



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Senate
Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 12
Monday, August 19, 2019

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SESSION NO. 12
Monday, August 19, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Vicente C. Sotto III, called the session to order.

SILENT PRAYER

The Body observed a minute of silent prayer.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Rogationist Seminary Choir led the singing of the national anthem and thereafter rendered the song, entitled "*Tayo'y Mga Pinoy*."

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Senate President, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Myra Marie D. Villarica, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, S.	Marcos, I. R.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Cayetano, P. S.	Poe, G.
Dela Rosa, R. B. M.	Recto, R. G.
Drilon, F. M.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Gatchalian, W.	Sotto III, V. C.
Go, C. L. T.	Tolentino, F. T. N.
Gordon, R. J.	Villanueva, J.
Hontiveros, R.	Villar, C. A.
Lacson, P. M.	Zubiri, J. M. F.
Lapid, M. L. M.	

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

Senator Pacquiao was absent "due to the an important family matter he needs to attend to" as indicated in the Senator's chief of staff's letter on 19 August 2019.

Senator Pangilinan was absent.

Senator De Lima was unable to attend the session as she was under detention.

CONSIDERATION OF JOURNAL NO. 11

Thereafter, Senator Zubiri moved for the consideration of Journal No. 11 (August 14, 2019).

CORRECTIONS TO THE JOURNAL

At this point, Senator Drilon manifested his corrections on page 261, right column, to delete the phrase "the expansion of the coverage" in the fifth line, and the phrase "of the death penalty in the same way that he was opposing" in the sixth line and to add the phrase REGARDLESS OF ITS COVERAGE after the word "penalty" on the seventh line so that as corrected, the paragraph should read:

"At this point, Senator Drilon stated for the record that he would oppose the reimposition of the death penalty REGARDLESS OF ITS COVERAGE."

*As corrected by Senator Drilon dated August 20, 2019



Senator Tolentino recalled that in his manifestation, he mentioned the term “expansion” in relation to existing proposals to reimpose the death penalty, and he agreed that the term “expansion” was never mentioned by Senator Drilon.

Senator Hontiveros noted that page 240 of the Journal of Session 11 should reflect the manifestation of support of Senator Marcos for the SOGIE Equality bill.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, the session was suspended.

It was 3:11 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:12 p.m., the session was resumed.

The Chair directed that the Journal reflect the corrections as manifested.

DEFERMENT OF THE APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body deferred the consideration and approval of the Journal of Session No. 11 (August 14, 2019) to a later hour, to allow the corrections manifested earlier to be reflected therein.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

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

- Mayor Bong Ampatuan of Datu Hoffer, Maguindanao, with board member King Jazer Mangudadatu of Maguindanao; and
- Members of *Kooperatiba Naton* of Iloilo, headed by General Manager Georgina Basco.

Senate President Sotto welcomed the guests to the Senate.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Letter of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, dated 8 August 2019, pursuant to Section 27(1), Article VI of the 1987 Constitution, returning without his signature the enrolled House Bill No. 7866, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAMPUS OF THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (PUP) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CALAUAN, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE PUP-CALAUAN CAMPUS, MANDATING IT TO OFFER GRADUATE, UNDERGRADUATE AND SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL COURSES THEREAT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The veto message states that, “There is no pressing need to elevate the Calauan Campus to a state-funded university as there are already a number of private, state, and local colleges and universities in the Province of Laguna and nearby towns which offer the same undergraduate and graduate courses, such as the University of the Philippines in Los Baños, the Laguna State Polytechnic University with campuses in Sta. Cruz, San Pablo and Los Baños, and the Laguna University in San Pablo. The rapid creation of new campuses of state universities and colleges (SUCs) also tends to adversely affect the quality of education provided in these institutions. It has been observed that new campuses rely only on contractual and part-time professors who mainly teach and are unable to produce quality research and extension projects.

Moreover, the Commission on Higher Education informs us that its recent leveling exercise for SUCs showed that the institutional performance of the PUP has slipped from Level III to Level II, and one of the main reasons is its rapid expansion of campuses through agreements with various local governments.”

To the Archives

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 851, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS AND PROVIDING PENAL-

TIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE ACT NO. 4075, AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1564, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE SOLICITATION PERMIT LAW"

Introduced by Senator De Lima

To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 852, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL SIGHT STRATEGY PLAN

Introduced by Senator De Lima

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 853, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING FREE TERTIARY AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION, AND OTHER RELATED COURSES TO ALL DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF REGISTERED INDIGENT FARMERS IN THE COUNTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator De Lima

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 854, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DISCLOSURE OF NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION IN MENUS OF FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

Introduced by Senator De Lima

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

Senate Bill No. 855, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL

COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM FOR THE PREVENTION, EARLY DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS, AND TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH AUTISM AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator De Lima

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

Senate Bill No. 856, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL SPORTS ACADEMY AS AN ATTACHED AGENCY OF THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION, PROVIDING THE STRUCTURE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Sotto III

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

Senate Bill No. 857, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL FOREIGN NATIONALS WHO INTEND TO WORK IN THE PHILIPPINES TO PRESENT AN EMPLOYMENT PERMIT PRIOR TO THE ISSUANCE OF NON-IMMIGRANT VISA OR TEMPORARY ADMISSION TO THE PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 613, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1940

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 858, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE

