



**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
**Senate**  
**Pasay City**

# **Journal**

**SESSION NO. 21**  
Wednesday, September 14, 2022

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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**SESSION NO. 21**  
Wednesday, September 14, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 4:30 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

Sen. Raffy T. Tulfo led the prayer, to wit:

*Panginoon, mahal naming Panginoon. Sa Ngalan po Ninyo, kami po ay nagtitipon ngayon sa Bulwagang ito upang gampanan ang aming tungkulin.*

*Nawa'y kami po ay bigyan ng patnugot at gabay na magkaroon ng karunungan, lakas, at kalusugan na mapagtagumpayan ang mga bagay na aming tatalakayin sa araw na ito at sa mga darating na panahon.*

*Nawa'y ang aming dangal at pagkamakatuwid ang mamayani sa amin upang sa lahat ng aming gagawin ay para sa pangkalahatang kabutihan.*

Amen.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Senate President, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Renato N. Bantug Jr., called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, S.	Marcos, I. R.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Padilla, R. C.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Cayetano, P. S.	Poe, G.
Dela Rosa, R. B. M.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Tolentino, F. T. N.
Estrada, J.	Tulfo, R. T.
Gatchalian, W.	Villanueva, J.
Go, C. L. T.	Villar, C. A.
Hontiveros, R.	Villar, M. A.
Lapid, M. L. M.	Zubiri, J. M. F.
Legarda, L.	



With 23 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senator Escudero arrived after the roll call.

### **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

At this juncture, Senate President Zubiri stated for the *Record* that it was Senate Secretary Bantug's birthday. Senator Villanueva joined Senate President Zubiri in greeting Attorney Bantug a happy birthday.

### **APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 20 (September 13, 2022) and considered it approved.

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

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

- Sec. Trixie Cruz-Angeles of the Office of the Press Secretary (OPS);
- Sec. Manuel Bonoan of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
- Mayor Maria Cristina Angeles of Tarlac City;
- Rep. Lordan Suan of Cagayan de Oro City;
- Mayor Ruel Molina of Kumalarang, Zamboanga del Sur;
- Pasig City officials led by Councilors Kiko Rustia, Volta Delos Santos, and Angelu de Leon;
- Vice Chairman Israel Maducdoc of the Aurora Pacific Economic and Freeport Zone;
- Sec. Maria Belen Acosta and other officials of the Mindanao Development Authority;
- Rep. Nelson Dayanghirang of the First District of Davao Oriental;
- Mayor Ian Gil Mendez of San Miguel, Bohol;
- Sec. Jesus Crispin C. Remulla of the Department of Justice (DOJ);
- Rep. Julianne "Jam" Baronda of Iloilo City;
- Former Rep. Samantha Louise Vargas-Alfonso of Cagayan Province; and
- Sec. Amenah Pangandaman of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Senate President Zubiri welcomed the guests to the Senate.

### **MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR CAYETANO (P)**

Senator Cayetano called the attention of the Body to a carbon dioxide monitor device, which she had on her table for about three weeks. She then informed the Members that the device had begun to beep, indicating that the carbon dioxide level, which is determined by the size and ventilation of the room, had exceeded the acceptable limit. She surmised that it could be because of the enclosed space and the full gallery.

In that regard, she urged the senators to take the information she provided into account when designing government offices and private spaces, issues she considers to be part of the measure she filed on sustainable cities and communities. She cautioned that the Chamber was not only at risk of COVID-19 but also of other respiratory diseases caused by air pollutants or poor air circulation.



She assumed that Senator Dela Rosa was aware of the carbon dioxide monitor because he was present at one of the hearings when the device was given to her. She then advised everyone to keep their face masks on and, if possible, improve ventilation.

### **PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF SENATOR TOLENTINO**

Senator Tolentino inquired as to why, for the last several days that the Body has been dispensing with the reading of the *Journal of the Senate*, senators have not been provided with copies from the previous sessions.

In response, Senate President Zubiri stated that it was a new rule proposed by Senator Cayetano (P) and agreed upon by the Members, under which senators would have to request the Secretariat for printed copies of the *Journal* in lieu of the electronic copies.

Senator Tolentino said that he was under the impression that electronic copies were an option for Members who are technologically savvy, adding that the *Journal* was traditionally placed on senators' desks prior to the start of the session. Senate President Zubiri stated that requests for printed copies would be an exception to the general rule, rather than the other way around.

On that note, Senator Tolentino stated that he would like to always receive a hard copy of the *Journal*. Senate President Zubiri stated that he prefers to read it in print as well.

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

At this point, Senate President Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the gallery of Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) chairperson Diorella Maria "Lala" Sotto-Antonio. He also extended his kind regard to the latter's father, former Senate President Vicente C. Sotto III.

### **SPECIAL ORDER**

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 4 on Senate Bill No. 1306 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

### **COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 4 ON SENATE BILL NO. 1306**

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 1306 (Committee Report No. 4), entitled

AN ACT POSTPONING THE DECEMBER 2022 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG 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, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10923, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10952, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11462, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the *Rules of the Senate*, with the permission of the Body, upon motion of Senator Villanueva, only the title of the bill was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the *Record of the Senate*.

The Chair recognized Senator Marcos for the sponsorship.

## SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR MARCOS

Senator Marcos, as chairperson of the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation, rose to sponsor Senate Bill No. 1306 under Committee Report No. 4.

