



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Senate
Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 6
Monday, August 8, 2016

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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CALL TO ORDER

At 3:05 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Senate President Pro Tempore Franklin M. Drilon led the prayer, to wit:

Let us put ourselves in the presence of the Lord.

Heavenly Father, You are the source of every life and grace. We praise You for the blessings that You continuously shower upon us. Thank You for this new day, as we, the Senators of the Republic, gather once again and work together in pursuit of the common good. May we see today’s session as a way of serving You, for Your honor and glory.

Our gracious God, we humbly seek for wisdom and strength as we solve issues and challenges that may come our way.

Inspire us to be fair and wise in the decisions that we make. Enable us to fulfill our duties and responsibilities, to be deserving of the power and authority entrusted to us as the leaders of this country.

Lord, grant us to become Your living instruments of peace, justice, compassion and courage for the benefit and well-being of all Your people.

We ask all these in Your Holy Name.

Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Sto. Niño de Molino Parish Choir led the national anthem and thereafter rendered the song, entitled “*Mabuhay Ka Pilipino.*”

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Aquino, P. B. IV B.	Lacson, P. M.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Legarda, L.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Pacquiao, E. M. D.
De Lima, L. M.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Drilon, F. M.	Recto, R. G.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Sotto III, V. C.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Trillanes IV, A. F.
Gatchalian, W.	Villanueva, J.
Gordon, R. J.	Villar, C. A.
Honasan, G. B.	Zubiri, J. M. F.
Hontiveros, R.	



With 21 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senator Pangilinan arrived after the roll call.

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

Senator Poe was "unable to make it to today's session due to various preliminary consultations with transport stakeholders, among others" as indicated in the August 8, 2016 letter of the Senator's chief of staff.

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. 5 (August 3, 2016) and considered it approved.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the guests of Senator Pacquiao, the local officials from Allacapan, Cagayan, headed by Mayor Harry Florida together with the Sangguniang Bayan members.

Senate President Pimentel welcomed the guests to the Senate.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary of the Senate read the following bills which the Chair referred to the committees hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 401, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE DAYCARE FACILITIES FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES' CHILDREN AGED FIVE (5) YEARS OLD AND BELOW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 157 OF THE LABOR CODE

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 402, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources, Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 403, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN OFFICIAL FILIPINO VERSION OF THE PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION AND ITS TRANSLATION INTO MAJOR REGIONAL LANGUAGE, ARABIC, AND SPANISH, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 404, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN OBSERVANCE OF THE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF IGLESIA NI CRISTO

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 405, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING CANCER CARE CENTERS AND A CANCER ASSISTANCE FUND FOR INDIGENTS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

13th

Senate Bill No. 406, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF VEGETABLE GARDENS IN ALL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 407, entitled

AN ACT ENSURING EQUALITY BETWEEN SPOUSES IN THE CLAIMING OF ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION FOR QUALIFIED DEPENDENT CHILDREN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 79(F)(1) AND 79(F)(2) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TAX REFORM ACT OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality

Senate Bill No. 408, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS IN THE COUNTRY'S LAND ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE LAND ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 409, entitled

AN ACT CHANGING THE CRIME OF CONCUBINAGE INTO MARITAL INFIDELITY, AMENDING ARTICLES

333 AND 334 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality

Senate Bill No. 410, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING TITLE I, CHAPTER 3, OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, PRESCRIBING AN ADDITIONAL GROUND FOR ANNULMENT

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality

Senate Bill No. 411, entitled

AN ACT ENHANCING THE REGULATION OF HEALTH FACILITIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 412, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE DEFINITION OF THE CRIME OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT TO INCLUDE UNWANTED TEXT MESSAGES, ELECTRONIC MAIL OR COMMUNICATIONS, OR OTHER SIMILAR MEANS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SEVENTY EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SEXUAL HARASSMENT LAW

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

put

Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 413, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MONITORING AND SUPERVISORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE SAFE OPERATIONS OF THE LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) INDUSTRY; RATIONALIZE THE MANUFACTURE, SALE, DISTRIBUTION, EXCHANGE, SWAPPING, REPAIR, REQUALIFICATION AND REHABILITATION OF LPG CYLINDERS; PROVIDE ADDITIONAL POWERS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY; DEFINE AND PENALIZE VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Energy

Senate Bill No. 414, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING RESOURCE CENTERS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO ENHANCE AND ENSURE DELIVERY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Cultural Communities; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 415, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH, PROMULGATING A NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH POLICY TOWARDS THE ENHANCEMENT OF INTEGRATED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, PROTECTION OF PERSONS UTILIZING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A PHILIPPINE MENTAL HEALTH COUNCIL

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 416, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MANDATORY NATIONWIDE CHILD NUTRITION PROGRAM IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND BARANGAY DAY CARE CENTERS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 417, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL POLICY ON STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND WELFARE

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 418, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION OF MORINGA OLEIFERA LAMK, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS MALUNGGAY, MANDATING THE CREATION OF A FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 419, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE SEAWEED DEVELOPMENT

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**AUTHORITY AND DEFINING ITS
OBJECTIVES, POWERS AND
FUNCTIONS**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 420, entitled

AN ACT PRESERVING THE COUNTRY'S
TRADITIONAL FOLK ARTS AS
PART OF ITS INTANGIBLE
CULTURAL HERITAGE, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 8492, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE "NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT OF
1998" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 421, entitled

AN ACT REORGANIZING THE
NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
INTO THE NATIONAL STRATEGIC
FOOD RESERVE CORPORATION
AND REDEFINING ITS POWERS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THERE-
FOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Government Corpo-
rations and Public Enterprises; Agriculture and
Food; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 422, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING SOIL AND
WATER CONSERVATION TECH-
NOLOGIES AND APPROACHES FOR
SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGE-
MENT IN THE PHILIPPINES AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 423, entitled

AN ACT TO ADOPT INTEGRATED
COASTAL MANAGEMENT AS A
NATIONAL STRATEGY TO ENSURE
THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOP-
MENT OF THE COASTAL AND
MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND TO
ESTABLISH SUPPORTING MECHAN-
ISMS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 424, entitled

AN ACT PUNISHING THE WILLFUL
FAILURE TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Women, Children,
Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 425, entitled

AN ACT TO MANAGE MEDICAL
RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAMS
IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 426, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING EXPENSES
INCURRED IN PAYMENTS FOR
TERTIARY EDUCATION TUITION
AND RELATED EDUCATIONAL
EXPENSES AS DEDUCTIONS FROM
GROSS INCOME OF INDIVIDUALS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTION 34 OF THE NATIONAL
INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF
THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 427, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DIRECT REMITTANCE TO THE HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT OF ITS FORTY PERCENT (40%) SHARE OF THE GROSS COLLECTION DERIVED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FROM NATIONAL WEALTH TAXES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 293 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 428, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES ACCOUNTING SYSTEM, DESIGNATING THE AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, PROVIDING INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AMONG RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Economic Affairs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 429, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A NATIONAL SEAFARERS COMMISSION, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 430, entitled

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRODUCTION, IMPORTATION, SALE, USE, RECYCLING, AND DISPOSITION OF PLASTIC BAGS, PROMOTING THE USE OF NATIVE REUSABLE BAGS, PROVIDING A MECHANISM FOR THE RECOVERY AND COLLECTION OF PLASTIC BAGS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 431, entitled

AN ACT INTEGRATING FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION IN THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULA

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 432, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE TO COORDINATE, SUPPORT AND ENHANCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS AND PROMOTE ECO-TOURISM INDUSTRY IN THESE AREAS, PROVIDE FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 433, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE USE OF BAYBAYIN AS A TOOL FOR CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF

PNK

THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FOR ITS PROMOTION, PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Cultural Communities; and Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 434, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE GREENING AND FORESTLAND REHABILITATION AND PROTECTION IN THE BARANGAY LEVEL, SPURRING LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 435, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY TEACHING OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 436, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING ENVIRONMENTAL UNITS IN EVERY BANKING INSTITUTION TO ASSESS THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPONENT OF LOAN APPLICATIONS

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 437, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE

LAKE LANAO DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Economic Affairs; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 438, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR WORKERS IN THE ENERGY SECTOR OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Energy; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 439, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES EXTENSION SYSTEM TO ACCELERATE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 440, entitled

AN ACT TO PROFESSIONALIZE THE PRACTICE OF PRISON MANAGEMENT AND SET FOR THAT PURPOSE THE QUALIFICATION FOR SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE NATIONAL PRISON SYSTEM AND OF WARDENS OF PROVINCIAL, CITY OR MUNICIPAL JAILS

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 441, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 1 AND 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6850 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT TO GRANT CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES APPOINTED UNDER PROVISIONAL OR TEMPORARY STATUS WHO HAVE RENDERED A TOTAL OF SEVEN (7) YEARS OF EFFICIENT SERVICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 442, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE SUSTAINABILITY AND COMPETITIVENESS OF THE PHILIPPINE MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 443, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALAINGOD, DAVAO DEL NORTE AS AN ECO-CULTURAL TOURISM ZONE ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE THE TALAINGOD CULTURAL HERITAGE VILLAGE, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To The Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Tourism; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 444, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING THE USE OF NEO-ETHNIC PHILIPPINE TEXTILES IN THE ACADEMIC REGALIA OF ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 445, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION OF THE PHILIPPINE HAND-LOOM WEAVING INDUSTRY

