



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 82**  
Tuesday, June 10, 2014

**SIXTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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**SESSION NO. 82**  
Tuesday, June 10, 2014

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:20 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

**SILENT PRAYER**

The Body observed a minute of silent prayer.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Oscar G. Yabes, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, S.*	Honasan, G. B.
Aquino, P. B. IV B.	Lapid, M. L. M.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Osmeña III, S. R.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Cayetano, P. S.	Poe, G.
Drilon, F. M.	Recto, R. G.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Sotto III, V. C.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Villar, C. A.
Estrada, J.	

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

Senator Trillanes arrived after the roll call.

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\*As corrected by Senator Angara on June 11, 2014.

Senators Legarda and Marcos were on official mission abroad.

Senator Guingona was likewise on official mission.

Senator Defensor Santiago was on indefinite qualified medical leave as indicated in her letter dated May 14, 2014.

Senators Enrile and Revilla were absent.

**APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 81 (June 9, 2014) and considered it approved.

**REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

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

**BILL ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 2276, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE USE OF  
BIODEGRADABLE FILTERS ON  
CIGARETTES



Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

**RESOLUTIONS**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 698, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT CERTAIN HIGH PROFILE INMATES IN THE NEW BILIBID PRISON (NBP) ARE RECEIVING SPECIAL TREATMENT FROM NBP OFFICIALS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF INTRODUCING INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS TO OUR CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 699, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED ABANDONMENT OF NATIONAL STEEL CORPORATION'S PLANT IN ILIGAN CITY

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Government Corporations and Public Enterprises**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 700, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT SOME WATER COLORS PRODUCTS SOLD TO SCHOOLCHILDREN CONTAIN TOXIC CHEMICALS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 701, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL PERMITTING CUTTING OF TREES FOR A ROAD WIDENING PROJECT IN LOS BAÑOS, LAGUNA

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 702, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT OF WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ON THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF SECOND HAND SMOKING TO CHILDREN

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 703, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED SMUGGLED FUEL FROM MALAYSIA THAT WAS SEIZED BY THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD IN PALAWAN

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Energy**



Proposed Senate Resolution No. 704, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED PLAN BY THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE TO ESTABLISH DETENTION CENTERS FOR SUSPECTED TERRORISTS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Justice and Human Rights**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 705, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT THERE IS A NEED TO GRANT PROVISIONAL ADMISSION FOR STUDENT TRANSFEREES FROM PRIVATE TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS, WHO HAVE NOT SECURED THEIR FORM 137 FROM THEIR PREVIOUS SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 706, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT ADULTERATED ANTI-DEPRESSANT DRUGS WERE IMPORTED INTO THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 707, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPART-

MENTS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ENERGY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES MARINE SCIENCE INSTITUTE TO CONDUCT SHORT- AND LONG-TERM SCIENTIFIC/MARINE RESEARCH STUDIES AND EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT APPROACHES ON THE BENHAM RISE, A 13-MILLION-HECTARE UNDERWATER TERRITORY OFF EASTERN LUZON, AND SUBMIT TO THE SENATE RELEVANT LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS INDICATING FULL POSSESSION AND OWNERSHIP

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Energy; and Foreign Relations**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 708, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CAR-NAPPING OF VEHICLES DISGUISED AS TOWING, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF INSTITUTING A STRICT REGULATORY FRAMEWORK TO EFFECTIVELY DISMANTLE TOWING SYNDICATES, PUNISH UNSCRUPULOUS, ERRING AND NON-ACCREDITED FIRMS AND ULTIMATELY PROTECT THE INTEREST OF MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERS

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Public Services**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Letter from the Department of Labor and Employment, dated 29 May 2014, submitting to the Senate the Department's Year-End Report (July to December 2013), based on the submission of Philippine Overseas Labor Offices, pursuant to the DOLE's obligation, as stated under Rule



XVII, Sections 2 and 3 of Republic Act No. 10022, series of 2010.