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BARANGAY DAY CARE SYSTEM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6972 OTHER-
WISE KNOWN AS THE BARANGAY-
LEVEL TOTAL DEVELOPMENT
AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN
ACT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 859, entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING UNATTENDED
CHILDREN IN MOTOR VEHICLES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 860, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING VALUES EDUCA-
TION IN THE K-12 CURRICULUM
AND ENHANCING THE EDUKASYON
SA PAGPAPAKATAO PROGRAM
BY INCORPORATING THE TEACH-
ING OF GOOD MANNERS AND
RIGHT CONDUCT AND INCLUDING
CHARACTER BUILDING ACTIVITIES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 861, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING AN
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
SYSTEM (EMSS), CREATING FOR
THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL
EMSS COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Hontiveros

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

Senate Bill No. 863, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPART-
MENT OF HEALTH TO SET AND
APPROVE THE BED CAPACITY OF
ALL DOH RETAINED HOSPITALS
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Hontiveros

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

Senate Bill No. 864, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A POLICY ON
BLOODBORNE VIRAL HEPATITIS
TESTING AND SCREENING

Introduced by Senator Hontiveros

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; Labor, Employment and Human
Resources Development; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 865, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING A FUEL SUBSIDY
FOR MUNICIPAL FISHERFOLK,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 866, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE
PROVISION OF CROP INSURANCE
FOR THE FISHERIES, LIVESTOCK
AND POULTRY SECTORS, AMEND-
ING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 1
OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1647,
AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "REVISED CHARTER OF
THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE
CORPORATION ACT OF 1995"

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committees on Government Corp-
orations and Public Enterprises; Agriculture
and Food; and Finance**

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Senate Bill No. 867, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A JUST AND HUMANE PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLE (PUV) MODERNIZATION PROGRAM, WITH TRANSITORY ASSISTANCE AND SERVICES RENDERED TO PUV DRIVERS, OPERATORS AND STAKEHOLDERS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

To the Committees on Public Services; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 868, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE FAIR TRADE IN THE OIL INDUSTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8479, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "DOWN-STREAM OIL DEREGULATION ACT OF 1998"

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 869, entitled

AN ACT POSTPONING THE OCTOBER 2020 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNI-ANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10632, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10656, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10952, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

Senate Bill No. 870, entitled

AN ACT URGING THE PLANNING, EVALUATION, AND PROMOTION

OF BANANA FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPORT, ESTABLISHING THE BANANA EXPORT DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 871, entitled

AN ACT REMOVING HEIGHT AS QUALIFICATION FOR PERSONNEL, OFFICERS OR MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY, AND BUREAU OF CORRECTION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9263 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10575

Introduced by Senator Dela Rosa

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

Senate Bill No. 872, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE LEGAL ASSISTANCE FUND, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 26 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINO ACT OF 1995," AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

Senate Bill No. 873, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LABELING AND NUTRITIONAL AWARENESS

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PROGRAM THAT REQUIRES
SCHOOLS TO POST NUTRITIONAL
CONTENT INFORMATION REGARD-
ING FOOD SERVED IN THEIR
CANTEENS

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

Senate Bill No. 874, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MINIMUM
MONTHLY NET TAKE-HOME
PAY FOR ALL GOVERNMENT
EMPLOYEES AFTER AUTHORIZED
DEDUCTIONS

Introduced by Senator De Lima

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

Senate Bill No. 875, entitled

AN ACT POSTPONING THE MAY 2020
BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG
KABATAAN ELECTIONS TO MAY
2021, AMENDING FOR THE PUR-
POSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164,
AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT
NOS. 10632, 10656, 10923, AND 10952,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Gatchalian

**To the Committees on Electoral Reforms
and People's Participation; and Local Govern-
ment**

Senate Bill No. 876, entitled

AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE
PERMANENT SEAT OF THE
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO
NEW CLARK CITY, PAMPANGA,
CREATING A TRANSITORY
COMMISSION, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Gatchalian

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

Senate Bill No. 877, entitled

AN ACT STANDARDIZING THE
SALARIES AND BENEFITS OF
BARANGAY OFFICIALS, AMEND-
ING SECTION 393(N) OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Lapid

To the Committee on Local Government

Senate Bill No. 878, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE
FOR THE PROTECTION AND
ASSISTANCE OF TOURISTS

Introduced by Senator Lapid

To the Committees on Tourism; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 879, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE USE OF
TREATMENT TECHNOLOGY FOR
MUNICIPAL AND HAZARDOUS
WASTES, REPEALING FOR THE
PURPOSE SECTION 20 OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 8749, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS "THE PHILIPPINE CLEAN AIR
ACT OF 1999"

Introduced by Senator Lapid

**To the Committees on Environment and
Natural Resources; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 880, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE PRODUC-
TION, IMPORTATION, SALE, PRO-
VISION, USE, RECOVERY, COLLEC-
TION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL
OF PLASTIC PRODUCTS

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Introduced by Senator Lapid

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

Senate Bill No. 881, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 150 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, FOR THE PURPOSE OF STRENGTHENING ITS ENFORCEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

Introduced by Senator Gatchalian

To the Committees on Local Government; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 882, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILDBIRTH SERVICES BY ESTABLISHING BIRTHING CENTERS AND TRAINING TRADITIONAL BIRTH ATTENDANTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Gatchalian

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

Senate Bill No. 883, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION, EXPANDING ITS POWERS AND ACTIVITIES, INCREASING ITS CAPITALIZATION, AND AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1467, ENTITLED "CREATING THE 'PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION' PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND ACTIVITIES, PROVIDING FOR ITS CAPITALIZATION AND FOR THE REQUIRED GOVERNMENT PREMIUM SUBSIDY, AND

