

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

S e n a t e

Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 22

Tuesday, September 14, 2004

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SESSION NO. 22

Tuesday, September 14, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:45 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Mar Roxas led the prayer, to wit:

Dear Lord, we come before You, supplicants all. Grant us, grace us, with the humility such that we can choose that which is just and which is good; the will to see it through, the strength and the character to never ever surrender.

All these we ask through Christ, Your Son.

Amen.

ROLL CALL

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

Angara, E. J.	Lacson, P. M.
Arroyo, J. P.	Lapid, M. L. M.
Cayetano, C. P. S.	Lim, A. S.
Drilon, F. M.	Madrigal, M. A.
Defensor Santiago M.	Magsaysay Jr., R. B.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Osmeña III, S. R.
Ejercito Estrada, L. L. P.	Pangilinan, F. N.
Enrile, J. P.	Pimentel Jr., A. Q.
Flavier, J. M.	Revilla, R. B.
Gordon, R. J.	Roxas, M.

With 20 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Biazon, Recto and Villar arrived after the roll call.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL AS CORRECTED

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of

the Journal of Session No. 21 and considered it approved subject to the correction made by Senator Enrile on page 487, right column, fourth paragraph, to replace the figure "P248" with US\$286 and thereafter, to insert the words MORE OR LESS.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Pangilinan acknowledged the presence of the members of the SABAMTEP Association of MARE Foundation of Tala, Caloocan City, and the delegation of students from the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Pasay headed by Prof. Aguedo Pacada.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan stated that the Bicameral Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1757 and House Bill No. 2808 (resetting the date of the ARMM elections) would be filed anytime. He said that under the Rules, the report takes precedence. In view thereof, he moved for the suspension of the session until the report is ready for the Body's consideration.

The Chair suggested that the Body proceed with the Reference of Business in the meantime.

Senator Pangilinan withdrew the motion.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1351, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE ANNUAL
PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF ALL
GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT
LIABILITIES

AP

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Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1352, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING INDIVIDUALS, COOPERATIVES, AND OTHER ENTERPRISES ENGAGED IN THE IMPORTATION OF ALL TYPES OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES INPUTS, EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY FROM PAYMENT OF TARIFFS AND DUTIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHT THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE (R.A. 8435), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1353, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING EXISTING MANDATED CREDIT PROGRAMS (MCPs) IMPOSED ON GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies

Senate Bill No. 1354, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING THE SALE AND IMPORTATION OF ALL TYPES OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES INPUTS, EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY FROM THE COVERAGE OF THE VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT)

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1355, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS FOR EARLY RETIREMENT AND VOLUNTARY SEPARATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1356, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING TO ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000) THE MONTHLY PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA) GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1357, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL EMPLOYERS TO PAY THEIR EMPLOYEES A PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA) OF ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000.00) PER MONTH

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 1358, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING EMPLOYEES THREE DAYS PAID LEAVE TO

Handwritten initials and a checkmark.

**ATTEND SCHOOL-RELATED
ACTIVITIES OF THEIR CHILDREN**

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1359, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE PURPOSES
AND APPLICATION OF THE
SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND (SEF),
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTION 272 OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CODE OF 1991 AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1360, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE SCHOOLS
ACADEMIC EFFICIENCY RATING
BOARD, DEFINING ITS POWERS
AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1361, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE POWERS OF
LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVES OVER
LOCAL PHILIPPINE NATIONAL
POLICE (PNP) FORCES, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN
SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT
NUMBERED SIX THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE
(R.A. 6975), AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Public Order and
Illegal Drugs; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 1362, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE
INVESTMENT RESERVE FUNDS
OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY
SYSTEM, THEREBY AMENDING
SECTION 26 OF RA 8282
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1997,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Government
Corporations and Public Enterprises**

Senate Bill No. 1363, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE
DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS BY THE
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM FOR
OPERATING EXPENSES, THEREBY
AMENDING SECTION 25 OF RA 8282
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1997,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Government
Corporations and Public Enterprises**

Senate Bill No. 1364, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE
DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS BY
THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE
INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS)
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AND
OPERATING EXPENSES, THEREBY
AMENDING SECTION 35 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
GSIS ACT OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Government
Corporations and Public Enterprises**

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Senate Bill No. 1365, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE TAX ACADEMY, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1366, entitled

AN ACT MODIFYING THE DEFINITION OF A CONDOMINIUM UNIT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FOUR THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CONDOMINIUM ACT, TO APPLY TO INDUSTRIAL ESTATES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement

Senate Bill No. 1367, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING AND PENALIZING ENFORCED OR INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1368, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PRINTING OR PUBLICATION OF NOTICES OR ADVERTISEMENTS RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT