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

Letters from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, transmitting to the Senate copies of the following certified and authenticated BSP issuances in compliance with Section 15(a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (The New Central Bank Act):

Circular Letter Nos. CL-2014-031, 032 and 033 dated 14, 13 and 20 May 2014;

Memorandum Nos. M-2014-021, 022 and 023 dated 5, 9 and 23 May 2014;

and Circular No. 832 dated 27 May 2014.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Report No. 51, prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance, on Senate Bill No. 2277, with Senators Ramon Bong Revilla Jr., Defensor Santiago, Sonny Angara and Recto as authors thereof, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OPEN HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 275, 1889 and 2156, taking into consideration House Bill No. 4085.

Sponsors: Senators Cayetano (P.), Ramon Bong Revilla Jr., Defensor Santiago, Sonny Angara and Recto

**To the Calendar for Ordinary Business**

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Letter from the Secretary General of the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on

9 June 2014, the House of Representatives passed House Bill No. 4595, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES,

in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

**To the Committee on Rules**

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 9 June 2014, the House of Representatives requested a conference and designated Representatives Montejo, Villar, Tan, Sy-Alvarado and Cayetano as its conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 4595, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES,

and Senate Bill No. 2046, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE REDUCTION OF POVERTY THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES.

**To the Committee on Rules**

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 9 June 2014, the House of Representatives requested a conference and designated Representatives Villar, Del Rosario, Yap, Zamora, Rodriguez and Ty as its conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 4082, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE PURCHASE OF BRAND NEW MOTOR VEHICLES,

and Senate Bill No. 2211, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE PURCHASE OF BRAND NEW MOTOR VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**To the Committee on Rules**

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 9 June 2014, the House of Representatives requested a conference and designated Representatives Collantes, Chipeco Jr., Oaminal, Tambunting and Tejada as its conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 3984, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING THE FULL ENTRY OF FOREIGN BANKS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7721,

and Senate Bill No. 2159, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7721, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT LIBERALIZING THE ENTRY AND SCOPE OF OPERATIONS OF FOREIGN BANKS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**To the Committee on Rules**

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 9 June 2013, the House of Representatives adopted Section 2 of Senate Bill No. 2273 as an amendment to House Bill No. 2285, entitled

AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN OF THE GOVERNMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 21 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002.

**To the Archives**

**SECOND ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Report No. 52, prepared and submitted by the Committee on Agrarian Reform, on Senate Bill No. 2278, with Senator Honasan II as author thereof, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION

AND DISTRIBUTION (LAD) COMPONENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP) BY JUNE 30, 2016 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW," AS AMENDED,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 2188.

Sponsor: Senator Honasan II

**To the Calendar for Ordinary Business**

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 44 ON SENATE BILL NO. 2272 (Continuation)**

Upon motion Senator Aquino, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2272 (Committee Report No. 44), entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE LADDERIZED INTERFACE BETWEEN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND HIGHER EDUCATION.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Angara for his cosponsorship speech.

**COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Senator Angara thanked Senator Cayetano (P) for the expediency with which she acted on Senate Bill No. 2272 — the Ladderized Education Act of 2014 — vital to the government’s effort to reform the country’s educational system. He stated that as a member of the House of Representatives, he filed a similar bill which has been pending in the legislative mill for quite sometime now.

*The full text of Senator Angara’s cosponsorship speech follows:*

Senator Pia correctly pointed out that many take up tech-voc courses because they cannot afford a college education. While individuals are beginning to earn sizable incomes on their tech-

voc certificates alone, the current institutional setup bars them from having what they have already learned credited towards gaining a bachelor's degree. In other words, if these individuals want a college diploma, they would have to go back to square one and bear the corresponding costs—again. This represents not just a waste of resources but a significant amount of lost opportunities.

Such a setup leads to some very interesting results. Our welders who have so much experience working on the shipyards, construction sites and oil rigs of the world have to go through another four to five years of studies to earn the salary of an accredited metallurgical engineer who, incidentally, may have theoretical knowledge on how to work with metals, but not practical know-how. To an extent, the same can be said about our plumbers and hydrological engineers; dentist assistants and dentists; and nursing aides and nurses.

Clearly, an educational system that does not formally recognize the knowledge and competencies a person accumulates throughout their life is an inaccessible, non-nurturing educational system—a bane rather than a boon to the ultimate goal of gainful employment.

This is why I am honored to be cosponsoring this bill, because by institutionalizing and strengthening the interface between post-secondary tech-voc education and higher (college) education, we make our educational system more accessible and more nurturing of an individual's personal desire for self-improvement.