FOR OTHER PURPOSES," AND OTHER LAWS"

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 884, entitled

AN ACT LAUNCHING THE "YOUNG FARMERS CHALLENGE PROGRAM," PLANNING AND EVALUATING EXISTING RELATED PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, AS WELL AS OTHER GOVERNMENT AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS, ALLOCATING A BUDGET THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 885, entitled

AN ACT MODERNIZING THE BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 886, entitled

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

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 887, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING THE POSITION OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICER INTO THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 959, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 888, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION OF WORKERS IN THE BUSINESS PROCESS OUTSOURCING (BPO) INDUSTRY

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 889, entitled

AN ACT REVIVING THE PHILIPPINE MOVIE INDUSTRY BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO THE PROPRIETORS, LESSEES, OPERATORS OF THEATERS AND CINEMAS

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 890, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL BRANCHES, SUBDIVISIONS, INSTRUMENTALITIES, AND AGENCIES OF THE

GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS OR THEIR SUBSIDIARIES TO DIVULGE THE IDENTITY OF HIRED FOREIGN CONSULTANTS, THE NATURE OF THEIR WORK AND THEIR COMPENSATION, PERKS, AND OTHER PRIVILEGES, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES IN CASE OF VIOLATION THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 891, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE AKLAN AIRPORT AUTHORITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 892, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAYS

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 893, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING THE RIGHTS ACCORDED TO VICTIMS OF CRIMES, DEFINING THE DUTIES OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revillar, Jr.

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

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Senate Bill No. 894, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS IN REAL PROPERTY VALUATION AND ASSESSMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, REORGANIZING THE BUREAU OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 895, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GREEN BUILDING STANDARD FOR GOVERNMENT BUILDING PROJECTS IN THE COUNTRY

Introduced by Senator Lapid

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

Senate Bill No. 896, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM ON AUTISM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lapid

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

Senate Bill No. 897, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION, DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF BASIC RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC) IN GRADES 11 AND 12 IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7077, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CITIZEN ARMED FORCE

OR ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES RESERVIST ACT," AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9163, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

Introduced by Senator Lapid

To the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 898, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MECHANISMS TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE COLLEGE AND POST-GRADUATE TEXTBOOKS AND SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS FOR THE POOR, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lapid

To the Committees on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 899, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A CACAO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER, AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lapid

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Science and Technology; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 900, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH AS EARTH HOUR

Introduced by Senator Lapid

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Finance

[Handwritten initials]

Senate Bill No. 901, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN "ADOPT-A-WILDLIFE SPECIES PROGRAMS," PROVIDING INCENTIVES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lapid

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

Senate Bill No. 902, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING MULTI-HAZARDS MAPS AND FLOOD HAZARD MAPS IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE

Introduced by Senator Lapid

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

Senate Bill No. 903, entitled

AN ACT AGAINST THE PRACTICE OF "ENDO" AND CONTRACTING, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLES 106 TO 109, 294 TO 296 OF AND ADDING A NEW PROVISION TO PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Hontiveros

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 904, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR

FINAL EXAMINATION OR OTHER SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

To the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Higher, Technical and Vocational Education

Senate Bill No. 905, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A HIGHER SALARY GRADE LEVEL AND GRANTING RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 906, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING INDIVIDUALS WHO SELL, GIVE OR IN ANYWAY SHARE ANY TYPE OF FIREWORKS OR FIRE CRACKERS TO MINOR CHILDREN FIFTEEN YEARS OLD AND BELOW

Introduced by Senator Binay

To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 907, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE POSTING OF NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION ON MENU ITEMS OF FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

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RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 92, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED LAPSES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CRITICAL BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) FOR PURPOSES OF INSTITUTING APPROPRIATE REFORMS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Angara

To the Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 93, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE TO CANCEL THE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENTS INVOLVING FUGA, GRANDE, AND CHIQUITA ISLANDS, AS WELL AS ANY OTHER LOCATION OF SIGNIFICANT STRATEGIC MARITIME SECURITY IMPORTANCE, TO PROTECT OUR COUNTRY FROM RISKS POSED BY AGGRESSIVE MILITARY ACTIVITIES BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Introduced by Senator De Lima

To the Committee on National Defense and Security

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 94, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SIMPLIFIED CREDITABLE WITHHOLDING TAX SYSTEM, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF EASING THE BURDEN OF THE TAXPAYERS

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Proposed Senate Resolution No. No. 95, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE WORKING CONDITIONS IN THE MOVIE AND TELEVISION INDUSTRIES, WITH THE END GOAL OF FORMULATING MEASURES TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE MONITORING OF THE COMPLIANCE OF COMPANIES IN SAID INDUSTRIES, INCLUDING GRANTEEES OF LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES, WITH OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS, AND OTHER APPLICABLE LABOR LAWS

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 96, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON BANKS, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AND CURRENCIES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE LOOMING INCREASE IN AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINE (ATM) FEES IN LIGHT OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS (BSP) ORDER LIFTING MORATORIUM ON ATM FEE INCREASE

Introduced by Senator Poe

To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from the Office of the President of the Philippines, transmitting to the Senate two (2) original copies of the following Acts, which

were lapsed into law pursuant to Art. VI, Sec. 27 (1) of the Constitution:

