – CSQ, or in any other program that would allow the private sector to finance rice importation. Specifically, it is recommended that the NFA impose rigorous legal, technical and financial standards to private entities (corporations, single proprietorships, and partnerships) and farmers organizations and cooperatives, allowing the participation *only* of those that have: 1) technical competence in the importation, logistics, warehousing, and distribution of rice, among others; and 2) have the financial capacity, or have standing credit lines from banks and government and private financial institutions;
4. For the NFA to study and issue a policy that the volume of rice allocation to import that will be given to private entities and cooperatives/associations be based on the technical and financial capacity of the participant and not on a simple equal distribution of allocations;
5. For the Department of Agriculture, the Agricultural Credit Policy Council, and the Department of Finance to study and make recommendations on how farmers' organizations and cooperatives can be provided credit in order for them to participate in any rice importation to increase their incomes;
6. For the Department of Agriculture and the National Food Authority to study the effects of smuggled, forfeited, and eventually auctioned-off rice into the market, on the

supply and price of palay and rice, and their impacts on the productivity, profitability, and increase in incomes of farmers, particularly rice farmers;

7. For the Department of Agriculture, Department of Finance, Bureau of Customs, and the National Food Authority to revise the rules on the entry of rice, specifically mandating that rice brought into the country, either through free ports or ordinary ports of entry, without first presenting the necessary import permit shall be considered rice smuggling; and that rice shipments claimed to be for transshipment must first declare a final destination before it is allowed to be unloaded or to leave the country in case it was allowed to enter into any port or to be unloaded;
8. In relation to item 7, amend or clarify Customs Administrative Order No. 4 - 93, including the Joint Memorandum Agreement between SBMA and BOC dated 18 July 2007, to require the submission first of import permits or a clear declaration of final destination before imported or regulated goods will be allowed to enter the Subic Bay Freeport Zone. For this purpose, the practice of giving a thirty (30)-day window to comply with documentary requirements should be stopped.
9. Moreover, the evidence submitted by the Bureau of Customs, the National Food Authority, and the Department of Trade and Industry before the Committees strongly reveal that there is a rice cartel that involves certain government officials who allow transactions to be consummated regardless of the irreparable injury it would cause to the government. Therefore, another recommendation is for the Ombudsman, together with the Bureau of Customs, to examine the significant documents submitted before the Committees and file charges for violation of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act against eight (8) key officials of the National Food Authority.¹ There is also the possibility of certain government officials and employees to be culpable of violating Republic Act No. 6713, Otherwise Known as the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, and we likewise ask the authorities to look into this matter.

The Committees likewise found that there is sufficient basis to conclude that financiers are behind the anomalous transactions, and the

testimony and documents obtained in the hearings establish without a doubt that these financiers exist and have employed dummies to rig the bidding process. **We now therefore also underscore the task of the Ombudsman, Department of Justice, to unmask and, if warranted, to file the necessary charges filed against a Mr. Danilo Garcia, a Mr. Willy Sy, a certain "Danny Ngo", and a "David Tan".** All be investigated for probable violation of Section 4 of Republic Act No. 3019, Sections 101 and 3601 of the Tariffs and Customs Code of the Philippines and Republic Act No. 1956 otherwise known as An Act Amending Article One Hundred and Eight-Six of the Revised Penal Code, Concerning Monopolies and Combinations in Restraint of Trade.

The Committees likewise recommend for the **National Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Customs to conduct further investigations into at least 27 cooperatives, brokerage firms, and sole proprietors for possible culpability of violations of the TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES.** It is also recommended that a further investigation by the Department of Justice be made against the abovementioned cooperatives, sole proprietors, and brokers for probable violation of **Republic Act No. 1956 otherwise known as AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SIX OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, CONCERNING MONOPOLIES AND COMBINATIONS IN RESTRAINT OF TRADE.**

Finally, the Committees recommend that **Mr. Simeon Sioson** be referred to the Witness Protection Program of the Department of Justice upon compliance of Mr. Sioson of the requirements provided under Republic Act No. 6980 otherwise known as "The Witness Protection, Security and Benefit Act."

Mr. President, distinguished colleagues, *nakakalungkot pong isipin na ang mga itinaguyod nating mga programa para tulungan ang ating mga magsasaka ay pinagsamantalahan hindi lang ng mga ganid at sakim na negosyante, pero pati na rin ng kanilang mga kapwa-magsasaka at ng pamahalaang dapat sana ay nagtataguyod ng kapakanan nila.* It is saddening to see farmers moving in such an organized manner, not for the common good or for a higher purpose, but to steal revenues from the government and, more than that, to steal the livelihood of their fellow farmers. *Hanggang sa kahuli-hulihan ay itinatangi pa ng ilan sa mga sangkot ang kanilang mga kahina-hinalang pagkilos, pero sa huli ay buking pa rin sila. Nakakahiya.*

Mr. President, distinguished colleagues, we have seen over the course of our investigations and public hearings that smuggling is one of the grave cancers of our society that cannot easily be eliminated or expunged. It thrives on inconsistencies and gaps within our bureaucracy and our law enforcement, and preys on vulnerable sectors such as our farmers' cooperatives—who only want to improve their incomes and quality of life, but who thus succumb to temptations posed by unscrupulous middlemen. It will take more than one series of cases and one institution to rid our society of this cancer. It will take a more concerted effort and more openness between and among government agencies, to ensure that smuggling is nipped in the bud.