INDICATING ANY PREFERENCE, LIMITATION, SPECIFICATION, OR DISCRIMINATION, BASED ON GENDER, PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES, CIVIL STATUS, AGE, REGIONAL ORIGIN, RELIGION AND SCHOOL

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1369, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING POP AND ROCK CONCERTS FROM THE AMUSEMENT TAX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 140 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 1370, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1949 ESTABLISHING A JUDICIARY DEVELOPMENT FUND AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 1371, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8436, ENTITLED AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO USE AN AUTOMATED ELECTION SYSTEM IN THE MAY 11, 1998 NATIONAL OR LOCAL ELECTIONS AND IN SUBSEQUENT NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTORAL EXERCISES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Senate Bill No. 1372, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PUBLIC DISPLAY OF PERSONS ARRESTED, ACCUSED OR UNDER CUSTODIAL INVESTIGATION IN A DEGRADING MANNER, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 2 AND 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7438, ENTITLED AN ACT DEFINING CERTAIN RIGHTS OF PERSONS ARRESTED, DETAINED OR UNDER CUSTODIAL INVESTIGATION AS WELL AS THE DUTIES OF THE ARRESTING, DETAINING AND INVESTIGATING OFFICERS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1373, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DETENTION OF LIVE OR DEAD PATIENTS IN HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CLINICS ON GROUNDS OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPITAL BILLS OR MEDICAL EXPENSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1374, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE LEGITIMATION OF CHILDREN BORN TO PARENTS BELOW MARRYING AGE, AMENDING

FOR THE PURPOSE THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Senate Bill No. 1375, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AFFAIRS OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE, CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, AMENDING SECTION 40 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION, SELF-DEVELOPMENT AND SELF-RELIANCE OF DISABLED PERSONS AND THEIR INTEGRATION INTO THE MAINSTREAM OF SOCIETY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1376, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING OTHER PRIVILEGES AND INCENTIVES TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1377, entitled

AN ACT REDUCING THE WATER RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER

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USERS IN THE BARANGAY/S
HOSTING THE WATER SOURCE
WITHIN A WATER DISTRICT
THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 37,
CHAPTER IX, TITLE II OF
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 198 AS
AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 1378, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM
OF DISPOSITION OF SEIZED/
CONFISCATED ILLEGALLY CUT,
GATHERED, REMOVED, AND
POSSESSED LOGS, LUMBER,
FLITCHES AND OTHER FOREST
PRODUCTS AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1379, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 3,
5 AND 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 7900, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE HIGH VALUE CROPS
DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1995 AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food;
and Agrarian Reform**

Senate Bill No. 1380, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BOOKS
FOR THE BARRIOS PROGRAM,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1381, entitled

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE SALE OF
TICKETS, COLLECTION OF
CONTRIBUTIONS FROM TEACHERS
AND STUDENTS, SOLICITATION
IN ANY FORM, AND/OR
ANY SIMILAR FUND-RAISING
ACTIVITY, IN ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY PUBLIC SCHOOLS,
AND PROVIDING PENALTIES
FOR VIOLATIONS THEREFOR,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1382, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING PREFERENCE
OF EMPLOYMENT TO ANY ONE
CHILD OF VETERANS IN THE
GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING
GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR
CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization; and National
Defense and Security**

Senate Bill No. 1383, entitled

AN ACT TO PROTECT WORKERS IN
THE EVENT OF COMPANY
CLOSURES OR CESSATION OF
OPERATIONS BY ESTABLISHING
THE MECHANISM AND PROPER
STANDARDS THEREFOR, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1384, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE
PAYMENT OF PLACEMENT FEES OF

OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS
AND INSTITUTIONALIZING HELP
DESKS ABROAD

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Labor, Employment
and Human Resources Development**

Senate Bill No. 1385, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE
REGULATORY FUNCTIONS OF
THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS
EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION
(POEA) AMENDING FOR THIS
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
MIGRANT WORKERS AND
OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1386, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 4 OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 122-A,
AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE
ORDER NO. 295 OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE ACT CREATING
THE OFFICE ON MUSLIM AFFAIRS

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization; and Cultural
Communities**

Senate Bill No. 1387, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR GREATER
FISCAL AUTONOMY IN FAVOR
OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS
(LGUs) IN THE CHOICE OF
DEPOSITORY BANKS, AMENDING
SECTION 311 OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Local Government

Senate Bill No. 1388, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING THE STATUTORY
PROVISION AUTHORIZING
THE PRESIDENT OF THE
PHILIPPINES TO MAKE THE
NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS IN
THE INTERNAL REVENUE
ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE
EVENT THAT THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT INCURS AN
UNMANAGEABLE PUBLIC
SECTOR DEFICIT, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 284
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Local Government;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1389, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 290
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE
OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 1390, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 5, 6,
7(a), 7(b), 8, 10, 14, 16, 17, 19, AND 20
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT
ACT OF 1996