#### ***Philippine Qualifications Framework***

An important feature of the measure we are sponsoring is the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF), currently mandated by EO 83, series of 2012, which it institutionalizes.

The PQF is a nationwide system of educational standards, under which the Department of Education (DepEd), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) are tasked to match levels of qualification (or educational attainment) with the specific skills, competencies, and knowledge (“learning outcomes”) that graduates and course-finishers should have.

Think of it as a schedule or table of all the certificates and degrees that a person can earn in the Philippine educational system. This table then clearly identifies what a person should know and be skilled at by virtue of them holding such certificates or degrees.

The PQF then becomes the jump-off point for a true nationwide, ladderized education program (LEP). As skills and qualifications will be clearly matched, students can now seamlessly jump between education or training sectors—for instance, from a tech-voc course to a degree program (or vice versa), where the lessons they have learned from the former are properly credited in pursuit of the latter.

For a trifocalized educational system like ours, having such a common framework makes it easier for the three main education agencies to coordinate and collaborate with each other in developing and maintaining “pathways and equivalencies” throughout the educational system. It also allows them to formulate and consistently enforce clearer, more rigid training regulations and quality standards.

Currently, EO 83 mandates that industry representatives should be consulted in the formulation and application of the PQF to ensure that learning outcomes are aligned with job requirements. In simpler terms, this means PQF stands as a foremost government policy for combating job-skills mismatch.

#### ***Poor Interface Between Education and Employment***

Job-skills mismatch has long besieged our educational system, where scores of “educated unemployed” seem to graduate every year. For instance, the July 2013 Labor Force Survey (LFS) showed that more than three out of 10 of the unemployed (or 35%) were college graduates or had earned some level of tertiary education—a veritable waste considering the cost of a college education.

Some estimate many of our graduates wait from 18 months to two years after graduation before actually landing a job. Tragically, sometimes these jobs have nothing to do with what they studied.

What is worrisome is how all this occurs when so many jobs in the country are unfilled. Earlier this year, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) listed down some 43 professions that had so many openings, but too few qualified applicants. Likewise, 2013 DOLE data shows that out of 20 in-demand occupations, unfilled positions in 12 far outnumbered the applicants. In 2012, the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) reported that engineering and accounting positions were particularly abundant but employers had problems finding applicants to fill them.

In a 2010 study, the People Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) found

that four out of 10 fresh graduates and young jobseekers were not hired because they lacked certain competencies—critical thinking, initiative and communication skills. Clearly, our educational system still faces difficulty in getting graduates into jobs.

A 2012 World Bank Report echoed this, underscoring how across low- and middle-income East Asia, higher education institutions (HEIs) were not bridging the unemployment gap and contributing to economic growth. The underlying factor identified was the lack of academe-industry linkages—where there was no common ground for educators and industry to collaborate and ensure that once students graduate, they are adequately prepared to be part of the workforce.

In fact, there are many instances today where schools consult industry, especially toward developing curricula or course material. For example, the IT-BPO industry has been very active in driving the proliferation of “Service Management” courses in some of our top universities to fill in the need for mid-level IT-BPO managers. Such interface between educators and companies should be replicated across industries and disciplines.

This is where the PQF comes in. Industry representatives and college presidents already have a common reference point, even before they sit down and discuss.

The transition to such a system will take some time, however. Hence, Senate Bill No. 2272 establishes a *PQF National Coordinating Committee* to ensure its smooth roll-out. This coordinating committee will be chaired by the Department of Education (DepEd), and comprised of representatives from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), DOLE and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

### ***Comparability of Qualifications***

Other benefits accrue from the PQF especially when harmonized or made to interface with similar qualifications frameworks in other countries. In fact, the PQF is currently being aligned with the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF) being formulated in preparation for ASEAN economic integration in 2015.

Having the PQF aligned with the AQRF allows for the mutual recognition of educational programs in the region—where, for instance, assurances are made that an engineering degree in the Philippines is not fundamentally different

from one in Malaysia. Hence, students could more easily find educational opportunities within the region and be confident that their studies are credited and formally recognized at home.

Because the comparability of qualifications will be assured within ASEAN, employers in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand could have fewer qualms about hiring Filipino workers and professionals. The same can be said about Filipino firms hiring Malaysians, Indonesians and Thais.