Republic Act No. 11252, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RMC BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8159, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE DXRA-RMC (RIZAL MEMORIAL COLLEGES) BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTING STATION IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" (Lapsed date: 30 March 2019);

Republic Act No. 11253, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ADVANCED MEDIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8061, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE ADVANCED MEDIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES" (Lapsed date: 30 March 2019);

Republic Act No. 11253, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ADVANCED MEDIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8061, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE ADVANCED MEDIA BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES" (Lapsed date: 30 March 2019);

Republic Act No. 11309, entitled

AN ACT RECTIFYING THE PERIOD TO CONSTITUTE THE SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE PALOMPON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CONVERSION INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, THEREBY AMENDING SECTIONS 9 AND 25 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10599 (Lapsed date: 20 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11316, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE ASSIGNED TO PBN BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8158, ENTITLED "AN ACT EXTENDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO JORGE D. BAYONA UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FIFTY-SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY-NINE, ASSIGNING IT IN FAVOR OF PBN BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., AND RENEWING THE TERM THEREOF FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT" (Lapsed date: 22 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11317, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE ANDRES BONIFACIO COLLEGE BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8120, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE ANDRES BONIFACIO COLLEGE BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS AND STATIONS FOR TELEVISION IN THE ISLAND OF MINDANAO FOR EDUCATIONAL, CULTURAL, AND

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COMMERCIAL PURPOSES" (Lapsed date: 22 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11318, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO INSULAR BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7964, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE INSULAR BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. A FRANCHISE TO INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES" (Lapsed date: 22 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11319, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5172, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7530" (Lapsed date: 22 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11320, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ABC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, PRESENTLY KNOWN AS TV5 NETWORK, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7831, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING ABC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, UNDER BUSINESS NAME 'ASSOCIATED BROADCASTING COMPANY,' A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES" (Lapsed date: 22 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11329, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAMPUS OF THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF

SAN RAFAEL, PROVINCE OF BULACAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY-SAN RAFAEL CAMPUS, MANDATING IT TO OFFER GRADUATE, UNDERGRADUATE AND SHORT-TERM TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL COURSES THEREAT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR (Lapsed date: 22 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11338, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT CITY ADMINISTRATOR, EMPHASIZING THE PROHIBITION ON ILLEGAL GAMBLING, AND ESTABLISHING THE CITY REGISTRY OF DEEDS OFFICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 7, 10, 36, 51 AND 52 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8983, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BAYAWAN (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11339, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO CEBU BROADCASTING COMPANY UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7963, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE CEBU BROADCASTING COMPANY A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11340, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADIO MARINE NETWORK, INCORPORATED, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4607, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7512 (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11341, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER

TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO FIRST LOVE BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8100, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE FIRST LOVE BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL FM AND AM RADIO STATIONS AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE VISAYAS AND MINDANAO" (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11342, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO TIRAD PASS RADIO TV BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8070, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE TIRAD PASS RADIO TV BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL AM-FM RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11343, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY IPIL IN THE CITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019);

Republic Act No. 11344, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY BULANAO NORTE IN THE CITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019);

and Republic Act No. 11345, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY STA.

MARIA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ABRA DE ILOG, PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO (Lapsed date: 27 April 2019).

Letters from the Office of the President of the Philippines, transmitting to the Senate two (2) original copies of the following Republic Acts which were signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte:

Republic Act No. 11292, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING THE SEAL OF GOOD LOCAL GOVERNANCE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, AND ALLOCATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE SEAL OF GOOD LOCAL GOVERNANCE FUND;

Republic Act No. 11293, entitled

AN ACT ADOPTING INNOVATION AS VITAL COMPONENT OF THE COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT POLICIES TO DRIVE INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTE THE GROWTH AND NATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 11298, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE MASBATE PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN MASBATE CITY, PROVINCE OF MASBATE, FROM ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (125) TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11299, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE ATTACHÉ, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE

REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995," AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 11304, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY FOUR OF EVERY YEAR AS THE "PHILIPPINE - AMERICAN WAR MEMORIAL DAY";

Republic Act No. 11312, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE MAGNA CARTA FOR SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, RESEARCHERS AND OTHER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL IN THE GOVERNMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8439;

Republic Act No. 11313, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING GENDER-BASED SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN STREETS, PUBLIC SPACES, ONLINE, WORKPLACES, AND EDUCATIONAL OR TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, PROVIDING PROTECTIVE MEASURES AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11314, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT OF STUDENT FARE DISCOUNT PRIVILEGES ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 11315, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY-BASED MONITORING SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11323, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF DON EMILIO DEL

VALLE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (DEDVMH) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF UBAY, PROVINCE OF BOHOL FROM FIFTY (50) TO THREE HUNDRED (300) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11324, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF GOVERNOR CELESTINO GALLARES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (GCGMH) IN TAGBILARAN CITY, PROVINCE OF BOHOL FROM TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (225) TO FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (525) BEDS AND UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7266, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 11325, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINDANAO CENTRAL SANITARIUM IN PASO-BOLONG, ZAMBOANGA CITY INTO A TERTIARY LEVEL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FOR GENERAL CARE SERVICES FROM FIFTY (50) TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11326, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES MEDICAL CENTER IN DAVAO CITY FROM ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED (1,200) TO ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (1,500) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARES SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