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Science and Technology; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 446, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING GREEN ROOFTOPS ON ALL NEW COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND GOVERNMENT-OWNED BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTRY

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Public Works; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 447, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING NOISE POLLUTION BY CREATING THE NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (NPCB), PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Finance

put

Senate Bill No. 448, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR URBAN AND COUNTRYSIDE GREENING IN THE PHILIPPINES THROUGH MANDATORY TREE PLANTING AND ADOPTION OF A FOREST SANCTUARY BY PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Introduced by Senator Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 449, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANNER AND DATE OF ELECTION OF SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES TO THE LOCAL SANGGUNIAN

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Local Government; and Electoral Reforms and People's Participation

Senate Bill No. 450, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF THE NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10066 OR THE NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT OF 2009

Introduced by Senator Legarda

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Local Government

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 451, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE DEPART-

MENT OF SPORTS, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Sports; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 452, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF CRIMINOLOGY PROFESSION IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 6506, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT CREATING THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR CRIMINOLOGISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 453, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS TO THE SURVIVING LEGITIMATE SPOUSE OF A DECEASED RETIRED MEMBER OF THE OFFICE OF SOLICITOR GENERAL

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 454, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE REGISTRATION, LICENSURE, AND PRACTICE OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

P. M.

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 455, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE
POLITICAL PARTY SYSTEM,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THERE-
FOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Electoral Reforms
and People's Participation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 456, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY, DEFINING ITS POWERS,
FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES;
APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Environment and
Natural Resources; Civil Service, Government
Reorganization and Professional Regulation;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 457, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE MATERNITY
LEAVE PERIOD TO ONE
HUNDRED (100) DAYS FOR
FEMALE EMPLOYEES IN THE
GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND IN
THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND
GRANTING AN OPTION TO
EXTEND FOR AN ADDITIONAL
THIRTY (30) DAYS WITHOUT PAY,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS
AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Women, Children,
Family Relations and Gender Equality; Civil
Service, Government Reorganization and
Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 458, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE OFFICE
OF THE GOVERNMENT CORPORATE
COUNSEL, BY RE-DEFINING,
EXPANDING, STRENGTHENING,
RATIONALIZING AND FURTHER
PROFESSIONALIZING ITS ORGANI-
ZATION, UPGRADING EMPLOYEE
BENEFITS AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; Civil Service, Government Reorganiza-
tion and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 459, entitled

AN ACT ENHANCING THE TRANS-
PARENCY OF THE PROCUREMENT
PROCESS BY MANDATING THE
VIDEO RECORDING OF ALL PRO-
CUREMENT-RELATED CONFE-
RENCES, THEREBY AMENDING
REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 9184,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT
REFORM ACT OF 2003, PRESCRIB-
ING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS
THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER
RELATED PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Finance; and Public
Information and Mass Media**

Senate Bill No. 460, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR
THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY,
CONVERSION AND IMPORTATION
OF ELECTRONIC, HYBRID AND
OTHER ALTERNATIVE FUEL
VEHICLES, FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV



**To the Committees on Ways and Means;
and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Senate Bill No. 461, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF ARREARS IN THE VETERANS' PENSIONS AND BENEFITS MANDATED PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7696, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT STANDARDIZING AND UPGRADING THE BENEFITS FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 462, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 463, entitled

AN ACT CONSTITUTING A COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF STUDYING THE FEASIBILITY AND DESIRABILITY OF RELOCATING THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AND SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER RELEVANT PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 464, entitled

AN ACT TO EXPEDITE AND STREAMLINE THE APPLICATION PROCESS FOR SECURING BUILDING PERMITS AND CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPANCY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6541, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Public Works

Senate Bill No. 465, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 4(B) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7898, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AFP MODERNIZATION ACT, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10349, ESTABLISHING THE 'REVISED AFP MODERNIZATION PROGRAM', AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committee on National Defense and
Security**

Senate Bill No. 466, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9184, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT REFORM ACT ON ITS SCOPE AND APPLICATION

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Finance

Senate Bill No. 467, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE AMUSEMENT INDUSTRY SAFETY BOARD THEREBY STRENGTHENING THE AMUSEMENT PARKS AND RIDES INDUSTRY, INSTITUTING SAFETY



STANDARDS AND PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Games and Amusement; Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 468, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION THROUGH SPECIAL EDUCATION IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS NATION-WIDE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF THE BUREAU OF SPECIAL EDUCATION CREATING THE IMPLEMENTING MACHINERY THEREOF, PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND OTHER INCENTIVES AND SUPPORT FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 469, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE HAZARDOUS AND RADIOACTIVE WASTES MANAGEMENT, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Health and Demography; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 470, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE RIGHTS OF GOVERNMENT SER-

VICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) MEMBERS, PROVIDING THEM ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE GSIS BOARD, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 471, entitled

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

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 472, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY COMPUTER EDUCATION IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 473, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM

ps mk

**SALARY GRADE 11 TO 20 AND
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Govern-
ment Reorganization and Professional Regula-
tion; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 474, entitled

**AN ACT GIVING TAX CREDIT TO
PHYSICIANS RENDERING *PRO BONO*
SERVICES TO POOR PATIENTS**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 475, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ICT HUB
IN EVERY PROVINCE AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Science and Techno-
logy; Local Government; Ways and Means;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 476, entitled

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SCIENCE
HIGH SCHOOL IN ALL PROVINCES
AND HIGHLY-URBANIZED CITIES,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 477, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE DEPART-
MENT OF MARITIME AFFAIRS
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Public Services;
Civil Service, Government Reorganization and
Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 478, entitled

**AN ACT TO ENHANCE TRANS-
PARENCY AND ETHICS IN THE
JUDICIARY BY ESTABLISHING AN
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
FOR THE JUDICIAL BRANCH,
DEFINING ITS POWERS AND
FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 479, entitled

**AN ACT DEFINING "PRIVATE ARMIES
AND OTHER ARMED GROUPS,"
IMPLEMENTING THE CONSTITU-
TIONAL PROVISION FOR THEIR
DISMANTLING, PRESCRIBING
PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 480, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING AUTOMATIC
PROMOTION OF GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES
UPON RETIREMENT FROM
GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Civil Service,
Government Reorganization and Professional
Regulation; Government Corporations and
Public Enterprises; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 481, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING TRANSPARENCY IN GOVERNMENT BY ESTABLISHING A LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE WEBSITE

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Local Government

Senate Bill No. 482, entitled

AN ACT ENSURING THE WELFARE AND PROTECTION OF MINORS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; and Youth

Senate Bill No. 483, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE FUNCTIONAL AND STRUCTURAL ORGANIZATION OF THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 484, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OCEAN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 485, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES IMPOSED AGAINST CONTRAC-

TORS AND SUBCONTRACTORS WHO VIOLATE ANY MATERIAL PROVISION OF CONTRACTS INVOLVING PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS OF THE GOVERNMENT, AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS WHO ALLOW SUCH VIOLATIONS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1759

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Public Works; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 486, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 53, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT TO EXEMPT THE PUBLISHER, EDITOR OR REPORTER OF ANY PUBLICATION FROM REVEALING THE SOURCE OF PUBLISHED NEWS OR INFORMATION OBTAINED IN CONFIDENCE BY INCLUDING WITHIN ITS COVERAGE JOURNALISTS FROM BROADCAST, NEWS AGENCIES AND INTERNET PUBLICATIONS

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 487, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING COURT ORDERS, WRITS AND INJUNCTIONS WHICH PREVENT MEDIA REPORTS AND COMMENTARIES ON, OR PUBLICATION OF, PROCEEDINGS SUB JUDICE, EXCEPT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 488, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE

WIND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY AND APPROPRIAT-
ING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 489, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING POST-HARVEST
FACILITIES TO RICE FARMERS

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Agriculture and
Food; Public Works; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 490, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE USE OF
TRANSACTION WINDOWS AND
THE CREATION OF E-SERVICES IN
ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES,
MINIMIZING OPPORTUNITIES FOR
THE COMMISSION OF BRIBERY
AND OTHER CORRUPT PRACTICES,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Science and Tech-
nology; Civil Service, Government Reorganiza-
tion and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 491, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE CENTER
FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND STRATEGIC STUDIES TO
INCLUDE RESEARCH AND FOR-
MULATION OF STRATEGIC OPTIONS
FOR NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND
SECURITY POLICIES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Economic Affairs;
and National Defense and Security**

Senate Bill No. 492, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY

IMPOSED AGAINST POLLUTERS
OF NAVIGABLE WATERS BY
AMENDING SECTION 7 OF
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 979
PROVIDING FOR THE REVISION
OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE
NO. 600 GOVERNING MARINE
POLLUTION