In fact, these same neighbors—Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand—have already established their own national qualifications frameworks, formulated precisely in anticipation of ASEAN 2015. To see the logic of such a policy direction, we only have to turn to Europe where the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning and the Bologna Accord for Higher Education are in place.

Inevitably, such comparability of qualifications makes it easier for people to travel and find economic opportunities within the region. The increased mobility could facilitate regional integration and spur economic growth and development.

This spells immense gains for ASEAN countries, including the Philippines, especially now that foreign direct investments (FDIs) into the region reached US\$128.4 billion last year—growing 7% year-on-year and outpacing China’s US\$117.6 billion for the first time since 2007.

ASEAN boasts the potential to boom with a combined GDP of US\$2.1 trillion and 600-million strong consumer market and labor base. Assuring that its people are equipped with similar skills and competencies only makes the region a more attractive investment destination—and all this, starting from the establishment of a PQF.

### ***Conclusion***

This measure shares the same objective with many others—that is to make our educational system globally competitive. While Senate Bill No. 2272 deals primarily with Ladderized Education, its institutionalization of a national qualifications framework opens up a host of other opportunities for the country.

## **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 2272**

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

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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 46  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2274**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Angara, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2274 (Committee Report No. 46), entitled

**AN ACT TO EXPAND ACCESS TO EDUCATION THROUGH OPEN LEARNING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION IN TERTIARY LEVELS OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH  
OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Pursuant to the manifestation of Senator Aquino, the cosponsorship speech of Senator Angara on Senate Bill No. 2274 was deemed read and inserted into the Journal and Record of the Senate.

*The full text of Senator Angara's speech follows:*

**OPEN LEARNING AND DISTANCE  
EDUCATION ACT OF 2014**

Allow me to echo Senator Pia Cayetano's sponsorship of Committee Report No. 46 on Senate Bill No. 2274—creating the legal basis for the nationwide rollout of an Open Learning and Distance Education program among tertiary-level and post-secondary education institutions.

Because, indeed, our educational system remains beset with many problems. True, we have passed a few vital reforms in the last three years—not least of which is K to 12. But, in no way should reform efforts lose steam, pack up its bags and ship out. There is still much work to be done.

***Inaccessible Educational System***

Take for instance the problem of access, despite constitutional provisions enshrining the principle of “education for all.” Cost has long barred many Filipinos from pursuing an education.

According to 2010 National Statistics Office (NSO) data, one out of eight Filipinos between ages six and 24 was considered an out-of-school youth. This meant that some 6.24 million of our children or young adults were not in school or

had not finished any college or post-secondary level of education.

The NSO data reveal something more troubling—across age brackets (6-12 years old and 13-17 years old), “lack of personal interest” was cited as a leading reason for not attending school.

We gather that behind this is the soul-dampening effect of poverty—which has remained relatively unchanged since 2006.

Instead of enriching their minds and building up their skill sets, our youth are forced to fend for their families, or worse, fall into debilitating idleness and have their horizons narrowed and the wings of their dreams clipped.

In the cities, we see many youth whittling away their time in Internet cafes and devoting their energies to social media like Facebook and Twitter. Every child is entitled to play, but this should not come at the expense of their education. What if the time spent online could also be about learning other than play?

Invariably, poor education performance at the beginning of a person's life has long-lasting effects. The 2013 Labor Force Survey (LFS) showed that only 13.8 percent of the working-age population were college graduates or had earned any post-secondary education. As such, the remaining often work in low-income jobs, barely able to make ends meet.

What emerges is a system-wide waste of talent and human potential. This is a deplorable state of affairs, considering the country is entering a demographic window in 2015, where a proportionately large population of young, energetic individuals can catalyze unprecedented productivity growth. What dividend can be reaped from this demographic phenomenon if so many of our youth remain uneducated?

***Open Learning and Distance Education***

We cosponsor Committee Report No. 46 on Senate Bill No. 2274 to stave off this waste, by making our educational system—particularly tertiary and post-secondary education—more open and accessible to students, regardless of their circumstances.