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Republic Act No. 11327, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF VALENZUELA MEDICAL CENTER IN THE CITY OF VALENZUELA, FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11332, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING POLICIES AND PRESCRIBING PROCEDURES ON SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE TO NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, EPIDEMICS, AND HEALTH EVENTS OF PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE ACT NO. 3573, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LAW ON REPORTING OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES";

Republic Act No. 11333, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8492, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT OF 1998," AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11334, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE MARINDUQUE STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BOAC, PROVINCE OF MARINDUQUE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MARINDUQUE STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11335, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE GUIMARAS STATE COLLEGE IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS

THE GUIMARAS STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11336, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE CARLOS HILADO MEMORIAL STATE COLLEGE IN THE CITY OF TALISAY, AND ALL ITS SATELLITE CAMPUSES LOCATED IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD AND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BINALBAGAN, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CARLOS HILADO MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11337, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS AND PROGRAMS TO STRENGTHEN, PROMOTE AND DEVELOP THE PHILIPPINE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM;

Republic Act No. 11346, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE EXCISE TAX ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS, IMPOSING EXCISE TAX ON HEATED TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND VAPOR PRODUCTS, INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF PROVISIONS ON ARTICLES SUBJECT TO EXCISE TAX, AND EARMARKING A PORTION OF THE TOTAL EXCISE TAX COLLECTION FROM SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, HEATED TOBACCO AND VAPOR PRODUCTS FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 144, 145, 146, 147, 152, 164, 260, 262, 263, 265, 288, AND 289, REPEALING SECTION 288(B) AND 288(C), AND CREATING NEW SECTIONS 263-A, 265-B, AND 288-A OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT

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NO. 10963, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 11347, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAMPUS OF THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (PUP) IN QUEZON CITY, NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION, TO BE KNOWN AS THE PUP-QUEZON CITY CAMPUS MANDATING THE PUP TO OFFER GRADUATE, UNDERGRADUATE AND SHORT-TERM VOCATIONAL COURSES THEREAT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11348, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAMPUS OF THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (PUP) IN THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE PUP-SAN JUAN CAMPUS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11349, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THREE (3) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT MACABEBE, PAMPANGA, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (C) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11350, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING FOR ITS FUNCTIONS, ABOLISHING THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL AND MONITORING BOARD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC

ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11351, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING THE SUB-DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMONA, PROVINCE OF CAVITE INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11352, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING BOHOL CHRONICLE RADIO CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL;

Republic Act No. 11353, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MOUNTAIN PROVINCE BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8164, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN BENGUET, IFUGAO, KALINGA, APAYAO, AND MOUNTAIN PROVINCE (FORMERLY KNOWN AS MOUNTAIN PROVINCES)";

Republic Act No. 11354, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SOUTHERN BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8147, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE SOUTHERN BROADCASTING NETWORK A FRANCHISE TO CONS-

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TRUCT, MAINTAIN, ESTABLISH AND OPERATE COMMERCIAL RADIO/TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES”;

Republic Act No. 11355, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADIO-WORLD BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8219, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING RADIOWORLD BROADCASTING CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES”;

Republic Act No. 11356, entitled:

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BEACON COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8063, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE BEACON COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES”;

Republic Act No. 11357, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING SOLAR PARA SA BAYAN CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES AND MICROGRIDS IN THE REMOTE AND UNVIABLE, OR UNSERVED OR UNDERSERVED AREAS IN SELECTED PROVINCES OF THE PHILIPPINES TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY;

Republic Act No. 11358, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL

VISION SCREENING PROGRAM FOR KINDERGARTEN PUPILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11359, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE JOSE B. LINGAD MEMORIAL GENERAL HOSPITAL IN SAN FERNANDO CITY, PAMPANGA FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORK-FORCE COMPLEMENT, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10355, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11360, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING THAT SERVICE CHARGES COLLECTED BY HOTELS, RESTAURANTS AND OTHER SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS BE DISTRIBUTED IN FULL TO ALL COVERED EMPLOYEES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”;

Republic Act No. 11361, entitled

AN ACT ENSURING THE CONTINUOUS AND UNINTERRUPTED TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICITY AND THE PROTECTION OF THE INTEGRITY AND RELIABILITY OF POWER LINES, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF;

Republic Act No. 11362, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COURT TO REQUIRE COMMUNITY SERVICE IN LIEU OF IMPRISONMENT FOR

THE PENALTIES OF ARRESTO MENOR AND ARRESTO MAYOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTER 5, TITLE 3, BOOK I OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE REVISED PENAL CODE";

Republic Act No. 11363, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE SPACE DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION POLICY AND CREATING THE PHILIPPINE SPACE AGENCY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 11364, entitled

AN ACT REORGANIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY;

Republic Act No. 11365, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE BALANGA WETLAND AND NATURE PARK LOCATED IN BARANGAY TORTUGAS, CITY OF BALANGA, PROVINCE OF BATAAN AS A RESPONSIBLE, COMMUNITY-BASED ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 11366, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SOLIDNORTH BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8089, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE SOLIDNORTH BROADCASTING SYSTEM A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES";

Republic Act No. 11367, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MARECO BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8108, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE MARECO BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES";

Republic Act No. 11368, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADIO AUDIENCE DEVELOPERS INTEGRATED ORGANIZATION, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8083, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE RADIO AUDIENCE DEVELOPERS INTEGRATED ORGANIZATION, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES";