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

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Senate Bill No. 1391, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE MANDATE ON THE INTER-CONNECTION BETWEEN AND AMONG PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENTITIES, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR ITS VIOLATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 1392, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SOCIALIZED AND LOW-COST HOUSING LOAN RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM, PROVIDING THE MECHANISMS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement

Senate Bill No. 1393, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING MATERNITY LEAVE BENEFITS TO WOMEN EMPLOYEES, WHETHER MARRIED OR NOT AND REGARDLESS OF EMPLOYMENT STATUS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 133 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 1394, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE CAPABILITY OF THE BUREAU OF FOOD AND DRUGS (BFAD) BY ESTABLISHING ADEQUATE

TESTING LABORATORIES AND FIELD OFFICES IN ALL PROVINCES AND CITIES, UPGRADING ITS EQUIPMENT, CREATING A DRUG ENFORCEMENT UNIT (DEU) UNDER ITS OPERATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1395, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING THE PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF THE PRIVILEGES FOR MULTIPLE ENTRY VISA AND REENTRY PERMIT OF FILIPINO VETERANS AND THEIR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 8, PARAGRAPHS (B) AND (C) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7837

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and National Defense and Security

Senate Bill No. 1396, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE FISCAL INCENTIVES REVIEW BOARD (FIRB) THE SOLE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE ALL APPLICATIONS FOR TAX INCENTIVES AND SUBSIDIES, THEREBY AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 776 AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 93 SERIES OF 1986 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1397, entitled

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY, DENTAL

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HYGIENE AND DENTAL TECHNOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE RA 4419 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," AND RA 768, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF DENTAL HYGIENISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1398, entitled

AN ACT TO DEVELOP ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES FOR AN INNOVATION-INSPIRED CORPS OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND A PRODUCTIVE POST-SERVICE CITIZENRY

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

Senate Bill No. 1399, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 1400, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING TO TWO THOUSAND PESOS (P2,000) THE MONTHLY PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA)

GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 81, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE UTILIZATION, DISPOSITION OR ACQUISITION OF PHILIPPINE PROPERTIES IN OTHER COUNTRIES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

To the Committee on Finance

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 82, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE OPERATIONS OF THE METRO RAIL TRANSIT (MRT 3) AND THE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE METRO RAIL TRANSIT CORPORATION (MRTC) TO THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ALLEGED NEED TO INCREASE MRT 3 FARE

Introduced by Senator Pimentel Jr.

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Public Services

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 83, entitled

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INQUIRY INTO THE PHILIPPINES' CAPABILITIES AND PLANS FOR

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HOSTING AND PARTICIPATING
IN THE 2005 SOUTHEAST ASIAN
GAMES

Introduced by Senator Gordon

**To the Committees on Games, Amusement
and Sports; and Finance**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84, entitled

RESOLUTION VEHEMENTLY
OPPOSING THE MOVE TO
REDUCE BY AN ESTIMATED
TWENTY-BILLION PESOS (P20B)
THE INTERNAL REVENUE
ALLOTMENT (IRA) OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS
(LGUs)

Introduced by Senators Pimentel Jr. and M.
A. Madrigal

**To the Committees on Finance; and Local
Government**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 85, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS; AND BANKS,
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND
CURRENCIES TO CONDUCT A
JOINT INVESTIGATION, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE
CAUSES AND IMPACT OF THE
BANK HOLIDAY DECLARED BY
FIRST SAVINGS BANK ON
ITS DEPOSITORS, MOSTLY
SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE
ENTERPRISES, AND ON THE
ECONOMY IN GENERAL

Introduced by Senator Mar Roxas

**To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and
Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 86, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING AND DIRECTING
THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR,

EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN
RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON
THE LACK OF PROGRAMS
TO ENHANCE THE
COMPETITIVENESS OF THE
OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS
(OFWs) SEEKING EMPLOYMENT
IN HONG KONG IN LIGHT OF
THE CONTINUING DROP IN
THE DEPLOYMENT OF
FILIPINO WORKERS IN THAT
SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE
REGION OF CHINA

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong
Revilla Jr.