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 493, entitled

AN ACT CREATING PLANTILLA
POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION FOR VOLUNTEER
TEACHERS WITH AT LEAST FIVE
(5) YEARS OF CONTINUOUS
SERVICE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL
SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and
Culture; Civil Service, Government Reorganiza-
tion and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 494, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT ALL
CONTRACTUAL AND CASUAL
EMPLOYEES IN THE GOVERN-
MENT SERVICE BE PAID CORRES-
PONDING WAGES DURING SPECIAL
PUBLIC HOLIDAYS, AND APPRO-
PRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Govern-
ment Reorganization and Professional Regula-
tion; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 495, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CHILD-
REN'S CANCER HOSPITAL OF THE
PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 496, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN INFANT MORTALITY PROGRAM TO REDUCE THE RATE OF INFANT MORTALITY IN THE COUNTRY PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 497, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 498, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING, USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR DESTRUCTION AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 499, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL REGISTRY OF DISEASES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 500, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION DEVELOPMENT FUND AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

**SECOND ADDITIONAL
REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 501, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN, PROFESSIONALIZE AND MODERNIZE THE PHILIPPINE IMMIGRATION SYSTEM, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT 613, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1940, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 502, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN EVERY REGION OF THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 503, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO COVERED EMPLOYERS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 504, entitled

AN ACT CONSOLIDATING THE LAWS GRANTING REWARDS TO INFORMERS OF VIOLATIONS OF INTERNAL REVENUE AND CUSTOMS LAWS, REPEALING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 282 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, SECTION 3513 OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 505, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF FIRE PROTECTION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 506, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING AND PERMITTING THE USE OF WASTE-TO-ENERGY TECHNOLOGY, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 8749, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CLEAN AIR OF 1999

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Acting on the request of Senator Gatchalian, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair also referred Senate Bill No. 506 to the Committee on Energy as the secondary committee.

Senate Bill No. 507, entitled

AN ACT INTEGRATING ALL THE NATIONAL, PROVINCIAL, SUB-PROVINCIAL, CITY, AND MUNICIPAL JAILS, PLACING FOR THE PURPOSE THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS, PROVINCIAL/SUB-PROVINCIAL JAILS AND THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY UNDER A NEW BUREAU TO BE CALLED THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 508, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FORENSIC SCIENCE INSTITUTE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 509, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7309 ENTITLED, AN ACT CREATING A BOARD OF

CLAIMS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF UNJUST IMPRISONMENT OR DETENTION AND VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 510, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING A HIGHER PENALTY FOR PERSONS IN AUTHORITY AS ACCESSORIES, WHO DIRECTLY CAUSE OR ORDER THE DESTRUCTION OR CONCEALMENT OF VITAL EVIDENCE FOR HEINOUS CRIMES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 19 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 511, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE LOCAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 512, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF ALL OBJECTS UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE IN PHILIPPINE WATERS

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Education, Arts and

Culture; Environment and Natural Resources; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 513, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL LIVELIHOOD DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL THEREBY INSTITUTIONALIZING THE LIVELIHOOD MOVEMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 514, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE OFFENSE OF RECKLESS DRIVING AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE COMMISSION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 515, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE GOVERNMENT ASSET MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 516, entitled

AN ACT TO GIVE EFFECT TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF CRIMES AGAINST INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED PERSONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Foreign Relations

Senate Bill No. 517, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) TO RETAIN AND UTILIZE ALL THEIR INCOME AND INTEREST DERIVED FROM DEPOSITS, FOR MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES, CAPITAL OUTLAYS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 518, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTERS IN LUZON, VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 519, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A POSITION OF RURAL DENTIST IN EVERY RURAL HEALTH UNIT UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 520, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING PRIVATE LAND FORESTRY TO ENHANCE REFORESTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

AND PROVIDING INCENTIVES THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Local Government; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 521, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL LAND TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Public Services; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 522, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE ADULT MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM IN THE COUNTRY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 523, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE DONATIONS, IN GOOD FAITH, OF MEDICINES, FOOD PRODUCTS OR SUPPLIES BY ESTABLISHMENTS AND OTHER ENTITIES INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS, BY EXEMPTING THEM FROM ANY FORM OF LIABILITY ARISING THEREFROM

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Health and Demography



Senate Bill No. 524, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS TO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES WHO SUFFER ANY INJURY IN THE LINE OF DUTY THAT LEADS TO DISABILITY

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 525, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTER-AGENCY ENERGY CONSERVATION COMMITTEE TO DEPLOY COST-EFFECTIVE ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES AND TECHNOLOGIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Energy; Public Services; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 526, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN THE SALARY OF GOVERNMENT PHYSICIANS AND ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 527, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATION PRINTING OFFICE

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 528, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CANCER CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL CANCER CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 529, entitled

AN ACT INTEGRATING ALL AGENCIES AND OFFICES ON VETERANS WELFARE CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE PHILIPPINE VETERANS AUTHORITY (PVA), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 530, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE YOUNG FARMERS' PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Youth; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 531, entitled

AN ACT TO RESTORE THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD (PCG) OF ITS AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO PERFORM SHIP SAFETY INSPECTION SERVICES AND CARRY OUT OTHER SHIP SAFETY ENFORCEMENT FUNCTIONS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE

REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 9993,
PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR
VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Public Services;
Civil Service, Government Reorganization and
Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 532, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN
INDEPENDENT BROADCAST
SYSTEM IN THE COUNTRY,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Public Information
and Mass Media; Government Corporations
and Public Enterprises; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 533, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL GRADUAT-
ING ELEMENTARY, HIGH SCHOOL,
AND COLLEGE STUDENTS TO
PLANT ATLEAST TEN (10) TREES
EACH AS A PREREQUISITE FOR
GRADUATION AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 534, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE FULL
DISCLOSURE OF ALL ENTITIES
AND ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING
GOVERNMENT FUNDS THRU A
SEARCHABLE DATABASE WEBSITE

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Public Information
and Mass Media; Civil Service, Government**

**Reorganization and Professional Regulation;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 535, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COST
SHARING SCHEME TO PROVIDE
FOR A HOSPITAL CARE PROGRAM
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 536, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE OVERSEAS
FILIPINO WORKERS PENSION
FUND AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THERFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment
and Human Resources Development; Banks,
Financial Institutions and Currencies; and
Finance**

Senate Bill No. 537, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DIVISION
OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNT-
ABILITY TO ADMINISTER ALL
MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE
ACTIVITIES DEALING WITH
ACADEMIC ACCOUNTABILITY
FOR EACH SCHOOL OR SCHOOL
DISTRICT, AND TO REPORT
ACADEMIC PROGRESS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 538, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND
EXTENSION CENTER FOR BANANA,

AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 539, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION AND DISPOSAL OF BIO-MEDICAL WASTES, DECLARING CERTAIN ACTS UNLAWFUL, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THERE-TO, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 540, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL FIBER DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NAFIDA), DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, MODIFYING FOR THIS PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 294 SERIES OF 1991 AND REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT 8486, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 541, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING RETIREMENT, HEALTH CARE AND DEATH BENEFITS TO PROFESSIONAL FILIPINO ATHLETES WHO WIN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TITLES IN INTERNATIONAL PROFESSIONAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS OR IN OTHER EQUALLY PRESTIGIOUS

INTERNATIONAL GAMES AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Sports; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 542, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING FALSE OR FRAUDULENT ADVERTISING AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 543, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE CAREER EXECUTIVE SERVICE

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 544, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF STALACTITES AND STALAGMITES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 9072, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL CAVE RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION ACT

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 545, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBERED NINETY-SEVEN, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE

**KNOWN AS THE MERCHANT
MARINE OFFICERS LAW**

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committee on Civil Service, Govern-
ment Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 546, entitled

AN ACT RECOGNIZING NATIONAL
SCENIC BYWAYS IN THE
PHILIPPINES THEREBY CREATING
A NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAYS
PROGRAM, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

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

Senate Bill No. 547, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
STANDARD FOR THE PRACTICE
OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; and Civil Service, Government Reorganiza-
tion and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 548, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A SPECIAL
POVERTY ALLEVIATION FUND TO
BE USED TO FINANCE SCHOOL
AND COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPLE-
MENTAL FEEDING PROGRAMS
AND RELATED POVERTY ALLEVIA-
TION EFFORTS USING THE MINI-
MUM BASIC NEEDS (MBN)
APPROACH IN THE POOREST OF
THE POOR COMMUNITIES IN THE
COUNTRY AND FOR OTHER
RELATED PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committees on Social Justice, Wel-

**fare and Rural Development; Education, Arts
and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 549, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 2 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1827, SO AS
TO IMPOSE HIGHER PENALTIES
FOR THOSE ENGAGED IN UNFAIR
AND UNETHICAL LOBBYING
PRACTICES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committee on Civil Service,
Government Reorganization and Professional
Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 550, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE
FAMILIES COMMISSION, PROVID-
ING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