Republic Act No. 11369, entitled

AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE OBSERVANCE OF NOVEMBER 17 OF EVERY YEAR AS NATIONAL STUDENTS' DAY;

Republic Act No. 11370, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY;

Republic Act No. 11371, entitled

AN ACT REDUCING ELECTRICITY RATES BY ALLOCATING A PORTION OF THE NET NATIONAL

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GOVERNMENT SHARE FROM THE MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS PROJECT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE STRANDED CONTRACT COSTS AND STRANDED DEBTS; and

Republic Act No. 11372, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND CONSTRUCTING A HOSPITAL FOR THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD, ITS PERSONNEL, EMPLOYEES, THEIR DEPENDENTS AND THE RETIRED UNIFORMED PERSONNEL TO BE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD GENERAL HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

To the Archives

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR CAYETANO

Availing herself of the privilege hour, Senator Cayetano spoke on the warning issued by the Department of Health on the possibility of the Philippines losing its polio-free status, a status that the country achieved in 2000. She said that the polio-free declaration, in fact, delighted her since she grew up with a classmate with polio who could not join them in physical activities on a regular basis.

At this juncture, photos of normal children running and playing games were flashed on the screen.

Senator Cayetano stated that she grew up at a time when the polio vaccine was still being developed, and that she was happy that her children grew up when the country was polio-free.

Senator Cayetano recalled that when she received news last year of a measles outbreak, what came to her mind was not just measles but all the other ailments that have been eradicated or close to being eradicated because of decades of a very successful vaccination program in the country. She said that during her campaign, she would emphasize among health workers the importance of convincing mothers to have their children vaccinated. She expressed sadness that one of her biggest fears had become a reality: mothers were not bringing their children to the health centers for vaccination because of the

Dengvaxia scare that made them conclude that all vaccines are not safe. Nevertheless, she said that she remained persistent and kept repeating to them, the mothers, that their conclusion was not true. She stated that eventually, the mothers changed their minds not because of her, the DOH's or anybody's campaign but because of the reality that children started dying from measles. From then on, she said that mothers started going to the health centers to have their children vaccinated for measles. She expressed hope that they would do the same for the other diseases.

Senator Cayetano expressed concern that after 19 years of being polio-free, the declining vaccination rate might be a cause for polio's comeback. She informed the Body that the DOH has already identified priority regions and she urged the agency to come up with visually-enticing pictures, somewhat similar to those that are seen on cigarette packs, to encourage mothers to have their children vaccinated. Relative thereto, she said that she thought of calling upon the food companies to put up pictures that promote the importance of vaccination. She believed that the Body may also step up in ensuring that the welfare and health of the children are protected. She also mentioned the possibility of promoting vaccination nationwide through billboards.

Senator Cayetano cited a movie in the early 1990s which showed people who were polio victims, paralyzed from head to foot and were lying in bed, just literally waiting to die, and she cautioned that although there are no polio cases in the Philippines anymore, it could happen if precaution is not taken by the government. She said that she does not want to deprive the children of a life that they could spend enjoying physical activities like climbing trees, playing "piko" or "patintero" or even becoming a Southeast Asian Games or an Olympic champion just because their parents did not know the importance of vaccination.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR DRILON

Preliminarily, Senator Drilon congratulated Senator Cayetano for spreading into the record the very dangerous situation the country was in insofar as the government's vaccination program was concerned.

Asked how many illnesses that could be prevented by vaccination, Senator Cayetano cited

polio, chicken pox, small pox, Hepatitis B, measles, mumps and rubella or MMR, some of which even require more than one vaccination.

She agreed with Senator Drilon's statement that those illnesses were the reasons the National Expenditure Program (NEP) of the government rigorously supports the vaccination program of the Department of Health (DOH). She recalled that at the time that she was pushing for the expanded immunization program, she was already told that the funding for Hepatitis B, which was being paid for by UNICEF, was running out. She explained that international agencies like the UNICEF would normally assist a country in getting a program started for a number of years and would eventually pull out, expecting that the national government would carry it on. She said that because of the support of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the immunization program became part of the NEP even before the passage of the proposed measure.

As to how many children are potentially exposed to various ailments which could have otherwise been prevented by a successful vaccination program, Senator Cayetano replied that based on the 2015 birth rate, 4,700 were babies born daily, so that multiplying it by 365 days, it would translate to 1.7 million or two million children on the average; and assuming that the vaccination rate has been going down for one year, 1.7 million children are affected. She noted that given the concept of herd mentality and assuming 95% of the population was vaccinated, it is considered 100%. Still, she pointed out the possibility that the 5% might not have been vaccinated, who then might have weak immunity systems and may be exposed to some illnesses.

Senator Drilon asked how much was allocated in the current budget for the vaccination program, as he assumed that it would be quite substantial, given the concern of the government for the program.

Senator Cayetano replied that for 2018, P7.4 billion was allotted for the national immunization program, the utilization rate of which was 98%. She said that in their future deliberations, buffer stocking should be included in their budget. She then indicated that she would deliver a privilege speech on the issue of logistics on the delivery of health supplies because it is an area of concern, not only on wastage but also loss in the quality of products being delivered.

Senator Drilon further noted that according to Senator Cayetano, convincing the mothers would be the key to the successful implementation of the vaccination program. He then asked whether there was an uptick in the number of children who were no longer vaccinated during the current year. Senator Cayetano replied that the DOH has confirmed that there was a major drop in the vaccination rate, and that it dipped further in the last few years because of the Dengvaxia scare.