Senate Bill No. 2274 seeks to establish for higher education something similar to the Alternative Learning System (ALS) of the DepEd. Particularly, the measure institutionalizes “Distance Education” (DE) under the Non-Conventional Higher Education Division of CHED and the National Institute for Technical

*17*

Education and Skills Development under TESDA. Embedded in this measure is a paradigm shift, where the traditional notion of knowledge being transferred within the confines of a classroom is evolving to include arrangements where teachers and students are separated in space and time—but not in intent or purpose.

Under this measure, admission requirements and offerings for distance education programs are ideally no different from those in formal higher education. In addition, Senate Bill No. 2274 allows for alternative modes of delivery—from basic textbooks and study guides to television broadcast, internet modules and other information and communications technologies (ICT).

Enacting Senate Bill No. 2274 also lays the policy framework for the future of education—where the typical classroom could be supplemented by e-learning modules and other avenues opened by cyberspace.

Having an open and distance learning system in place could allow us to capitalize on developments already happening around the world—where top universities are posting online entire curriculums and lectures for free, and enterprises like Khan Academy have provided compelling e-learning support to formal education programs.

#### ***UP Open University***

In fact, some schools offer DE programs but such arrangements are nascent and in need of further support. According to CHED, there are only 18 distance education (DE) programs and only one Open University—the University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU)—as of 2013.

But uptake in enrollment points to how the demand for such programs is growing. For school year 1996-1997, enrollment in the UPOU was close to 1,400, with mostly government scholars as enrollees. But by school year 2009-2010, around 2,500 students were enrolled, while 80 percent of them were regular “paying” students. Some UPOU students are also based abroad in countries like Thailand, Qatar, London, Canada, China, Japan and the United States.

Clearly, the UPOU has had a head-start in rolling out DE programs. Hence, SBN 2274 mandates the institution, with CHED and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), to provide support to other public higher education institutions (HEIs) in developing their own open and distance learning programs and boosting institutional capabilities to implement them well.

#### ***Conclusion***

In a nutshell, the measure we are cosponsoring deals with access—aiming to make it easier for students to get into the educational system regardless of geography, circumstance of financial capability.

Taken with Senate Bill No. 2274 (Ladderized Education Act of 2014), our measure facilitates mobility throughout the educational system—that is, making it easier for anybody to come in and out without losing their way.

Learning should be a journey of self-discovery after all—one that is littered with personal epiphanies and tempered by collective wisdom. And if education is about discovering and improving oneself, then government must build a system that enables individuals—out of their own motivation and desires—to do just that.

Building up such an educational system is the primary objective of Senate Bill No. 2274. Hence, its swift passage is earnestly sought.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 2274**

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

#### **SPECIAL ORDER**

Upon motion of Senator Aquino, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 52 on Senate Bill No. 2278 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 52 ON SENATE BILL NO. 2278**

Upon motion of Senator Aquino, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 2278 (Committee Report No. 52), entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION (LAD) COMPONENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP) BY JUNE 30, 2016 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657,

**OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN  
REFORM LAW, AS AMENDED.**

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Aquino, 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 Honasan for the sponsorship.

**SPONSORSHIP SPEECH  
OF SENATOR HONASAN**

At the instance of Senator Honasan, the explanatory note of his original bill, Senate Bill No. 2188 was adopted as his sponsorship speech for Senate Bill No. 2278, as follows:

Our 1987 Constitution mandates that “the State shall, by law, undertake an agrarian reform program founded on the right of farmers and regular farm workers, who are landless, to own directly or collectively the lands they till or, in the case of other farm workers, to receive a just share of the fruits thereof. To this end, the State shall encourage and undertake the just distribution of all agricultural lands, subject to such priorities and reasonable retention limits as the Congress may prescribe, taking into account ecological, developmental, or equity considerations, and subject to the payment of just compensation. In determining retention limits, the State shall respect the rights of small landowners. The State shall further provide incentives for voluntary land-sharing.”

Furthermore, under Section 30 of Republic Act No. 9700, it is provided that “any case and/or proceeding involving the implementation of the provisions of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended, which may remain pending on June 30, 2014, shall be allowed to proceed to its finality and be executed even beyond such date.” The issuance of a Notice of Coverage starts the proceedings in the implementation of the provisions of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law.

According to the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), the remaining balance for Land Acquisition and Distribution (LAD) stood at 1.2 million hectares when RA 9700 was passed in 2009. From its passage until 31 December 2013, the DAR was able to distribute 405,206 hectares leaving a balance of 790,648 hectares. Of this

balance, 206,536 hectares have not been subjected to Notices of Coverage (NOCs).