**To the Committee on Labor, Employment
and Human Resources Development**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 87, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
APPROPRIATE SENATE COM-
MITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE IRRIGATION COMPO-
NENT OF THE CASECNAN AND
SAN ROQUE DAM PROJECTS

Introduced by Senator Biazon

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 88, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS
AND THE COMMITTEE ON
YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY
RELATIONS TO CONDUCT
AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF
LEGISLATION ON THE ALLEGED
INVOLVEMENT OF MANY
FILIPINO CHILDREN IN THE
DRUG TRADE

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Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago,
Miriam

**To the Committees on Public Order and
Illegal Drugs; and Youth, Women and Family
Relations**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 89, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE
ALLEGED PROLIFERATION OF
SCHOOLS OFFERING COURSE(S)/
PROGRAM(S) WITHOUT PROPER
PERMIT FROM THE COMMISSION
ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED),
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
SKILLS AUTHORITY (TESDA) AND
OTHER GOVERNING BODIES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago,
Miriam

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 90, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON
THE SERIES OF HARASSMENT
CASES AND DEATHS OF
JOURNALISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago,
Miriam

**To the Committees on Public Order and
Illegal Drugs; and Public Information and Mass
Media**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 91, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON
THE PRESENT CONDITIONS OF

**CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN
THE COUNTRY**

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago,
Miriam

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

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE
OF BUSINESS**

**MESSAGES FROM THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Letter from the Secretary General of the House
of Representatives, informing the Senate
that on September 13, 2004, the House of
Representatives passed House Bill No. 2808,
entitled

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF THE
REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR
ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN
MUSLIM MINDANAO PURSUANT
TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054,
ENTITLED "AN ACT TO
STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND
THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN
MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED
AN ACT PROVIDING FOR
AN ORGANIC ACT FOR THE
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN
MUSLIM MINDANAO," AS
AMENDED,

in which it requested the concurrence of the
Senate

To the Committee on Rules

Letter from the Secretary General of the House
of Representatives, informing the Senate
that on September 13, 2004, the House of
Representatives elected Representatives Locsin
Jr., Dimaporo, Salapuddin, Datumanong,
Amin, Macarambon Jr., Dilangalen, Barbers,
De Guzman, Arbison, Rosales and Hataman

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as its conferees should the Senate ask for a conference upon approval of its counterpart version of House Bill No. 2808, entitled

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF THE REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO," AS AMENDED.

To the Committee on Rules

POINT OF CLARIFICATION

Senator Angara clarified that Proposed Senate Resolution No. 85 should be referred primarily to the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies and secondarily to the Committee on Economic Affairs.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 4:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:13 p.m., the session was resumed.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair instead referred Proposed Senate Resolution No. 85 to the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies as the primary committee and the Committee on Economic Affairs as the secondary committee.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON SENATE BILL NO. 1757 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 2808

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body considered the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1757 and House Bill No. 2808, both entitled

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO", AS AMENDED.

The Chair recognized Senator Gordon to sponsor the report.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR GORDON

In sponsoring the report, Senator Gordon read the following:

EXPLANATION OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON THE DISAGREEING PROVISION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1757 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 2808

The Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No.1757 and House Bill No. 2808, after having met and fully discussed the subject matter in a conference, hereby report to their respective Houses the following:

1. The conferees agreed that the Senate version be used as the working draft.

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2. On Section 1 of the reconciled version, Section 1 of the Senate version was adopted and amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. *Date of Election.* – The regular election for Regional Governor, Regional Vice-Governor and Members of the Regional Legislative Assembly of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) shall be held on the second Monday of August 2005. Succeeding regular elections shall be held on the same date every three (3) years thereafter.”

3. On Section 2 of the reconciled version, Section 2 of the Senate version was adopted and amended to read as follows

“SECTION 2. *Term of Office.* – The term of office of the Regional Governor, Regional Vice-Governor and Members of the Regional Legislative Assembly of the ARMM shall be for a period of three (3) years, which shall commence at noon on the 30th day of September 2005 and shall end at noon of the same date three years thereafter.”

4. On Section 3 of the reconciled version, Section 3 of the Senate version was adopted.
5. The title of the reconciled bill shall read as follows:

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, ENTITLED “AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO”, AS AMENDED.

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

Senator Gordon stated that the report was signed, on the part of the House, by Congressman Locsin, Chair of the panel, and the conferees; and, on the part of the Senate, by Senators Angara and Revilla.

He thanked the two senators for helping steer the bill through the conference committee and the Senate staff for their assistance. He asked the Members to approve the report.

APPROVAL OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1757 and House Bill No. 2808 was approved by the Body.

Senator Gordon expressed his gratitude to Senators Pimentel and Pangilinan for authoring the two bill that became the basis of Senate Bill No. 1757.

Extending his congratulations to Senator Gordon, Senator Pangilinan pointed out that Senate Bill No. 1757 is the first bill passed by the 13th Congress.

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36 (Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 36, entitled

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE HUMANITARIAN CONTINGENT IN IRAQ FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY SERVICE.