**To the Committees on Women, Children,
Family Relations and Gender Equality; and
Finance**

**THIRD ADDITIONAL
REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

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

RESOLUTIONS

Senate Joint Resolution No. 2, entitled

JOINT RESOLUTION URGING HIS
EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT RODRIGO
R. DUTERTE TO INCLUDE BOTTOM-
UP BUDGETING (BUB) ALLOTMENTS
IN THE PROPOSED 2017, AND SUB-
SEQUENT, GENERAL APPROPRIA-
TIONS ACTS (GAA) FOR THE PUR-
POSE OF ENSURING CITIZENS'
PARTICIPATION IN THE BUDGET-
ING PROCESS AND STRENG-
THENING THE INSTITUTIONS AND

not

PRACTICES OF LOCAL GOVERN-
ANCE, THUS LAYING A SOLID
FOUNDATION FOR FEDERALISM

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

To the Committee on Finance

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 76, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON PROMOTING ALTERNATIVE MODES OF TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING SAFER USE OF ROAD SHARING AMONG ALL ROAD USERS, CYCLISTS, PEDESTRIANS, AND DRIVERS ALIKE, WITH THE AIM OF ALLEVIATING THE TRAFFIC CRISIS AND DEVELOPING A SAFER PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION NETWORK BASED ON PRINCIPLES AND BEST PRACTICES OF ROAD SHARING, ROAD SAFETY, AND INCLUSIVE MOBILITY

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committee on Public Services

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 77, entitled

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE, GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF CASUAL AND CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF DETERMINING THE POSSIBILITY OF REGULARIZING CASUAL AND CONTRACTUAL POSITIONS TO GUARANTEE SECURITY OF TENURE OF PERSONNEL HOLDING THE SAID POSITIONS

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Civil Service, Govern-
ment Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 78, entitled

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE WORSENING CONDITION OF THE JAIL AND PRISON FACILITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES, WITH THE INTENT OF STRENGTHENING GOVERNMENT MANDATE TO UPHOLD THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON, TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY, AND TO REHABILITATE AND REFORM INDIVIDUALS IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 79, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES TO CONVENE THE JOINT JUDICIARY, EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY AND CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL (JJELACC) TO STRENGTHEN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE AS A MEANS TO END CRIMINALITY AND DISREGARD FOR THE RULE OF LAW

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 80, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE VIABILITY OF THE BATAAN NUCLEAR POWER PLANT TO BE COMMISSIONED AS A SOURCE OF ELECTRICITY WITH THE END VIEW OF FORMULATING MEASURES FOR ITS REHABILIT-



ATION OR THE DECOMMISSION-
ING OF ITS NUCLEAR CAPABILI-
TIES AND FINDING ALTERNATIVE
USE FOR ITS FACILITIES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committee on Energy

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 81, entitled

A RESOLUTION URGING THE
PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES
TO ACTIVELY EXERCISE HIS
PLENARY POWER TO GRANT
EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY TO
QUALIFIED AND DESERVING
INMATES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 82, entitled

RESOLUTION HONORING AND COM-
MENDING THE OUTSTANDING
TEACHERS OF 2016 AWARDED
BY THE METROBANK FOUNDA-
TION, INC.

Introduced by Senator Joel Villanueva

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 83, entitled

A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND
CONGRATULATING HIDILYN
DIAZ FOR WINNING THE SILVER
MEDAL IN THE WOMEN'S 53KG
CATEGORY IN WEIGHTLIFTING IN
THE RIO 2016 OLYMPICS

Introduced by Senator Emmanuel "Manny"
D. Pacquiao

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84, entitled

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
FILIPINO OLYMPIC SENSATION

HIDILYN DIAZ FOR WINNING THE
SILVER MEDAL IN THE 53-
KILOGRAM CLASS OF THE
WEIGHTLIFTING EVENT OF THE
2016 WORLD OLYMPICS IN RIO
DE JANEIRO

Introduced by Senator Sotto III

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 85, entitled

RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND
CONGRATULATING HIDILYN
DIAZ FOR BEING THE FIRST
FILIPINO WOMAN TO WIN A
MEDAL IN THE OLYMPIC GAMES

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 86, entitled

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE
SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE
CRIMES OF THE FORMER
PRESIDENT FERDINAND MARCOS
TO THE REPUBLIC, AND THE
HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS
COMMITTED UNDER HIS REGIME,
RENDER HIM UNFIT TO BE
BURIED AT THE LIBINGAN NG
MGA BAYANI

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 87, entitled

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
AND COMMENDING HIDILYN
DIAZ FOR BRINGING HONOR AND
DISTINCTION TO THE COUNTRY
BY WINNING THE SILVER MEDAL
IN WEIGHTLIFTING IN THE 2016
OLYMPIC GAMES BEING HELD AT
RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

Introduced by Senator Win Gatchalian

To the Committee on Rules

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SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended to enable the members of the Chamber to greet Senator Gordon a happy birthday which he celebrated last Friday, August 5, 2016.

It was 4:05 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:11 p.m., the session was resumed.

Upon resumption, Senate President Pimentel informed the Body that Senator Trillanes also celebrated his birthday last Saturday, August 6, 2016.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended to allow the members of the Chamber to greet Senator Trillanes a happy birthday.

It was 4:11 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

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

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR PACQUIAO

Availing himself of the privilege hour to speak on matters of public concern and rising on a matter of personal and collective privilege, Senator Pacquiao delivered the following speech:

THE DEATH PENALTY

My first ever privilege speech as a senator will focus on one of the biggest issues plaguing our country. I speak before you because of the sense of urgency on the issue of drug problem which has become alarming as it gets worse each day.

Lumalawig na naman ang usapin patungkol sa parusang kamatayan o death penalty. Hindi kasi maiaalis sa akin ang pag-aalala kung maganda rin kaya ang hapon ng mga pamilyang nabibiktima ng ilegal na droga.

Bago ako makilala na boksingero, naranasan ko pong mabuhay sa lansangan ng General Santos City at probinsya ng Sarangani. Maging nang ako ay nagsisimula nang

lumaban sa professional boxing, naikot ko ang iba't ibang sulok ng Metro Manila. Dito ko po personal na nakita ang masamang epekto ng illegal na droga.

Anak, pinatay ng sariling ama. Estudyante, sinaksak habang pauwi sa bahay. Buntis, ginahasa ng ilang ulit. Mga batang menor de edad, ginahasa at pinatay. Iba't ibang mapapait na istorya. Isa sa mga naging dahilan ng problema ay ang paggamit ng illegal na droga.

Narito po ako ngayon sa inyong harapan upang humingi ng suporta sa agarang solusyon at nang ito ay matigil na.

Sa ating napipintong debatehan hinggil sa implementasyon ng death penalty o parusang kamatayan, ako ay nababagabag sa masasayang nating panahon. Kung bakit ko po nasabi ito, please allow me to explain.

Nang balangkasin ang ating Saligang Batas noong 1986, isang komite ang itinalaga upang suriin ang iba't ibang pananaw ukol sa parusang kamatayan.

In 1986, Father Joaquin Bernas presented to the committee a proposed bill of rights relative to death penalty, originally worded and I quote: "Excessive fines shall not be imposed, nor cruel, degrading or inhuman punishment inflicted. Death penalty already imposed shall be commuted to *reclusion perpetua*."

Subalit ang panukalang ito ay hindi nakapasa dahil matapos ang matinding debate at talakayan sa pagitan ng mga dalubhasa sa batas, mas naging matimbang ang pagkakaroon ng capital punishment sa Konstitusyon, base sa sitwasyon at kultura nating mga Pilipino.

Hindi po pangkaraniwang mambabatas ang bumuo ng Philippine Constitutional Commission noong 1986 dahil ito ay kinabibilangan nina Commissioners Christian Monsod, Sen. Ambrosio Padilla, Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo, Justice Florenz Regalado, Ricardo Romulo, Bishop Teodoro Bacani, Rustico Delos Reyes Jr., Lugum Uka, Crispino De Castro at marami pa pong iba.

Ayon sa kanila, ang isang bansa o estado ay kinakailangang magkaroon ng kakayanang protektahan ang kanyang mga mamamayan at ang kanilang kaligtasan at seguridad laban sa mga kasuklam-suklam na krimen o heinous crimes.

Minabuti ng mga kinatawan ng sambayanang Pilipino na katigan ang patuloy na pagpapataw ng kaparusahang kamatayan. Sa dakong huli, napagkaisahan ng komite na



pagtibayin ang paglakip sa Konstitusyon ng parusang kamatayan dahil sa isa itong mahalagang sandata upang mapigilan o mabawasan ang mga kriminal na banta sa katiwasayan ng bayan, maging sa mga inosenteng mamamayan.

Napakaraming mahahalagang batas pa ang patuloy na nakabinbin at nangangailangan ng ating agarang atensiyon. Kailangan pa po ba nating ubusin ang ating panahon para talakayin muli ang matagal na nilang tinapos at isinarang usapin ukol sa parusang kamatayan?

Even during the time when our Constitution was in its beginning stage, these great Filipino minds already opposed the abolition of death penalty for heinous crimes through appropriate legislation.

It was for this reason that Article III, Section 19 was reworded in its present case, and I quote: "Excessive fines shall not be imposed, nor cruel, degrading or inhuman punishment inflicted. Neither shall death penalty be imposed, unless for compelling reasons involving heinous crimes, the Congress hereafter provides for it."