Pursuant to the mandate of the Constitution and in support of the standing executive directive to complete the distribution of all agricultural lands by June 30, 2016, this measure mandates the issuance of NOCs over all remaining agricultural lands within the next two (2) years, and the provision of budgetary mechanisms for the completion of the LAD process including support services.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF SENATE BILL NO. 2278**

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

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Aquino, the session was suspended.

*It was 3:45 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 3:46 p.m., the session was resumed.

**COAUTHOR**

Senator Sotto manifested that Senator Ejercito is a coauthor of Senate Bill No. 2161.

**MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ESTRADA**

Senator Estrada manifested that in the event that he would be incarcerated and as a consequence, he would not be able to defend two of the bills he has sponsored, Senator Cayetano (P) will defend the anti-age discrimination bill and Senator Angara, vice-chair of the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development, to defend the other remaining bill.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 26  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2212**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Angara, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2212 (Committee Report No. 26), entitled

*m*

**AN ACT TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE  
ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND  
FINANCIAL EDUCATION AMONG  
FILIPINO YOUTH.**

Senator Angara stated that the parliamentary status was still the period of individual amendments.

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

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD  
OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS**

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

**APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 2212  
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 2212 was approved on Second Reading.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF SENATE BILL NO. 2212**

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

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Angara, the session was suspended.

*It was 3:49 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:12 p.m., the session was resumed.

**SPECIAL ORDER**

Upon motion of Senator Angara, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 51 on Senate Bill No. 2277 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 51  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2277**

Upon motion of Senator Angara, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 2277 (Committee Report No. 51), entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OPEN  
HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM IN THE  
PHILIPPINES AND APPROPRIAT-  
ING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, with the permission of the Body, 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 Cayetano (P) for the sponsorship.

**SPONSORSHIP SPEECH  
OF SENATOR CAYETANO (P)**

Senator Cayetano (P) presented to the Body Senate Bill No. 2277, which aims to make secondary education more accessible to the youth.

*Following is the full text of Senator Cayetano (P)'s speech:*

A high school education alone opens up more opportunities for growth and employment. However, there are personal, economic, geographic, and time-bound factors that may limit many people's chances of receiving a high school education. Thus, this bill aims to broaden their access through alternative secondary education program.

This bill institutionalizes the open high school program run by the Bureau of Secondary Education of the Department of Education, and we will be creating a separate unit under this bureau to handle this.

The Open High School System will utilize multimedia learning and teaching technologies that will enable open high school learners to study without being constrained by the conventional classroom setup or sacrificing the quality of their education by using self-instructional materials to facilitate independent study and giving support to them through face-to-face instruction. The constraints to attending a regular secondary school will hopefully be

overcome and the open high school learners will be mainstreamed again with other students or even finish their secondary education within the program.

DepEd uses the term "Open Learning" and "Distance Education" interchangeably for their alternative secondary programs especially concerning drop-outs and students at risk of dropping out. However, for purposes of this bill, we just use the term "open learning" which is defined as "the philosophy of learning that is learner-centered and flexible, enabling learners to learn at the time, place and pace which satisfy their circumstances and requirements." Access to quality education is a constitutional mandate that we must strive to uphold. Alternative education systems such as the one proposed in this measure are practicable ways by which we can widen access to education and empower not only individual citizens but the nation as well.

Thus, I seek my colleagues' support for the passage of this bill.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 2277**

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

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Angara, the Chair suspended the session.

*It was 4:15 p.m.*

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:16 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 38 ON SENATE BILL NO. 29**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Angara, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 29 (Committee Report No. 38), entitled

**AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCRIMINATION ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL ON THE BASIS MERELY OF AGE.**

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Cayetano (P) for her cosponsorship speech.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Cayetano (P) acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests:

- Representatives of *Abilidad Hindi Edad* Coalition;
- Ms. Susan Ople, president of the Blas Ople Center;
- Atty. Jessie Cruz, Secretary, General of Luzon Philippine Councilors League;
- Carmelita Nuqui from Philippine Migrants Rights Watch;
- Annie Enriquez-Geron, General Secretary of the Public Services Labor Independent Confederation;
- Sherone Lumague, victim of age discrimination;
- Flor Cabigting from the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines; and
- OFWs from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia.