Senator Drilon observed that the mothers did not bring their children to the vaccination centers because of the belief that the vaccination would expose their children to unintended consequences.

To Senator Drilon's observation that the dip in vaccination figures coincided with the period when there was so much scare in media about Dengvaxia, Senator Cayetano clarified that there was already a dip prior to the discussion on Dengvaxia, but she confirmed that the dip accelerated because of the Dengvaxia scare.

Senator Drilon stated that there was a misplaced fear, that the fear of all other vaccines was rooted in what they read in media about Dengvaxia without making any distinction anymore as to which ailment is being addressed if they bring their kids for vaccination.

Asked who raised the concern and who scared the mothers, Senator Cayetano replied that she would let history judge who they are. She said that as a health advocate, she was already worried and already a step ahead on the effect of the Dengvaxia incident on the vaccination program, that was why she kept on clarifying the issues on Dengvaxia to ensure that it would not affect all the other vaccinations. However, she agreed with Senator Drilon that the incident really affected all the other vaccination programs.

Senator Drilon believed that the blame should not only be on the reluctance of people to have vaccination to prevent dengue fever but also their reluctance to have vaccination for all forms of ailment because of the Dengvaxia scare. Senator Cayetano replied that she had even appealed to the media to leave the issues of Dengvaxia to the experts because it had affected the other vaccines. She said that non-experts have been making statements about Dengvaxia, instilling fear in the minds of the parents, causing negative impact on other vaccination programs. She said that the bottom line is that vaccination should be promoted.

As they are both members of the legal profession, Senator Drilon asked if they can both claim to have any expertise in Dengvaxia. Senator Cayetano replied in the negative, adding that having chaired the Committee on Health and Demography and continuing to be a health advocate, she always went out of her way to tell people that she has no degree on health but only an advocate on health.

On another matter, Senator Cayetano said that child immunization is a condition under the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino* Program (4Ps); thus, the parents should have their children vaccinated to avail of the program. She raised a concern that many of the 4.5 families that are 4Ps beneficiaries would be violating the condition if they would not have their children vaccinated.

To Senator Cayetano's information that the DOH's immunization program was allotted P7.4 billion in 2018, Senate President Sotto stated that for 2019, the immunization program was given another P7.5 billion.

Senator Cayetano said that she would try to source out data that would show government spending on health promotions as she disclosed that during the campaign she found out that promotions on the importance of vaccinations were not given much importance in the provinces.

Senate President Sotto said that if the Department of Health could have used 20% of its unused medicines worth about P1.4 billion, for information campaign nationwide, that would have been massive.

Senator Cayetano stated that putting advertisements in different media platforms would also stimulate the economy because young people could be hired to create memes or infographics in various dialects that the mothers could understand.

Asked by Senator Drilon if she indeed pleaded to the non-experts to stop expressing opinions about Dengvaxia in the course of her campaign, Senator Cayetano answered in the affirmative, as she recalled that, in fact, when the President was asked to reconsider reintroducing the Dengvaxia vaccine, and she herself was also asked especially by the media, she admitted that she was not an expert about the vaccine. She also recalled asking her fellow politicians to let the experts talk about Dengvaxia and give a sound advice to the President on the matter.

Senator Drilon agreed with Senator Cayetano, noting that the plea was basically anchored on the fact that the opinion of non-experts contributed to the reluctance and refusal of the mothers to bring their children to vaccination centers.

Asked if the PAO chief, who is a lawyer and not a physician, is an expert on Dengvaxia, Senator Cayetano replied that even doctors who are not experts on Dengvaxia, would also exercise some caution and really talk to experts in that field. She said that she herself would only listen to experts in the field of medicine and in that particular field.

To Senator Drilon's observation that the chief of the Public Attorney's Office has expressed strong professional opinion on the connection of Dengvaxia to the deaths that occurred after vaccinations, Senator Cayetano said that she had read from news reports that the PAO chief has been in the forefront of litigation cases. However, she admitted that she did not follow such sort of news in much detail because her real concern was the scare that might impact on the general importance of vaccination.

Asked whether she would agree that the opinions expressed by PAO Chief Acosta contributed to the scare of the vaccination programs, not only on Dengvaxia, but all other vaccines, Senator Cayetano replied that the statements made by anyone who is not an expert, including media personalities and politicians, all contributed to the scare and a further misunderstanding of the importance of vaccination in general.

On whether she would agree that non-experts who had caused mothers to fear the government's vaccination program could be held liable for the scare, Senator Cayetano replied that she would prefer that her privilege speech be remembered as a call to action on the importance of vaccination rather than the liabilities of non-experts.

Senator Drilon opined that many have entertained the notion that, indeed, the country's vaccination program has almost collapsed because of the fear that was inculcated in the minds of the mothers due to the Dengvaxia scare.

Senate President Sotto stated that the scenario could have been reversed if the Department of Health did its job, noting the observation of Senator Cayetano that during her campaign, she did not see

any effort to promote the importance of immunization despite the fact that the budget of the Department of Health for health promotion in 2018 was P322,209,000 and another P292,200,000 for the current year. He wondered where the budget was spent.

Senator Cayetano said that if the parents have been listening 24/7 to the radios and hearing negative statements about vaccination, they must also hear through that same medium statements promoting vaccination.