Therefore, even as this august chamber will soon close its doors on the 15th Congress, this representation wishes to put on the table these urgent recommendations in order for us to move forward and develop more systemic solutions to rice smuggling. *Ito na po ang isa sa mga pabaon ko sa ating mga magsasaka at sa taumbayan—na masolusyonan at masugpo ang smuggling, at maibigay sa ating mga magsasaka ang kabuhayang dapat ay kanila.*

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

On page 31, after Recommendation No. 8, as proposed by Senator Sotto, on behalf of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body approved to add another recommendation, as follows: 9. TO DIRECT THE SENATE SECRETARIAT TO FURNISH A COPY OF THIS REPORT TO ALL CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no other committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

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TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 763

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, the Body approved and adopted the findings and recommendations contained in Committee Report No. 763.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 940

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the adoption of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 940, entitled

RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 5 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION.

As a consequence, the period of committee amendments was reopened.

SOTTO AMENDMENT

On the "Effectivity Clause," as proposed by Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the insertion of the following:

EFFECTIVITY. – THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON PUBLICATION IN TWO (2) NEWSPAPERS OF GENERAL CIRCULATION AND SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL AMENDED AND REPEALED. A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE POSTED IN THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no other amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 940

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 940 was adopted by the Body, subject to style.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 8:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 8:09 p.m., the session was resumed.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 447 ON SENATE BILL NO. 3313 (Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 3313 (Committee Report No. 447), entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING AND STRENGTHENING THE CASH AND OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES FOR NATIONAL ATHLETES, NATIONAL ATHLETES WITH DISABILITY OR DIFFERENTLY-ABLED ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED NINETY HUNDRED AND SIXTY-FOUR, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 2001" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no further interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body

closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

DRILON AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Drilon, there being no objection, the Body approved the following amendments, one after the other:

1. On page 3, line 26, before the word "COACHES," insert the phrase NATIONAL ATHLETES WITH DISABILITIES (AWD) and a comma (,) thereafter;
2. On page 6, line 19, after the word "hundred," insert the word THOUSAND;
3. On page 7, lines 30 to 33, delete the phrase starting from the word "ONLY" on line 30, until the word "COMMISSION" on line 33;
4. On page 10, line 26, after the word "WINNING," replace the word "FLIPINO" with FILIPINO;
5. On the same page, line 27, replace the word "PENSION" with ALLOWANCE;
6. On the same page and line, replace the words and figure "TEN THOUSAND PESOS (PHP10,000.00)" with THIRTY THOUSAND PESOS (PHP30,000.00);
7. On the same page, line 29, replace the word and figure "SIXTY (60)" with FIFTY-FIVE (55); and
8. On page 12, line 32, replace the words "Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS)" with DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED).

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no other individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 3313 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 3313 was approved on Second Reading.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto registered his abstention from voting on Senate Bill No. 3313 since he might be a beneficiary of the measure.

As to the reason for his abstention, Senator Sotto stated that he was a former gold medalist and coach of the national bowling team.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 3313

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

BILLS UPGRADING HOSPITALS (Continuation)

With the permission consent of the Body, upon motion of Senator Sotto, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of the following bills, one after the other:

1. Committee Report No. 720 on House Bill No. 3840, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF REGION I MEDICAL CENTER IN DAGUPAN CITY, PANGASINAN FROM THREE HUNDRED (300) TO SIX HUNDRED (600), AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

2. Committee Report No. 721 on House Bill No. 1801, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF EVERSLEY CHILDS SANITARIUM HOSPITAL IN THE PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM FIFTY (50)-BED CAPACITY TO ONE HUNDRED (100), UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTHCARE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

2

3. Committee Report No. 722 on House Bill No. 425, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM BED CAPACITY OF THE ZAMBOANGA CITY MEDICAL CENTER FROM TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7272; and

4. Committee Report No. 723 on House Bill No. 5396, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6876, ENTITLED AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY SI-IT, MUNICIPALITY OF TANUDAN, PROVINCE OF KALINGA-APAYAO, TO BE KNOWN AS THE TANUDAN MUNICIPAL HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee or individual amendment, upon motion of Senator there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3840 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3840 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1801 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 1801 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 425 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 425 was approved on Second Reading.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5396 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 5396 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF BILLS UPGRADING HOSPITALS

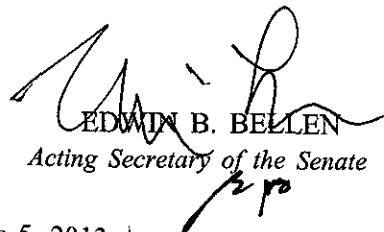
Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Bill Nos. 3840, 1801, 425 and 5396.

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 afternoon of Wednesday, June 5, 2013.

It was 8:16 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


EDWIN B. BELLEN
Acting Secretary of the Senate

Approved on June 5, 2013 |