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

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Gordon, Sponsor of the measure.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR BIAZON

Senator Biazon stated that he raised the issue of expenditure to determine the priorities of the government in spending funds and in relation to the power of Congress to determine how these funds are to be spent. He stated that the first and second batches of the AFP contingent spent a total of P40 million for the duration of its 11-month stay in Iraq. He surmised that the amount would double if it were to include the expenditure of the contingents from the Department of Health and the Philippine National Police.

Asked how the funds for the Philippine contingent were generated, Senator Gordon gave the following breakdown of expenditure: AFP – P40.7 million; PNP – P2,647,262.75; and DOH – P13,058,368.52, or a total of P56,477,428.17. He stated that the funds were disbursed pursuant to Executive Order No. 195, signed on April 14, 2003, which created an interagency task force to coordinate the Philippine humanitarian assistance to Iraq. He clarified that while the funds were generated from the respective budgets of the Departments of National Defense; Health; and Interior and Local Government, there was an initial contingency fund of P10 million from the Office of the President.

Asked whether the funds were generated at the expense of other programs of the respective departments, Senator Gordon said that the funds were supposed to be sourced from savings within the departments but on the part of the Executive branch, one may look at it as humanitarian assistance for the emerging government of Iraq that may help the Philippines get lucrative contracts from Iraq and the Coalition, and elicit favorable treatment for future oil purchases.

Senator Biazon argued that whatever potential dividends the deployment of the Philippine contingent to Iraq may produce, the fact remains that the disbursement of the funds was done without the approval of Congress. The Senate, he said, should look into the matter because it encroached on the power of Congress to determine how government funds are to be spent.

Senator Gordon recalled that there have been instances in the past when savings were authorized by the President to meet certain commitments.

Noting that the Philippine contingent was sent to Iraq in August of last year, Senator Biazon wondered how any department could have declared savings from its budget at that time of the year. Senator Gordon surmised that some of the Cabinet secretaries were so innovative that they made room for unforeseen expenditures.

Asked whether the expenses of the Philippines government have been reimbursed, Senator Gordon stated that it was the U.S. government that paid for the expenses for the food and transportation of the Philippine troops to Iraq. The operation and maintenance expenses, he said, were paid for by the Philippine government.

At this point, Senator Biazon enumerated the expenses of the Philippine government relative to the deployment of troops to Iraq, as follows:

First batch:

supplies and materials	P14.5 million
troop allowances	P 4.6 million
additional predeployment training	P202,000
physical examination	P331,000
immunization	P3.6 million
predeparture training	P200,000
MOOE	P840,000
send-off ceremony	P 50,000
visits and inspections	P448,000

Second batch:

training requirement	P 32,000
procurement of equipment	P295,000
procurement of individual combat and equipment	P1.8 million
troop cost allowance	P12 million

Asked who covered the transportation cost of the returning troops, Senator Gordon said that the troops were sent home at the expense of the Philippine government.

On whether the Congress should have a say in the deployment of Philippine troops to foreign countries, Senator Gordon stated that Congress should be consulted on the matter.

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In closing, Senator Biazon said that the deployment of troops that is not authorized by Congress should be carefully examined because this encroaches on the power of Congress to determine the disbursement of government funds.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:36 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:37 p.m., the session was resumed.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

Noting that Article VII, Section 21 of the Constitution provides that no treaty shall be valid and effective unless concurred in by at least two-thirds of all the Members of the Senate, Senator Defensor Santiago wondered what the basis was for sending the Philippine humanitarian contingent to Iraq. Under the cited provision, she pointed out, while the President no longer has the power to enter into executive agreements, the President could design and implement a foreign policy with the concurrence of two-thirds of all the Members of the Senate. She posited that the Philippines participated in Iraq on the basis of an international agreement.

Apropos the resolution, she stated that it was unfair to pose the question as to whether the Congress should have been consulted first before sending the Philippine contingent to Iraq because the measure merely seeks to commend the fine men and women who discharged their functions effectively to the satisfaction of the United Nations in supporting the reconstruction of Iraq after the invasion. Expressing support for the resolution, she clarified, however, that her vote should not be interpreted to mean that she agreed with the procedure that was followed in sending the contingent abroad. Under Article VII, Section 21, she believed that Congress should have been given the courtesy or opportunity to concur because the deployment of the contingent has many

consequences not only on the economy but also on the standing of the Philippines in the international community.

Further, Senator Defensor Santiago stated that the intent of the Constitution is for the President to avail herself of the collective wisdom of the Senate, as the premier national policy decision-making body, on such important questions as sending a contingent to a major international conflict. She said that she would further discuss this point with the Sponsor should a similar case arise in the future.