Natigil lamang ang implementasyon nito base sa rekomendasyon ng mga nakaraang pangulo at naisabatas ang Republic Act No. 9346 repealing Republic Act No. 7659, the death penalty law, but not abolishing the death penalty. Death penalty, in other words, was never abolished.

Kaya't nararapat nating linawin na mula noon hanggang ngayon, hindi kailanman ipinagbawal sa Saligang Batas ang parusang kamatayan lalung-lalo na sa mata ng Panginoon.

Death penalty is lawful, moral and sanctioned-governmental action. Having read the Bible on a regular basis, I am convinced that God is not just a God of mercy, but He is also a God of justice.

So on the issue of death penalty, I could not help but consult the Bible, and I found numerous verses. Here are some:

In Genesis 9:6, "Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God, has God made mankind."

Sa Exodus 21:12 *sinasabi ng banal na Bibliya na "Ang nanakit sa isang tao, na ano pa't mamatay, ay papataying walang pagsala."*

The New Testament recognizes the legitimacy of capital punishment in Romans

Chapter 13 Verse 4: "For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment to the wrongdoer."

Sa kasalukuyan, isa sa mga pangunahing krimen na kinikilala ng lahat na heinous o sadyang karumal-dumal ay ang illegal na droga. Walang pinipiling biktima ang illegal na droga. Even innocent civilians who denounce drugs can be unwilling victims once an addict goes out to the street and wreaks havoc.

Mabibilang pa ba natin sa ating mga daliri ang mga kilala nating pamilya na sinira na ng illegal na droga?

Wala ni isa man sa atin na hindi nakikiisa at makikiisa sa sambayanang Pilipino sa pagnanais na sumugpo sa paglaganap ng illegal na droga sa mahal nating bayang Pilipinas.

In 2015, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) released a report that 11,309 out of 42,029 barangays in the country or 26.91% are considered drug-affected.

Pero higit na nakakabahala ay ang estatistika dito sa NCR. As of June 2016, 1,577 out of 1,706 barangays are drug-affected. That makes it 92.44% in the National Capital Region alone. May tinatayang 1.3 million drug users ngayon sa bansa ayon sa datos ng Dangerous Drugs Board. Hahayaan ba nating dumating ang araw na maging ang ating mga anak at mahal sa buhay ay kasama na sa bilang na ito?

Masyadong maluwag ang ating batas para sa mga drug traffickers. Sa aking pagsasaliksik at personal na kaalaman tungkol sa illegal drug trade, nabuo ko ang simpleng analysis na may dalawang mukha ang drug trade.

Una ay ang mga users na adik sa droga. Pangalawa ay ang mga drug lords, manufacturers, pushers at protectors na ADIK naman SA PERA. Mas maraming droga, mas maraming kita.

Ang mga mayayamang drug traffickers na ito ang higit na nakakabahala. Kahit sa siyensya, wala pang gamot ang naiimbento upang sugpuin ang pagkagahaman nila sa pera. Ito ngayon ay tinatawag na wealth addiction.

Ang mga adik sa pera ay walang pakialam kung masira ang kinabukasan ng kanilang mga nabibiktima. Basta ang mahalaga, dumami ang kanilang pera.

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Yes, drug addicts are addicted to drugs, while drug lords, pushers and protectors are addicted to money.

Tungod sa inyong pagkasungak-sungak sa lahat ng mga drug addicts, drug pushers, protectors, tungod sa inyong pagsungak-sungak sa kwarta, wa ninyo panumbalinga ang dautang epekto sa illegal na droga ngadto sa inosenteng mga biktima. Wa ba mo gihasol sa inyong konsensya? Ayaw ninyo binuangi ang mga katawhang pobre!

We must speak to these criminal minds in the only language they understand. They must understand that our government will put a stop to impunity.

They have profited from the blood of thousands upon thousands of Filipino youths. It must stop now. If you do not understand English, then *kinahanglan ihunong na ninyo na tanan.*

Let us put more teeth in the law penalizing drug-related activities. But let us not disregard the rights of suspects to a fair trial.

Noong sinuportahan ni Professor Esteban Bautista ng UP Law Center ang death penalty, simple subali't direct to the point ang kanyang pahayag. And I quote: "When people begin to believe that organized society is unwilling or unable to impose upon criminal offenders the punishment they deserve, they are sowing the seeds of anarchy of self-help, of vigilante justice and lynch law. The people will take the law upon their hands and exact vengeance in the nature of personal vendetta."

Dahil dito, ako po ay nag-file ng Senate Bill No. 185: "An Act To Impose the Death Penalty and Increase Penalties on Certain Heinous Crimes Involving Dangerous Drugs, Amending For That Purpose Other Special Penal Laws, and For Other Purposes."

Akin pong dalangin na nawa ay mabigyan agad ng pansin ito, upang agaran nang mapatawan ng parusang kamatayan ang mga nasa likod ng talamak na drug operations sa ating bansa.

Mas magiging epektibo ang pagpapatupad ng batas kung lalagyan ito ng pangil, pangil na agad magpapahina ang loob sa mga nagbabalak pa lamang gumawa ng kalokohan.

This was the same philosophy used by Lee Kuan Yew when he sternly implemented criminal legislation in Singapore. According to the late Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, and I quote: "In criminal law legislation, our priority is the

security and well-being of law-abiding citizens rather than the rights of the criminal to be protected from incriminating evidence."

Political will to protect the law-abiding citizens and discipline were the formula of Lee Kuan Yew that brought progress to his country.

Nasaan ang Singapore ngayon? Nasaan tayo ngayon?

Ang lahat po ay may karapatang mabuhay. Pero bilang mga mambabatas, may obligasyon din po tayo sa ating mga mamamayan na mabigyan sila ng tahimik at maayos na pamumuhay.

Wala tayong dapat ikatakot sa death penalty dahil ito ay para lamang sa mga taong walang habas gumawa ng karumal-dumal na krimen.

Sa death penalty for drug traffickers, kakampi po natin dito ang sinumang Juan Dela Cruz at lahat ng Pilipino na sumusunod sa batas at gumagalang sa karapatan ng kanyang kapwa.

May mga nagsasabi na the war on drugs is bound to fail. Yes, we are bound to fail only if we are divided. But listen to this: We will stand and succeed if we are united.

Daghang salamat ug maayong hapon sa atong tanan.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Recalling how he was interpellated by 22 senators on his maiden privilege speech in 1992, Senator Sotto commended Senator Pacquiao for his willingness to answer queries on the matter.

Senator Sotto also stated for the record that in the Ninth Congress, he was one of the authors and the principal sponsor of Republic Act No. 7659 which reimposed the death penalty for drug trafficking. However, he said that lately, he has been having second thoughts about his position on the issue. He then asked Senator Pacquiao what his preferred method is in executing the death penalty, recalling that during the debates in the Ninth Congress, the agreed method was lethal injection. Senator Pacquiao replied that the more important issue at hand is the passage of the death penalty measure rather than the manner of execution.

To clarify, Senator Sotto cited Article III, Section 19, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, to wit:

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"Excessive fines shall not be imposed nor cruel, degrading or inhuman punishment inflicted. Neither shall death penalty be imposed, unless, for compelling reasons involving heinous crimes, the Congress hereafter provides for it." He pointed out that the condition barring the imposition of cruel, degrading or inhuman punishment had led to the use of lethal injection rather than death by electric chair, even though it had been favored by more senators.

Senator Pacquiao noted that the Bible itself refers to beheading by the sword as a means of capital punishment, but he pointed out that the problem with lethal injection is that doctors have sworn an oath not to willfully take any human life, in the same manner that no person is allowed to inject anything into a human body that would cause his death. He nevertheless said that he prefers death by hanging or by firing squad because of its simple execution.

On another matter, Senator Sotto said that he was glad that Senator Pacquiao referred Chapter 13 of the Book of the Romans as one of the bases of his proposal. He recalled that during the debate in the Ninth Congress, he advanced three reasons why the death penalty should be reimposed – the natural law, there are compelling reasons for it, and that a majority of the people were in favor of it at that time – but he was reminded by his fellow senators that his references from the Bible were only found in the Old Testament.

Upon Senator Sotto's request, Senator Pacquiao read Romans 13:15: *"Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authorities is rebelling against what God has instituted. And those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right. But for those who do wrong, do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God's servants, agents of wrath, to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience."*

Senator Pacquiao explained that in ancient times, capital punishment was imposed through beheading. He believed that those who are against the reimposition of the death penalty ought to clarify whether they are opposing it because of their religious belief or because they believe it violates the Constitution. According to him, the Bible even allows it.

In closing, Senator Sotto said that he was looking forward to the debates on the measure.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR VILLANUEVA

After commending Senator Pacquiao for bringing up such a sensitive and controversial issue, Senator Villanueva asked Senator Pacquiao whether he favored capital punishment only for drug lords, traffickers and pushers but not for those guilty of other heinous crimes, for instance, a father raping his own child. Senator Pacquiao replied that he had filed several bills on other crimes that should be imposed the death penalty but he had decided to talk about the measure on imposing the capital punishment on drug traffickers first.