Senate President Sotto stated that Senator Cayetano was partially right considering that with P322 million budget, the DOH should have used radio, television, and print in their promotional campaign. He cited a survey which stated that posters deliver at least less than 2% of awareness with people.

Senator Cayetano said that she would ask somebody to make a social costing analysis of sort to determine how much should have been spent to, at least, try to effectively convince the mothers to have their children vaccinated. She stated that radio commentators or other personalities that the people looked up to could tell the parents how bad it is for children not to be immunized as compared to the humble, soft spoken health worker who would not likely be listened to. However, she admired the passion of the health professionals and health workers who work and serve the needs of the community even without compensation. She clarified that she was only questioning the process of information dissemination in the communities.

Senator Drilon noticed the very clear reluctance of Senator Cayetano from pinning responsibility on anyone for the collapse of the vaccination program of the Department of Health.

Asked whether she was aware that Health Secretary Duque attributed the fear of immunization to the Dengvaxia vaccine scare last year, Senator Cayetano replied that she and Secretary Duque both have agreed that it really was a contributor, that there was clear evidence that the Dengvaxia scare truly affected the immunization rate.

Asked whether those who caused the fear could be liable for the deaths that may have resulted from the failure of the immunization program of the

government, Senator Cayetano believed that public officials should be accountable for their actions. As a lawyer, she said that she was very careful about her statements and that she has not bothered to check on the kind of liability there is for public figures who are accountable for the statements they made. She admitted that she was also cautious about the figures and the statements she made because she does not want to be accused of making generalizations. She explained that it is also the reason she clarified that the health workers really performed their jobs with passion.

To Senator Drilon's query whether public officials should be more responsible for their statements, Senator Cayetano replied that they should be held accountable for their statements, but as regards the liability, she believed that it should be further studied.

Senator Drilon stressed that public officials should certainly be held accountable for the actions that they do especially those which are seen to be in excess of authority, in excess of reasonable regulation. In the case of the Dengvaxia issue, he said that the position taken by certain officials has resulted in the collapse of a very critical health program—the vaccination program—and there should be some accountability for this action.

Thereupon, Senator Drilon expressed appreciation to Senator Cayetano for bringing the matter to the floor. He said that it was the first time that such an issue was brought to the Chamber and he expressed hope that they would open the eyes of the bureaucrats that they should be conscious of the effects of their statements or actions because it can cause extensive damage to people as in the particular case — the fear created by the Dengvaxia brouhaha which has caused a vaccine hesitancy not only on dengue but on all other ailments which could have otherwise been prevented by an effective vaccination program. He said that the privilege speech of Senator Cayetano is a call to the bureaucrats to exercise more care in the discharge of their functions.

On the question of liability, Senator Cayetano, using a more creative thinking rather than legal thinking, pointed out that screaming "fire" in a movie house or making a bomb threat is a crime, so with more reason to hold liable people who scare mothers who are giving birth to millions and millions of children every year. She said that in the interest of

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public health, the State can intervene and even withhold personal rights, and she believed that the State could have intervened and told those making public statements that they would lose their right if the effect of their statements is detrimental to the health of millions and millions of children.

Finally, Senator Cayetano placed on record the actual figures on the deterioration of the vaccination rate, starting 2014 with 75%; 2015 with 69.9% or 70%; 2016 roughly 70%; 2017 with 67%; and then 2018, a huge drop at 39.7%. She believed that the Dengvaxia controversy is correlated with the declining vaccination rate in 2018.

Senate President Sotto expressed hope that the health promotion budget of P322 million and P292 million would also be explained when the speech of Senator Cayetano is referred to the Committee on Health and Demography.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ZUBIRI

At this juncture, Senator Zubiri congratulated Senator Cayetano for her speech, saying that it was absolutely timely and that she was correct about the drop in the number of parents who bring their children for vaccination which could be a serious threat to health. He lamented that vaccination refusal has even reached epidemic proportions in certain states in the United States, but he agreed that the State could intervene. For instance, he noted that some schools in the country, such as Xavier School in San Juan, already require a certification on the vaccination of all the diseases of the child before admission to the school to prevent the possible spread of diseases to other children. He believed that Congress could propose more interventions to further strengthen the vaccination program.

He likewise expressed support for Senator Cayetano's efforts to continue the vaccination program by encouraging individuals, families, parents, and children to support the government's vaccination program instead of scaring them.

REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEE

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Cayetano to the Committee on Health and Demography.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

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

- Former Senator Heherson Alvarez and former NCCA Chairperson Cecile Guidote-Alvarez; and
- Punong Barangays of Virac, Catanduanes headed by ABC President Hazel Isidro and former Board Member Jarden Wong.

Senate President Sotto welcomed the guests to the Senate.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, the session was suspended.

It was 4:22 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:58 p.m., the session was resumed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the delegation from the Philippine Arnis Team headed by Coach Richardson Gialogo that would be competing in the South East Asian Games and in the International Martial Arts Contest in Jung-gu, South Korea. He said that as head of the NSA, he, as well as Senator Gordon who was an arnis practitioner in his younger years, was proud of the team.

Senate President Sotto welcomed the guests to the Senate.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Upon nomination by Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, Senator Marcos was elected member of the Committee on Ways and Means vice Senator Tolentino.

COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMANSHIP

Senator Zubiri also manifested the designation of Senators Angara and Gatchalian as vice chairmen of the Committee on Economic Affairs.

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ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

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

It was 6:00 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.



ATTY. MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA

Secretary of the Senate



Approved on August 20, 2019