Senator Gordon agreed that the President, on matters of very serious nature, must consult Congress. However, he said that there are exceptions when the President can enter into an executive agreement. The troops, he pointed out, were sent to Iraq on the basis of Executive Order No. 195. He said that the Philippine government took part as a member of the UN, upon the request of Secretary General Kofi Annan for other nations to participate in the rebuilding of Iraq, and in the hope that the Philippines could get contracts and favorable terms for the purchase of oil.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Gordon, the session was suspended.

It was 4:45 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:49 p.m., the session was resumed.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Senator Gordon proposed to reword the resolatory paragraph as follows:

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Now, therefore, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved to commend the FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF THE Philippine humanitarian contingent in Iraq for the significant contribution to the people of Iraq and their exemplary service to humanity:

1. BGEN PEDRO CESAR C. RAMBOANGA, JR. AFP
2. COL. JOSE P. IBAÑEZ (GSC) PA
3. MAJ. RAMON C. YOGYOG PA
4. CAPT. ORENCIO D. JERUTA PA
5. CAPT. DONALD M. GUMIRAN PA
6. CAPT. BUENAVENTURA L. ZULUETA PA
7. LTSG. FERDINAND C. BUSCATO PN
8. 1LT. JOSEPH C. REVILLA
9. 1LT. NURHUSSIN T. HADJARUDDIN PA
10. MSG. DONALD Q. CABATIC PA
11. MSG. ERNESTO A. CORRELO PA
12. TSG. NATIVIDAD C. CALUTAN PA (WAC)
13. TSG. DANIEL T. ASUNCION PA
14. TSG. JOHNSON A. ARCA PA
15. TSG. ORLANDO D. CALANO PA
16. TSG. CHARITO E. GUTIERREZ PA
17. TSG. ELVIS B. ACCAD PA
18. TSG. PEPE A. AGDEPPA PA
19. PO1 ISIDRO B. MATIAS PN
20. PO1 PERFECTO E. SEROMA PN
21. PO2 BESSIE B. CELESTIAL PN (WAC)
22. PO2 JESUS L. VILLARUEL PN
23. PO2 EUGENIO E. ETRATA PN
24. SSG. ROQUE D. BULATAO PA
25. SSG. FRANCISCO D.S. ESGUERRA PA
26. SSG. JAYSON R. BARTOLOME PA
27. SSG. RENATO R. JOMILLO PA
28. SSG. PHILIP L. VILLAMAR PN (M)
29. SSG. NESTOR P. LANUEVO PA
30. SSG. FREDERICK C. MIANA PN (M)
31. SSG. EDWIN V. VILLAMOR PAF
32. PO3 JOVEN L. IBAÑEZ PN
33. SGT. DENIA T. TAPIT PA (WAC)
34. SGT. ROEL V. ESQUEJO PA
35. SGT. RONALD P. MAMUNGAY PN (M)
36. SGT. EDWIN F. GARCIA PA
37. SGT. ZALDY G. GRACIA PA
38. SGT. ALVIN P. CASTROMAYOR PA
39. SGT. DINDO G. BIAZON PA
40. SGT. WILFREDO M. PADILLA PA
41. SGT. WARREN T. GUADALUPE PAF
42. BU3. MARCELINO G. GARVILLES PN
43. CPL. BENJAMIN P. SANTISAS PA
44. EA3 ROGELIO V. SANGEL PN
45. SIDP MANUEL S. CAJOTE PN
46. PSSUPT. SUKARNO D.G. IKBALA
47. PCINSP. LAWRENCE B. COOP
48. SPO4 VICTORIANO M. DOMINGSIL
49. PCINSP. ROBERTO P. ALANAS
50. PSINSP. GERMAN E. DEAN
51. SPO2 JOVENAL A. SOLMORO
52. SPO2 RENATO D. MAGBALON
53. SPO1 SAMUEL P. VENTIGAN
54. PCINSP. GABRIEL C. LOPEZ
55. PCINSP. JOHNSON C. ALMAZAN
56. SPO4 MARIO P. BARZABAL
57. SPO1 ARTURO N. BONDOC
58. PO3 FREDERICK B. GANUT
59. PCINSP. ROGER L. QUESADA
60. PCINSP. JESUS I. SOLARES, JR.
61. SPO4 ALFREDO R. GALVEZ
62. SPO2 JOEL FERDINAND S. IMPAT
63. SPO1 ELMER S. MARANAN
64. PSINSP. JAMES E. GULMATICO
65. SPO4 ROMEO A. LOLENG
66. SPO3 CESAR Y. OFRECIO
67. SPO1 FERDINAND B. PAYOYO
68. SPO1 REGIE D. ANTOLIN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH)