To Senator Villanueva's view that capital punishment is an easy way out for those convicted with such heinous crimes since their lives are terminated instead of letting them suffer and undergo reformation while serving their sentence, Senator Pacquiao stated that it is written in the Bible that any wrongdoing should be punished, so that those who commit heinous crimes should be punished.

Saying if death penalty is not the only way of dealing with heinous crimes, Senator Villanueva asked whether it is right and just for criminals who commit less serious crimes to serve a long prison term for purposes of reformation.* He said that in many instances, drug addicts would reason that drugs were their only recourse absent adequate opportunities to live a decent life. He stated that like Senator Pacquiao, he would push for meaningful government programs and the passage of laws that would give people enough opportunities to live better lives.

On whether he would agree that more important than imposing the death penalty is to strengthen the judicial system first, Senator Pacquiao replied that he would support measures aimed at strengthening the judicial system. He stressed, however, that the proposed measure is not meant to judge people

*As corrected by Senator Villanueva on August 10, 2016



individually but is putting the law into the hands of authorities as biblically written. He said that if and when the measure becomes a law, it should be honored by everybody and it is the duty of the authorities to implement it.

Senator Villanueva stated that he also subscribes to the verses that Senator Pacquiao was quoting. If indeed death penalty is reimposed, he asked Senator Pacquiao whether he has proposals that would also strengthen the judicial system and ensure that only the guilty are punished.

Senator Pacquiao replied that if ever the death penalty is imposed, the convict could automatically appeal the sentence to the Supreme Court which would review and decide on the case based on evidence. He also stressed the need for Congress to increase the budget of the Judiciary in order to improve the judicial system.

At this point, Senator Villanueva said that he would be participating in the discussions at the proper time. He said that he would not want to make any radical decisions yet as he expressed openness to the idea of reimposing the death penalty. He believed, however, that the death penalty would only become a deterrent if Congress strengthens the judicial system and with everyone embracing the rule of law. Moreover, he stressed that it is not just the magnitude of penalty that was at stake but the likelihood of getting caught and being caught at the same time. He then congratulated and thanked Senator Pacquiao for entertaining his questions.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR DE LIMA

At the outset, Senator De Lima lauded Senator Pacquiao for delivering his maiden speech manifesting his commitment and conviction on the reimposition of the death penalty.

Senator De Lima informed the Body that she is strongly, firmly and passionately against the imposition of the death penalty. She said that at the proper time, she would engage in protracted debates on the issue which she believed would be very contentious and divisive not only for the members of the Chamber but for the rest of the country. She noted that there were several bills that were filed in the Senate for the imposition of the death penalty. She said that she would want to be clarified, from the point of view of Senator Pacquiao, on his proposal to reimpose the death penalty.

Asked by Senator De Lima if the death penalty was for deterrence or for retribution, Senator Pacquiao opined that it is not exactly for deterrence because death penalty is not an assurance that heinous crimes would stop but it could lessen the commission of heinous crimes. He said that the death penalty is a punishment for wrongdoing. He surmised that Senator De Lima was opposing the death penalty because of her religious belief. However, he pointed out that the Bible states that death penalty is a punishment of the sins committed against God and the government.

Senator De Lima opined that if death penalty is not necessarily meant to deter but to minimize heinous crimes, the proper approach then should be to propose measures that make law enforcement more effective.

Responding thereto, Senator Pacquiao stated that even the law of God considers death penalty as a punishment for heinous crimes. However, he said that it would be best for the country if death penalty is imposed so that those who are mulling of committing heinous crimes would think twice before doing any such thing.

Asked to cite data prior to the repeal of the death penalty by Congress to prove that it is a deterrent to heinous crimes, Senator Pacquiao maintained that less crimes were committed in the past but that since the abolition of the death penalty and the laws of the land became more lenient, drug traffickers proliferated and became more brazen. He believed that the law should be given more teeth in order to stop the proliferation of illegal drugs.

On whether he was aware that the global thrust is toward the abolition of the death penalty and that the Philippines, as state signatory to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, has committed not to reimpose death penalty, Senator Pacquiao replied that for as long as the treaty does not override the Constitution, such treaties would be honored.

Asked if he has ever considered life imprisonment without parole and without commutation of sentence as an option, Senator Pacquiao pointed out that the illegal drug trade, especially *shabu*, has grown and proliferated in the Philippines because the laws are too lenient and have no teeth.

As regards the query of Senator De Lima, Senator Sotto stated that in the committee hearings that would be conducted, the Committee should look

into the countries that are reimposing the death penalty. He believed that if there are countries abolishing the death penalty, there could also be countries that are reimposing it depending on the culture and place.

On the matter of the death penalty being a deterrent to heinous crimes, Senator Sotto stated that Merriam Webster's Dictionary defines "deter" as to "inhibit." He said that preventing a person to commit a crime is to inhibit him/her from doing so. He pointed out that even in jail, the poor are treated differently compared with the rich drug lords who are earning a living by operating their illegal drug trade while in detention. Thus, he underscored the need for the Body to look closely into the definition of "deter." He supposed that Senator Pacquiao wanted to stress that death penalty would deter or inhibit a person from committing the same crime again.

Responding thereto, Senator De Lima believed that like death penalty, *reclusion perpetua* also inhibits a person from committing heinous crimes. She supposed that people are allergic to *reclusion perpetua* because of reports regarding the kind of life that the drug convicts enjoy in prison. She believed that the solution is to improve the correctional system of the country. She maintained that while death penalty might be a deterrent, life imprisonment is a better option.

Senator Pacquiao inquired if Senator De Lima's basis for opposing the death penalty was according to religious belief or law, a group/party stand, or a personal mission. He argued that anyone who is against death penalty, is considering himself/herself as greater than God because even God allows death penalty for wrongdoers and those who go against the law.

Senator De Lima said that she was taking Senator Pacquiao's statement as a rhetorical question, a debate on biblical matters that she would not want to engage in.

Senator Pacquiao clarified that he only wanted to find out where Senator De Lima was coming from since some of the members have not decided whether they are for or against the reimposition of the death penalty.

Senator De Lima said that a point has been raised during the interpellation of Senator Villanueva about the current state of the country's justice system.

To Senator Pacquiao's insistence for an answer to his query regarding her stand against the death penalty, Senator De Lima replied that she is against death penalty based on legal and moral grounds and on the perspective of moral human rights, which she would discuss further at the committee and plenary levels.

Asked by Senate President Pimentel whether he was satisfied with the answer of Senator De Lima, Senator Pacquiao replied in the negative, adding that more discussions should be done at the committee level.

On the point raised by Senator Villanueva that the Philippine justice system is imperfect, Senator De Lima asked how the poor could protect or defend themselves in court if they have no resources to hire good lawyers. Citing studies that show that many of those who were meted out the death penalty were the poor, she asked whether it was more proper to fix the country's imperfect criminal justice system first than push for the death penalty when the possibility of the poor and the innocent being meted out the death penalty is high. In reply, Senator Pacquiao explained that his proposal includes a provision that would strengthen the judicial system, one of which is to urge Congress to double the budget of the Supreme Court and the Judiciary so that the passage of the death penalty measure would be expedited. He doubted whether people could wait until such time that a family is ruined because one or more of its members are into illegal drugs.

Senator De Lima maintained that the justice system should be fixed first before the punishment of death is reinstated to avoid committing big mistakes. She believed that there is no need to hurry because even if the majority would be convinced to reinstate death penalty, still it would follow a process and its implementation would take effect only after several years. She stressed the need to focus first on cleaning and strengthening the justice system. Senator Pacquiao replied that precisely it was the wrong priorities that government followed that contributed to the slow progress of the country. He urged the Members of Congress to ponder on the basis for the opposition to the reimposition of the death penalty for drug traffickers.

Senator De Lima asked why Senator Pacquiao was focusing on drug-related offenses to be penalized with death when plunder could also be considered for

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death penalty. Senator Pacquiao reiterated that getting all things done simultaneously would do no good. He suggested addressing the problems one by one, starting with the drug problems because drug traffickers are going around victimizing poor people and drug cases are increasing in numbers.

Asked for specific provisions in the bill on drug-related offenses where death penalty could be imposed, Senator Pacquiao replied that the measure would be discussed in the committee hearing as he clarified that his privilege speech was about drugs and drug traffickers. He surmised that all members were against drugs and drug traffickers and all are one in the efforts to stop drug trafficking.

Senator De Lima noted that the measure proposes to amend Section 4, Article II of Republic Act No. 9165, or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act, particularly on the penalty of life imprisonment which will be amended to death penalty for crimes such as the importation of illegal drugs as well as the protection and coddling of any violator of the provision. Senator Pacquiao confirmed the observation as he expressed his excitement to discuss the proposed measure during the committee hearing.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR HONASAN

At the outset, Senator Honasan asked Senator Pacquiao what excites him most – his maiden privilege speech at the Senate or his last title fight. Senator Pacquiao replied that he was most excited about the topic of death penalty because not only millions of Filipinos but the Filipino nation as a whole would benefit from the measure. He said that he wanted to fight for the rights of the millions of Filipinos who voted for him so that they could live in peace.