#### **COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR CAYETANO (P)**

Senator Cayetano (P) delivered her cosponsorship speech as follows:

*"Abilidad Hindi Edad."* This is the battle cry of Filipino workers in the country and beyond our shores who have made a strong stand against age discrimination in the workplace. Our Constitution mandates that the State shall promote equality of employment opportunities for all. Yet, whenever I go around the country, people would walk up to me and share stories about how they could not land jobs despite their ability and willingness to work. As it turns out, age discrimination is the culprit.

Sure enough, if any senator would open the classified ads to check what jobs are available here, she would see age requirements specified for jobs that can be performed by both the young and the old. Age discrimination is one of the biggest barriers to employment in this country, and yet, there is no law to prohibit it. There is



none in our Labor Code and until recently, it was not even on the policy radars' screen of the Department of Labor and Employment.

Senate Bill No. 29 under Committee Report No. 38, entitled "An Act Prohibiting the Discrimination of Employment of Any Individual on the Basis Merely of Age," seeks to precisely do that. Its provisions apply to all employers including national and local governments, labor contractors and even the trade union themselves. The Blas Ople Policy Center, a non-government organization, and other major labor groups such as the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines, Federation of Free Workers Alliance of Progressive Labor, *Partidong Manggagawa* and PSLink, a federation of government unions, have expressed full support for the passage of a law to prohibit age discrimination in the workplace. They have even formed the coalition the *Abilidad Hindi Edad* Movement.

In Mandaluyong City, a member of that coalition, Councilor Jessie Cruz, filed a resolution against age discrimination that was unanimously approved by the City Council.

While we respect the prerogative of an employer to choose the best fit for his or her company, their discretion is not absolute. It must be tempered with the principles of fairness and equal opportunity for all. Ability rather than age should be the test.

Unless the State intervenes through legislation, the exclusion of capable workers will continue. How can we obtain an inclusive growth when millions of Filipinos cannot even get past the security guard in order to submit their resumes?

Moreover, the passage of Senate Bill No. 29 as recommended in the report of the Senate Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development will ease the way for our overseas Filipino workers, *mga bagong bayani*, to get jobs in our country instead of constantly leaving because they are too old to gain foothold in our workforce.

*Kasama po natin ngayon sa gallery si Sherone Lumague, isang dating OFW na mula sa Saudi Arabia. Isa siya sa hirap na hirap makahanap ng trabaho sa kabila ng masigasig na pag-apply sa iba't ibang kompanya. Ang dahilan kung bakit hindi siya matanggap: edad. Hindi dahil sa kulang sa abilidad.*

Sherone is only 38 years old. The approval of Senate Bill No. 29 will signify to our workers that their skills are needed and their productivity as gainfully-assured individuals is valued by the

state and our society as a whole regardless of age. The sad truth is that age discrimination also affects younger workers who are sometimes discriminated against because of youth and appearance. None of us are getting younger, although with today's technology advances, we can look much younger than our actual years. However, the legal remedies for those seeking to work because they have so much to offer in terms of skills and experience cannot be cosmetic in nature given the far-reaching implication that age discrimination has on our economy and the financial capacities of every Filipino household.

To be discriminated against due to a natural and unstoppable process of aging is to impose another glass ceiling that is just as or even more difficult to break than that of gender. And if one is a woman who offered the prime years of her life looking after the family, the burden of finding work after the age of 40, sometimes even 30, gets even heavier, thus forcing many of our female *kababayans* to risk their lives and honor as domestic workers in the Middle East.

Age discrimination is also one of the factors why so many of our OFWs choose to remain in war-torn Syria or are hesitant to leave Libya despite the DFA's Alert Level 3, despite serious threats to their lives.