69. DR. IVANHOE C. ESCARTIN
70. DR. HERMINIGILDO M. VELASCO
71. DR. ELPIDIO M. DEMETRIA, JR.
72. DR. RUEL O. TEAÑO
73. DR. MA. FLORDELIS M. LLESIS
74. MR. EDGAR G. MANOOD
75. MR. ANGELITO D. BAGU
76. MS. CELIA C. PANGAN
77. MR. JULIUS A. ANN
78. MR. JOSELITO V. SAGARIO
79. MR. ERWIN V. JUSAYAN
80. MR. TEOTIMO B. REDULLA, JR
81. MR. LUIS FERDINAND G. NONAN
82. MR. ARNOLD A. GASCON
83. MR. REYNALDO T. BOY
84. LTC. FERNANDO B. FELIX (GSC) PA
85. LCDR. PETER PAUL R. MARCELO PN
86. CPT. MANUEL G. HIADAN PA
87. CPT. RONALD M. BAUTISTA PA
88. COL. GERARDO T. LAYUG PA
89. SSUPT. ROBERTO M. DAMIAN PNP
90. MAJ. SAMUEL S. APAYART PAF
91. CPT. FELIPE G. DERLA PA
92. 1LT. RICNON U. CAROLASAN PA
93. CE1 WILFREDO C. REBLORA PN
94. TSG. NEGSUR N. BETANTOS PN
95. SSUPT. ELPIDIO A. ULEP PNP
96. PC1 ROBERT T. RODRIGUEZ PNP
97. MSGT. RIZAL C. HILARIO PNP

Submitted to a vote and with the majority of the senators voting in favor, none against and one abstention, the committee amendment was approved.

The Chair abstained on the committee amendment.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

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

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS**

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

**ADOPTION OF PROPOSED
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 36**

Submitted to a vote and with the majority of the senators voting in favor, none against and one absence, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 36 was adopted.

The Chair abstained on the resolution.

**SECOND ADDITIONAL
REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1401, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN FUND FOR PAYMENT OF THE APPROPRIATE AND ALLOWED EXPENDITURES OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND POLITICAL COMMITTEES IN PRESIDENTIAL AND VICE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS AND ESTABLISHING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and
Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1402, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION PROGRAM, CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; Youth, Women and Family Relations;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1403, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A PRE-TRIAL RELEASE FOR THE ACCUSED, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE PRE-TRIAL RELEASE OFFICE (PTRO), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 1404, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS ONE, TWO, THREE-A OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 910 PROVIDING FOR THE RETIREMENT OF JUSTICES AND JUDGES IN THE JUDICIARY AS AMENDED TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE

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Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 1405, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL OWNERS OR OPERATORS OF TELEVISION NETWORKS OR STATIONS AND PRODUCERS OF TELEVISION NEWS PROGRAMS TO HAVE THEIR NEWS PROGRAMS BROADCAST WITH CLOSED-CAPTION AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 1406, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE WORKERS' CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO SELF-ORGANIZATION

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Senate Bill No. 1407, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8353, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-RAPE LAW OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Youth, Women and Family Relations

Senate Bill No. 1408, entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING THE RIGHTS TO LABOR OF THE WORKERS

OF THE INTERNATIONAL RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (IRRI) AS ENSHRINED BY THE 1987 CONSTITUTION AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 3 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1620 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

Senate Bill No. 1409, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING THE PRESCRIPTIVE PERIOD FOR RECTIFICATION OF SIMULATED BIRTHS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8552, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE DOMESTIC ADOPTION ACT OF 1998

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Senate Bill No. 1410, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO MADRASAH SYSTEM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 1411, entitled

AN ACT REORGANIZING THE BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION HEREINAFTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE COMMISSION ON IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION, DEFINING ITS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE,

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AND THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 1412, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING AND PENALIZING STALKING, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 1413, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE SCOPE AND EXTENT OF THE FISCAL AUTONOMY OF THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1414, entitled

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

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 1415, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING MEASURES TO REFORM AND MODERNIZE THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO ENHANCE ITS INDEPENDENCE, EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1416, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committee on Local Government

Senate Bill No. 1417, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENTS BY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7323

Introduced by Senator Drilon

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

Senate Bill No. 1418, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 21 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7925 OR THE

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PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS
POLICY ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 1419, entitled

AN ACT LIBERALIZING THE
OPERATIONS OF THRIFT BANKS
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
THE THRIFT BANKS ACT OF
1995 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Serge Osmeña

**To the Committees on Banks, Financial
Institutions and Currencies; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 1420, entitled