Asked if the drug problem happened overnight, Senator Pacquiao replied that it started long ago. He surmised that the drug traffickers have decided to do their business in the Philippines because of the absence of death penalty. He stressed the need for the laws of the country to have more teeth.

To Senator Honasan's observation that the drug problem becoming very serious was not the fault of the past administration only but also of administrations decades ago because they took the problem for granted until it reached its present state, Senator

Pacquiao agreed, adding that drug traffickers are conducting their business with ease in the country because the laws are toothless and worse, they have not been implemented well.

Senator Honasan stated that he and Senator Sotto have consistently been pro-life and pro-family, and they are both aware that the real target of this illegal drugs trade is the most precious, strategic and renewable resource of the country which is the children who would be the next generation of citizens and leaders.

Senator Honasan admitted that he was originally against death penalty. He recalled that when he was still in prison at Fort Sto. Domingo, every time he woke up in the morning, he could see the place where Fathers Gomez, Burgos and Zamora were executed. He said that even as there was no death penalty that time, it sometimes entered his mind that he would have been the first to be killed if the death penalty were reimposed. He said that during his stay in prison, he read and tried to understand the writings of the Bible as well as the Constitution, particularly the Bill of Rights, and despite his not being a lawyer or a constitutionalist, he thought that the most important right of a person is the right to life, and once the right to life is revoked, then the freedoms of the press, of expression and of speech would be disregarded. Thus, he said that the Constitution provides for one to "protect life, liberty and property" especially if that life concerns the life of the nation and the next generation of leaders and citizens. He concluded that the problem of drugs needs the concerted efforts of Congress for it to be stopped.

As regards the argument that it is wrong to kill, Senator Honasan cited Associate Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes of Massachusetts who said that "The Constitution, just like life, is an experiment," and this, he said, also led him to recall the point raised by Senator De Lima about the international treaties concurred by the Philippines. He believed that international treaties could be revoked if the problem concerns the future of the next generation.

At this point, Senator Honasan asked whether the drug problem should be considered a national security problem, as he pointed out that there are even reports that the country's neighbors are wondering why the Philippines is more focused on territorial dispute issues. He also noted that President

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Duterte even once asked why the heads of drug cartels are abroad and not in the country, and he feared that the drug lords are strategically trying to erode the social and moral fabric of the country. Senator Pacquiao agreed, explaining that the use of illegal drugs is one of the reasons behind the crimes that are happening in the country.

Senator Honasan said that a little explanation from Senator Pacquiao might change his position on the death penalty, as he emphasized the need for the people to be alarmed at the killings that are happening in the country. He explained that he started his interpellation by asking whether the problem was created overnight, because the problem has worsened and the police, already underpaid and undermanned, could do nothing aside from the allegations that some of their officials are involved in the illegal drug trade. He said that the problem still could not be solved with the President having assumed the presidency in barely two months and neither could summary executions be justified. He also asked where the death penalty should be imposed, whether through the law or in the streets, adding that the policemen, just like the justice system, are imperfect, so is the Constitution for that matter. Thus, he said that it is unavoidable that grimmer solutions to the problem must be had to help the institution get back on its feet.

Thereupon, Senator Honasan advocated for the repair of damaged government institutions in order to espouse the true spirit of the law and to protect the life, liberty and property of the innocent. On the assumption that mistakes are being made in the war against drugs, he said that he favors the cause of the majority to protect the nation and the life of the next generation of citizens and leaders.

Senator Pacquiao believed that no one could be greater than God because He allowed the death penalty in every nation and in every country. He admitted that he used to be totally against death penalty until he studied the law, the Constitution, and especially when he read the Bible many times from Genesis to Revelation where he realized the conviction of the Holy Spirit that God allows death penalty in order to discipline people and to punish wrongdoers.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto stated that it is Turkey and the State of Illinois that are in the process of reimposing the death penalty.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR HONTIVEROS

Asked by Senator Hontiveros if he does not consider the death penalty as a cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment, that it cannot restore a person's dignity once imposed, and that there is no guarantee that it will not destroy innocent lives, Senator Pacquiao said that the intent of the bill is to uphold due process and to strengthen the justice system. He said that in the event that a person is imposed the death penalty, the sentence is subject to automatic appeal and review by the Supreme Court.

To Senator Hontiveros' observation that the death penalty is anti-poor because more often those sentenced to death penalty came from the lower socio-economic class, Senator Pacquiao asserted that the Duterte administration is pro-poor and that it aims to protect the poor against the evil of illegal drugs sold by rich drug traffickers.

Senator Hontiveros pointed out that there are various documentations that are sources of rich information showing that many of those who were convicted were, in fact, innocent but were too poor to afford a decent legal defense. She said that what was lost could no longer be restored to them by anyone, not even by government. Senator Pacquiao pointed out that there are no drug lords who are poor.

On whether he would agree that capital punishment does not have a deterrent effect and that scientific studies have consistently proven that there is no demonstrable effect that the death penalty deters the commission of a crime, Senator Pacquiao pointed out that compared to China which imposes the death penalty, the Philippines has a higher percentage of drug cases; thus, there must be a law that would punish those who are involved in the illegal drug trade.

Senator Hontiveros maintained that there are more effective and humane solutions to control drugs, such as public health approaches or other harm-reduction strategies. She clarified that she was separating the topic of drugs from death penalty so that she could present clearly the nature of capital punishment, why the death penalty is anti-poor, and that it does not have any deterrent effect insofar as combating drug-related crimes is concerned.

Senator Hontiveros concluded her interpellation by quoting Mahatma Gandhi who said, "An eye for



an eye makes the whole world go blind.” She said that if blindness continues to be the penalty, the whole world might turn blind.

At this point, Senator Hontiveros thanked Senator Pacquiao and guaranteed him that she would continue contributing wisdom and alternative approaches to the measure.

Reiterating the impact of death penalty which resulted in a lower crime rate in China, Senator Pacquiao maintained that the passage of the bill would be a deterrent in itself as it would reduce, if not prevent, those who intend to commit heinous crimes.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Asked by Senator Pangilinan if he was familiar with the history of the abolition and reimposition of the death penalty since 1987, Senator Pacquiao replied in the affirmative, saying that during the term of President Ramos there was death penalty by virtue of Republic Act No. 7659, but that its imposition was suspended through Republic Act No. 9346 during the Estrada and Arroyo administrations.

Senator Pangilinan argued that the imposition of death penalty was not stopped; rather, there was a moratorium imposed during President Estrada’s term. He said that the imposition of death penalty was abolished in the 1987 Constitution until it was reimposed during the Ramos administration from 1993 to 2006. He disclosed that during the Estrada administration, seven prisoners were executed between 1998 and 1999.

Senator Pangilinan said that much as there are reasons in reimposing death penalty, there are also reasons why it should not be imposed. He disclosed that in 2006, when he was chairperson of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights with Senator Drilon as Senate President, after thorough and meticulous deliberations, the Senate decided in favor of the abolition of the death penalty, and one reason that was considered was that the death penalty was not a deterrent to the commission of heinous crimes because based on data submitted by the Commission on Human Rights, despite seven death penalty executions undertaken under the Estrada administration from 1998 to 1999, the crime rate further increased by 15.3%. He then asked Senator Pacquiao if he has

data to prove that the crime rate in the country has increased from 2006 to 2016 when there was no death penalty in the country.

As regards Senator Pacquiao’s statement that he did not know that the death penalty was abolished in the 1987 Constitution, Senator Pangilinan explained that the Constitution indeed abolished the death penalty but it also mandated that should Congress deem its reimposition necessary, it should be done pursuant to law. Senator Pacquiao adverted to Section 19 Article III of the Constitution and specifically referred to the phrase “unless for compelling reasons involving heinous crimes, Congress can provide for it by law.”

For his part, Senator Pangilinan explained that “abolition” does not mean that the provision on capital punishment had been removed from the Constitution; it simply stopped the imposition of death penalty. He asked whether there are data to prove that the abolition of the death penalty from the country’s criminal law statutes from 2006 up to 2016 is correlated to a rise in criminality, even as he pointed out that figures had shown a spike in criminal incidents in 1999 despite the seven executions that took place in that year. He believed that this matter would be better discussed during committee hearings on the measure.

Senator Pacquiao believed that a study should also be made on whether the drug problem has worsened or has been reduced in countries that have imposed the death penalty on drug traffickers. He expressed confidence that the Duterte administration will not allow drug traffickers to bribe their way out of the criminal justice system since it is bent on fighting for the rights of the citizenry and maintaining peace and order in the country. He stressed that the rights and welfare of the Filipino nation should be of utmost importance.

On another matter, Senator Pangilinan asked whether it is possible for the drug menace to be curbed if 80 percent of drug cases that had reportedly ended up being dismissed as mentioned in previous debates had instead resulted in conviction. He believed that having a 90% to 95% conviction rate instead of an increase in penalty might be the solution to solving the rampant drug problem and criminality.

