



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 55**  
Monday, January 30, 2017

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:03 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino K. Pimentel III, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

Sen. Win Gatchalian led the prayer, to wit:

*"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."*

**2 Chronicle 7:14**

Our Gracious Heavenly Father,

We come before Your presence today with all humility. We acknowledge our sins and our shortcomings. We seek Your forgiveness, Your mercy and compassion. We acknowledge that all our work means nothing without Your blessing.

Today, we ask You to bless our country. Rule over our nation according to Your will.


Grant us peace as we seek to bring order and tranquility to areas beset with conflicts and insurgencies. Heal the wounds of divisiveness and unite us as one nation. Lord, lead us all in the path of righteousness for Your Name's sake.

Lord, bless our President, Rodrigo Roa Duterte. Guide his steps and surround him with godly people who give him wise counsel. Protect him and grant him good health.

Bless all government officials. Make us worthy examples of a righteous leader who put the nation's interest above our own, so that we may give justice in Your Name, with love and mercy, and walk humbly with you.

Lord, we also ask You to empower us with Your wisdom, so that we may always know and do the right thing. Instill in us godly conviction to serve our nation selflessly, with honesty and integrity.

Help us stand against all sorts of temptation. Unite our hearts and our minds



as one to bring about genuine change in this nation, according to Your Word. Enable us to accomplish Your purpose and Your will.

Bless the entire Filipino people. Bless every family with food on their tables and roofs over their heads. May Your love reign in every household.

Protect our Filipino brethren working abroad. Keep them safe and free from oppression and injustice.

We bless You, Father, and we thank You for hearing our prayers. Truly, You are good and faithful. May Your will be done in our lives.

These we ask in the precious Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Mapua Cardinal Singers led the singing of the national anthem and thereafter rendered the song, entitled "*Bayan Ko*."

## ROLL CALL

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

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

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

Senator Cayetano (A) was on official mission abroad to participate in the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual National Prayer Breakfast upon the invitation of its co-chairs, U.S. Senators John Boozman and Christopher Coons,

and to meet with US officials and Philippine diplomats as well as with members of the Filipino community in Washington, D.C. and New York City, in his capacity as chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

Senator Trillanes was on official mission abroad to attend the National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, D.C. and a series of meetings with various agencies of the United States government, as indicated in the letter of his chief of staff dated January 25, 2017.

Senator Villar was on official mission abroad for a working visit to be introduced to various developmental projects and ideas in the agricultural sector in Israel upon the invitation of Ambassador Effie Ben Matityau, in her capacity as vice chairperson of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food.

## 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. 54 (January 25, 2017) and considered it approved.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the president and student regent of the Political Science Society Supreme Student Council of the Rizal Technological University and affiliates of the Coop-NATTCO party-list from different primary cooperatives of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Senate President Pimentel welcomed the guests to the Senate.

## REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

## RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 278, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC



SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NEED FOR TRANSPARENCY IN THE CONCEPT, DESIGN, AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE PHP 2.8 BILLION COMMON STATION PROJECT FOR THE LRT 1, MRT 3, AND MRT 7 THAT WILL ALLEGEDLY BENEFIT COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS BUT THE COST IS REPORTEDLY MOSTLY SHOULDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 279, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS AND COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY TO JOINTLY CONDUCT A REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT 10351, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "SIN TAX REFORM LAW," IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER SAID LAW HAS ACHIEVED ITS TWIN PURPOSE OF RAISING REVENUES AND LOWERING THE CONSUMPTION OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL PRODUCTS, AND IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN THE NEED, IF NECESSARY, TO AMEND AND FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE LAW

Introduced by Senators Risa Hontiveros, Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III, Drilon and Recto

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

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Committee Report No. 32, submitted by the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation, on Senate Bill No. 1108, introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito, entitled

AN ACT IDENTIFYING OTHER PERSONS CRIMINALLY LIABLE FOR ELECTION OFFENSES AND INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR ELECTION-RELATED OFFENSES, AMENDING SECTIONS 263 AND 264 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 881, AS AMENDED OR THE "OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES," AND SECTION 46 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8189 OR "THE VOTER'S REGISTRATION ACT OF 1996," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval with amendments.

Sponsor: Senator Leila M. de Lima

**To the Calendar for Ordinary Business**

**APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 1239  
ON THIRD READING**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Third Reading, Senate Bill No. 1239, printed copies of which were distributed to the senators on January 26, 2016.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Secretary Barbo read only the title of the bill, to wit:

AN ACT GRANTING THE CHIEF OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) AND THE DIRECTOR AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION AND DETECTION GROUP (CIDG) THE AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER OATH AND TO ISSUE *SUBPOENA* AND *SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM*, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) ACT OF 1990.

Secretary Barbo called the roll for nominal voting.



**RESULT OF THE VOTING**

The result of the voting was as follows:

*In favor*

Angara	Hontiveros
Aquino	Lacson
Binay	Legarda
De Lima	Pacquiao
Drilon	Pangilinan
Ejercito	Pimentel
Escudero	Poe
Gatchalian	Sotto
Gordon	Villanueva
Honasan	Zubiri

*Against*

Recto

*Abstention*

None

With 20 senators voting in favor, one against, and no abstention, the Chair declared Senate Bill No. 1239 approved on Third Reading.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUEST**

Senator Sotto also acknowledged the presence in the gallery of Mayor Jose Limmayog of Sadanga, Mountain Province.

**CHANGE OF COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

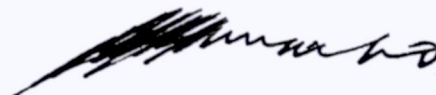


Acting on the request of Senator Recto, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Senator Escudero was elected member of the Joint Congressional Power Commission vice Senator Recto to represent the Minority Bloc.

**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 3:20 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
**ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO**  
*Secretary of the Senate*  
*are*  

Approved on January 31, 2017