CHILD SAFETY FIREARMS ACT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committees on Public Order and
Illegal Drugs; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 1421, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING
EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
CLEARINGHOUSES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1422, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING ANY PERSON
WHO INDUCES OR CAUSES
ANOTHER TO USE A FICTITIOUS
NAME, OR CONCEALS HIS TRUE
NAME, OR USURPS THE CIVIL
STATUS OF ANOTHER PERSON,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
ARTICLES 178 AND 348 OF THE
REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1423, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING WHO ARE
INSTITUTIONALIZED PERSONS
AND PENALIZING THEIR
MALTREATMENT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare
and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 1424, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING PRIORITY
TO HONOR GRADUATES OF
STATE COLLEGES AND
STATE UNIVERSITIES IN THE
APPOINTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE
EMPLOYEES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization**

Senate Bill No. 1425, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND EXECUTIVE
ORDER NO. 209, ALSO KNOWN
AS THE FAMILY CODE OF
THE PHILIPPINES, ARTICLE 18"

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and
Family Relations; and Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1426, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDING SWIFT AND
CERTAIN PUNISHMENT FOR

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**CRIMINALS IN ORDER TO
DETER VIOLENT CRIME**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Public Order and
Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 1427, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 386, ALSO KNOWN AS
THE CIVIL CODE OF THE
PHILIPPINES, ARTICLE 952

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1428, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM
FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON
PROSTATE CANCER

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Health and
Demography**

Senate Bill No. 1429, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING THE PENAL
CODE, ARTICLES 204, 205 AND 207

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1430, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE
IMMEDIATE RETURN OF
CARNAPPED VEHICLES TO
THE LAWFUL OWNERS
THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE R.A. NO. 6539,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE

**"ANTI-CARNAPPING ACT OF 1972"
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1431, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 202
NO. 5 OF THE PENAL CODE,
DEGENERIZING PROSTITUTION
AND PROVIDING PENALTIES
FOR PERSONS WHO ENGAGE
THEIR SERVICES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1432, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING CONCUR-
RENCE TO INTERNATIONAL
AGREEMENTS AND EXECUTIVE
AGREEMENTS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

To the Committee on Foreign Relations

Senate Bill No. 1433, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING CHILDREN
PROTECTION AGAINST
ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committees on Health and
Demography; Youth, Women and Family
Relations; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1434, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF
STALKING AND PROVIDING THE
PENALTIES THEREFOR

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1435, entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING CIVIL
LIABILITY RELATING TO ILLEGAL
DRUGS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Public Order and
Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 1436, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A PROGRAM
OF EDUCATION DESIGNED
TO HELP ALL MEMBERS OF
THE COMMUNITY OF AN
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
AVOID INVOLVEMENT WITH
ILLEGAL DRUGS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committees on Education, Arts
and Culture; and Public Order and Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 1437, entitled

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

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1438, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR PROTEC-
TION FROM REPRISALS TO

EMPLOYEES OF CONTRACTORS
FOR DISCLOSURE OF
INFORMATION RELATING TO
SUBSTANTIAL VIOLATION OF
LAW RELATED TO PUBLIC
CONTRACTS INCLUDING THE
COMPETITION FOR NEGOTIA-
TION OF A CONTRACT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committee on Labor, Employment
and Human Resources Development**

Senate Bill No. 1439, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH ADVER-
TISING REQUIREMENTS FOR
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1440, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
MODERNIZATION OF THE
SCHOOL HEALTH AND NUTRITION
PROGRAM (SHNP) OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIA-
TION OF FUNDS THEREFOR,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Drilon

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

Senate Bill No. 1441, entitled

AN ACT REVISING THE SCHOOL
CALENDAR, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION 24,
CHAPTER 9, TITLE VI, BOOK IV
OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 22,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987

Introduced by Senator Drilon

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1442, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE PROHIBITED ACTS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN ON ACCOUNT OF SEX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 135 AND 137 OF P.D. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Drilon

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Youth, Women and Family Relations

Senate Bill No. 1443, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR HEALTH AND WORK SAFETY STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL BOXERS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports

Senate Bill No. 1444, entitled

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION AND PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ON THE BASIS OF SEX, ETHNICITY, PHYSICAL CONDITION, RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR POLITICAL AFFILIATION IN CONNECTION WITH ADMISSION TO AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION PARTICIPATING IN ANY PROGRAM AUTHORIZED UNDER THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1445, entitled

AN ACT TO ALLOW EMPLOYEES TO TAKE SCHOOL INVOLVEMENT LEAVE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACADEMIC SCHOOL ACTIVITIES OF THEIR CHILDREN OR TO PARTICIPATE IN LITERACY TRAINING

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Labor Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 1446, entitled

AN ACT SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS, THAT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO PARENTS WHO WANT TO HELP THEIR CHILDREN BECOME SUCCESSFUL READERS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1447, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 4 OF THE PROBATION LAW OF 1976, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 968, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 1448, entitled

FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies

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ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

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

It was 5:09 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate

Approved on September 15, 2004