We need to pass this law, to level the playing field and bring hope to those who have been discriminated because of age and have been unfairly excluded from the job hiring process.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 29**

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

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 42 ON SENATE BILL NO. 2272**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Angara, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2272 (Committee Report No. 42), entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE LADDERIZED INTERFACE BETWEEN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND HIGHER EDUCATION.**

Senator Angara stated that the parliamentary status was the period of committee amendments.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Cayetano (P), sponsor of the measure.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

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

1. On page 2, line 18, after the word "*Embedded*," replace the word "Tech-Voc" with the acronym TVET;
2. On page 4, line 11, after the word "Quality," replace the word "Standards" with ASSURANCE;
3. On page 5, line 9, after the word "agencies" and the comma (,), insert the phrase AND IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE PQF WORKING GROUPS;
4. On the same page, line 16, after the acronym "PRC," insert the phrase AND IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH PQF-NCC; and
5. On page 6, line 17, replace the word "bill" with ACT.

#### TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

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

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 2272

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

#### COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 46 ON SENATE BILL NO. 2274

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Angara, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2274 (Committee Report No. 46), entitled

AN ACT TO EXPAND ACCESS TO EDUCATION THROUGH OPEN LEARNING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION IN TERTIARY LEVELS OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Senator Angara stated that the parliamentary status was the period of committee amendments.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Cayetano (P), sponsor of the measure.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Cayetano (P), there being no objection, the following Committee amendments were approved by the Body:

1. On page 3, lines 34 and 35, delete the phrase "can also avail of scholarships under existing guidelines"; and
2. On the title of the bill, delete the letter "e" on the word "THEREFORE" that appears on the third line.

#### TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no other committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), the session was suspended.

*It was 4:29 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:31 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR CAYETANO (A)

Senator Cayetano (P) said that in consultation with the members of the Minority and as cleared by Senator Cayetano (P) the previous week, there were no objections to the education bills and that no other

3

senator would make individual amendments on the measures.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD  
OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS**

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

**APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 2274  
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 2274 was approved on Second Reading.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF SENATE BILL NO. 2274**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 44  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 2272**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 2272 (Committee Report No. 44), entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE LADDERIZED INTERFACE BETWEEN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND HIGHER EDUCATION.

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that the parliamentary status was the period of individual amendments.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD  
OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS**

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

**APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 2272  
ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection,

Senate Bill No. 2272 was approved on Second Reading.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), the session was suspended.

*It was 4:34 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:36 p.m., the session was resumed.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF SENATE BILL NO. 2272**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 42  
ON SENATE BILL NO. 1647**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 1647 (Committee Report No. 42), entitled

AN ACT REPEALING THE CRIME OF PREMATURE MARRIAGE UNDER ARTICLE 351 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE.

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that the parliamentary status was the period of committee amendments.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Cayetano (P), sponsor of the measure.

**MANIFESTATION  
OF SENATOR CAYETANO (P)**

Senator Cayetano (P) stated that Senate Bill No. 2187, which was filed by Senator Villar, should be deemed included and taken into consideration in Committee Report No. 42.

*ps*



### **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

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

### **CLARIFICATION OF THE CHAIR**

Senate President Drilon stated that in his discussion with Senator Cayetano (P), his understanding was that the bill, once it becomes a law, would repeal the penal aspect of premature marriages but does not affect the rules on premature marriages insofar as determining paternity in marriages is concerned.

Senator Cayetano (P) confirmed, clarifying that the bill merely seeks to decriminalize a woman's premature marriage which was contracted within the period defined in the law; and that the provisions of the Family Code on paternity and filiation remain.

### **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS**

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

### **APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 1647 ON SECOND READING**

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 1647 was approved on Second Reading.

### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1647**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), the session was suspended.

*It was 4:41 p.m.*

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:47 p.m., the session was resumed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 41 ON SENATE BILL NO. 2270**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there

being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 2270 (Committee Report No. 41), entitled

**AN ACT ENSURING THE FUNDAMENTAL EQUALITY OF MEN AND WOMEN UNDER THE LAWS ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that the parliamentary status was the period of committee amendments.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Cayetano (P), sponsor of the measure.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

With the permission of the Body, the Chair suspended the session.

*It was 4:48 p.m.*

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:59 p.m., the session was resumed.

### **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD COMMITTEE OF AMENDMENTS**

There being no committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (P), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments.

### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 2270**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the bill.

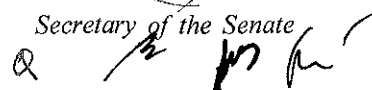
### **ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, June 11, 2014.

*It was 5:00 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

OSCAR G. YABES  
Secretary of the Senate



Approved on June 11, 2014