Senator Pacquiao stated that he has personally witnessed how rampant the sale of illegal drugs in General Santos and in Metro Manila and how it

destroyed society. He agreed that reforming the criminal justice system should also be complemented with measures aimed at strengthening the laws against drug trafficking which, to him, is the real problem. He explained that previously he has been against the death penalty but later realized that God commands the imposition of such a punishment for a reason.

Senator Pangilinan expressed concern that reimposing capital punishment rather than reforming the criminal justice system would only lead to having more poor people behind bars, even though some of whom might have only been made the fall guys of the actual perpetrators since they lack the financial and legal assistance to fight their case. In this instance, he asked whether the measure would lead to government being anti-crime or anti-poor.

In response, Senator Pacquiao said that he is in favor of protecting the rights of the poor, but the real problem, he maintained, lies with the drug financiers such as the drug lords and drug financiers who are making poor people even poorer and are destroying the lives of millions of families. He believed that reforming the justice system and implementing the death penalty simultaneously would help bring about real change.

Senator Pangilinan noted that in the previous interpellation, there were people in the gallery who were laughing about the topic of death penalty. He reminded the public that the lives of the people are no laughing matter and he advised everyone not to make light of it and to be more sensitive in talking about ending people's lives.

Senator Pacquiao apologized if he had acted in any way that did not befit the occasion. He reiterated that his speech was only aimed at promoting a measure against drug traffickers and stressed that anyone who is working to fight the drug menace is a friend and not a foe.

REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEE

Senator Sotto moved for the referral of the privilege speech of Senator Pacquiao and the interpellations thereon to the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs and Justice and Human Rights.

Acting on Senator Sotto's motion, there being no objection, the Chair referred Senator Pacquiao's

privilege speech and the interpellations thereon to the Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 5:57 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:02 p.m., the session was resumed.

REFERRAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 725

Senator Sotto informed the Body that the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Health and Demography; and Finance, will hold a public hearing on the nursing law, among others, on Wednesday, August 10, 2016. He manifested that Senate Bill No. 725, introduced by Senator Villar – which is similar to the bills to be considered in the aforementioned hearings – has not been referred to the proper committees.

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair referred Senate Bill No. 725 to the Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation, Committee on Health and Demography, and Committee on Finance.

ADDITIONAL REFERRAL

Acting on Senator Hontiveros's request, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair referred Senate Bill No. 518 (An Act Establishing Veteran Memorial Medical Centers in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao) to the Committee on Health and Demography as the secondary committee.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF SENATOR LACSON

Referring to the bills on the death penalty, Senator Lacson inquired whether a chairperson of a committee could still defend a bill to which he/she is opposed, noting that Senator De Lima, chairperson of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, had earlier manifested her opposition to the reimposition of the death penalty.

Senator Sotto said that the committee hearings would still be conducted by the committee but if the

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chairperson is against the bill and would opt to report it out as nonconforming or would not report it at all, the secondary committee may come up with its own committee report, in that case the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs. He reiterated that both the primary and secondary committees may come up with their respective committee reports and sponsor and defend it on the floor.

At this juncture, Senator Drilon stated that the referral of a measure to a particular committee depends on the jurisdiction of the committee as defined in the *Rules* and not on the belief of the chair of the committee, precisely the reason why there is a committee system in which the majority rules. He said that if the majority in the committee decide to report out to the plenary a bill in favor of the death penalty, they can do so and the views of the chairperson will be a minority. He said that the committee cannot be deprived of its jurisdiction simply because the chair has an opposing view. He reiterated that it is the *Rules* that determine the referral of a measure to a particular committee.

Senate President Pimentel stated that another option is for the chairperson to designate a subcommittee to hear the particular bill and allow it to draft the report.

Senator Sotto stated that there are a number of scenarios that the Chamber can work on. He expressed hope that the inquiry of Senator Lacson has been answered.

Asked by the Chair if his query had been answered, Senator Lacson replied in the negative.

Senate President Pimentel reiterated that the bill could still be sponsored because the belief of the chairperson still might change and a lot of things could still happen until the committee submits a report. He believed that the better course of action is to wait for the committee to act on the matter so that the Chamber could act accordingly at the proper time.

MOTION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Acting on the request of Senator Hontiveros, Senator Sotto moved to change the primary referral of Senate Bill No. 216 (increasing penalties for refusal of hospitals and medical clinics to administer appropriate initial medical treatment) from the Committee on Justice and Human Rights to the

Committee on Health and Demography as the primary committee and to the Committee on Justice and Human Rights as the secondary committee.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF SENATOR DRILON

Asked on the subject of the bill, Senator Sotto said that the bill proposes to increase the penalties for refusal of hospitals and medical clinics to provide emergency health services. He explained that initially, the bill was referred to the Committee on Justice and Human Rights as the primary committee but Senator Hontiveros, with the concurrence of Senator De Lima, has sought to refer the bill to the Committee on Health and Demography as the primary committee.

Senator Drilon pointed out that in such instances, it is the Chamber, upon the recommendation of the Committee on Rules, that should decide to which committee a particular bill should be referred. He added that the basis of such change of referral from a committee to another should not be according to the personal request of any member, but in accordance with the Rules of the Senate which define the jurisdiction of each committee.*

REFERRAL OF REQUEST OF SENATOR HONTIVEROS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, his earlier motion was considered withdrawn and the Chair referred the request of Senator Hontiveros instead to the Committee on Rules.

MOTION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Acting on the request of Senate President Pimentel, Senator Sotto moved to change the referral of Senate Bill No. 110 (providing for the share of the national taxes of local government units) to the Committee on Local Government as the primary committee and to the Committee on Ways and Means as the secondary committee.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR GORDON

Senator Gordon noted that Senator Drilon had earlier stated that it should be the Committee on Rules that should decide on all matters involving conflicting referrals

*As corrected by Senator Drilon on August 10, 2016



Senator Sotto explained that the request of Senator Hontiveros had to be referred to the Committee on Rules because it was difficult to decide to which primary committee it should be referred.

As regards Senate Bill No. 110, Senator Sotto believed that the bill could either be referred primarily to the Committee on Local Government and secondarily to the Committee on Ways and Means, or vice-versa. However, he said that when the Senate President asked that the bill be referred primarily to the Committee on Local Government, he concurred, but that on second thought he was more inclined to refer it instead to the Committee on Rules.

Senator Gordon noted that it was a special request from the Senate President and that it is important to listen to him. However, he pointed out that Senator Drilon has made recommendations to which everyone agreed. He acknowledged that it would be a tedious task on the part of Senator Sotto to look at all the referrals but he expressed confidence that Senator Sotto would make a good decision as chairperson of the Committee on Rules.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR DRILON

Senator Drilon believed that the suggestion of Senate President Pimentel to refer Senate Bill No. 110 to the Committee on Local Government was in order because the bill involves an amendment to the Local Government Code which is within the Committee on Local Government's jurisdiction. He stated that the referral of the bill to the Committee on Way and Means was also in order because it involves diminution of the revenues of the national government. He concurred with the ruling of Senator Sotto to refer the bill to the Committee on Local Government as the primary committee.

Senator Gordon stated that he had not read the title of the bill, only that he was concerned about the practice of referring bills to particular committees on the behest of the members and not by the Committee on Rules as suggested by Senator Drilon. Reiterating his confidence that Senator Sotto could properly determine where the bill should go, he underscored the need for the Body to stick to what has been agreed upon.

Senate President Pimentel opined that the previous rule would not apply to the case at hand because the subject matter of the bill falls squarely under the Committee on Local Government.

Senator Gordon stated that he would adhere to the ruling of Senator Sotto and would thereby withdraw his observations.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved to change the referral of Senate Bill No. 110 to the Committee on Local Government as the primary committee and to the Committee on Ways and Means as the secondary committee.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Upon nomination by Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Senator Gatchalian was elected member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

CHANGE IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Senator Legarda was elected member of the Committee on Foreign Relations in lieu of Senator Zubiri.

Senator Zubiri manifested that he had no objection to being replaced by Senator Legarda in the Committee on Foreign Relations.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

(Continuation)

Senator Sotto nominated the following to constitute the Committee on Agrarian Reform: Senator Cayetano as chairperson; Senator Villar as vice chairperson; and Senators Villanueva, Pacquiao, Zubiri, Gordon, Angara and Ejercito as members representing the majority, and Senator Trillanes representing the minority.

Senator Gordon declined membership to the Committee on Agrarian Reform, explaining that he cannot fulfill his duties diligently if another committee were to be added to his responsibilities.

Senator Zubiri also declined his membership to the Committee on Agrarian Reform because of conflict of interest.

Senator Gordon stated that Senators Lacson and De Lima are volunteering to take his and Senator Zubiri's slot in the committee. Senator Sotto said

that Senator Cayetano, the committee chair, has to be consulted on the matter.

In view of the manifestations of Senator Gordon and Zubiri, upon nomination by Senator Sotto for the Majority/Senator Recto for the Minority, there being no objection, the following senators were elected to the committee hereunder indicated:

Committee on Agrarian Reform

Chairperson : Cayetano

Vice Chairperson : Villar

Members :

Majority

Villanueva Angara

Pacquiao Ejercito

Minority



Trillanes

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

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

It was 6:21 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO
Deputy Secretary of the Senate


Approved on August 10, 2016