*Following is the full text of Senator Marcos' sponsorship speech:*

Today, I submit to this Chamber Committee Report No. 4 sponsoring herewith Senate Bill No. 1306, entitled "An Act Postponing the December 2022 Barangay and Sangguniang 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, Republic Act No. 10923, Republic Act No. 10952, and Republic Act No. 11462, and for Other Purposes."

Three years ago, I sponsored the first Act passed by the Eighteenth Congress postponing the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections from the second Monday of May 2020 to December 5, 2022. I then made a promise in full Plenary, on public record, that it would be the last of the repeated postponements of the barangay elections. Today, in the immortal words of the late great Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago, let me confess just as she did—"I lied, I lied!"

Levity aside, there are compelling reasons why I must renege on that promise. The fact that the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections have been postponed relentlessly through decades merely underlies the unfinished business of deeper issues plaguing both the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan systems.

*Unang-una, halos taon-taon na tayong nag-e-eleksyon at kung tutuusin napakaikli ng tatlong taon para gampanan ang napakabigat na trabaho sa barangay—responde sa tuwing may bagyo, maghahabol ng magnanakaw, mamamagitan sa kapitbahay kapag tumawid ang baboy sa bakuran, pati sa away ng mga asawang nagseselos, lagot si Kap. Noong tinamaan tayo ng COVID, sila ang sadyang naging frontliners mula sa ospital hanggang sa bahay-bahay, maging sa bukid at lansangan. "Love ko si Kap," ang sabi ni Sen. Bong Revilla. Sabay rin sina Senators Lapid, Cayetano (A), Ejercito, Escudero, Estrada, at Tolentino, na tulad ko ay nanilbihan sa lokal.*

A quick review reveals that every barangay election since 1989 has been postponed, resulting in an actual extension of term averaging four to five years. Hence, I propose that the term of barangay and SK officials be finally extended to six years and permanently fix their elections every May, the year following presidential elections. In fact, I have filed Senate Bill No. 1195 last August 16, 2022 positing just such an extension and fixing the dates for both the barangay and SK elections for good.

*Mandin, 'di ko tanggap, bilang dakilang Ilokana, ang gastos na nilalaan sa kada eleksyon. Manwal lang nga at hindi automated, pumapatak pa din ng bilyon-bilyon. Sa hiras ng panahon ngayon, hindi ba dapat tayong puspasang magtipid? Magagalit higit sa lahat si Senator Angara sa atin, na panay ang hanap ng pera.*

There is likewise a need to revise and streamline the present Sangguniang Kabataan system—in particular, the feasibility of abolishing the Pederasyon ng Sangguniang Kabataan at the barangay level—only maintaining it at the city and municipal levels. Ironically, the good intention of our first Anti-Dynasty legal provision contained in the SK Charter disqualifying relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity to any incumbent official, has rendered ineligible a large class of voters, particularly in the small barangays of 200, 300, 400 voters where almost everyone is blood-related or by marriage. In my view, instead of an SK Federation, a single SK representative in every barangay or municipal council should be considered. Perhaps, a federation is warranted only at the city or provincial level with the additional proviso only of reorganizing the SK Federation every three years or at midterm, thus avoiding the need for yet another election. *Bilang orig na Kabataang Barangay, lola na po ng mg SK, pakiwari kong gaganda ang takbo ng SK kapag naisaayos ang kanilang termino kasabay ng mga barangay kapitan.*

Thus, this proposed election postponement is a means to buy us time for a series of measures that the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation is proposing to Congress. This is merely a preliminary measure to give us time to study and debate the deeper issues confronting the barangay and SK systems under our present law.



A word of caution too, regarding the budget COMELEC has requested for the postponement. Out of the P8.441 billion allotted for the December 2022 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections, there should be a balance by month's end of roughly P7.583 billion. COMELEC claims, however, that they have somehow obligated or disbursed far more. And then they are requesting that should the elections be postponed to December 2023, the amount of P18.441 billion should be provided in the 2023 budget. That is over 218 percent more than their budget this year. An amount which I think is unmerited.

*Sa tingin ko, kung kailangan magdagdag ng additional na 15 percent na additional precincts, 15 percent karagdagang botante, 15 percent na teachers at BEI, 15 percent sa mga suplay—dapat 15 percent lamang ang idadagdag sa dating budget ng P8.4 billion, o mahigit kumulang P9.6 billion.*

*Kung nagtapat ang dakilang Sen. Miriam Defensor Santiago na siya ay nagsinungaling, may sinabi rin siya: "Kahit sinong tanga, puwedeng tumakbo sa posisyon at posibleng umani ng boto sa kapuwa niyang tanga." Wala naman sigurong tanga dito, kundi lahat matitinik at masisipag na senador, nakatuon sa trabahong hinaharap. September at "ber" months na po, ramdam na ang Pasko. Paspasan na natin ang pagpapa-ubaya ng halalang barangay at SK ngayon.*

### COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR REVILLA

In cosponsoring Senate Bill No. 1306, Senator Revilla delivered the following speech:

I rise today to give my full support to this measure.

The postponement of the Barangay and Sangguniang Panlalawigan Elections is a hot topic that needs to be discussed, and matters related thereto has to be decided urgently before we incur more costs that would otherwise be spent on other government programs that would benefit our people.

*Narinig na natin ang mga punto ng magkabilang panig, and in the interest of the greater good, another postponement cannot be evaded.*

*Nagpapasalamat tayo kay Sen. Imee Marcos sa mabilisang aksiyon dahil alam natin na mismong ang COMELEC na ang nagsabi na hangga't walang batas na naipapasa ang Kongreso ay patuloy silang maghahanda para sa darating na eleksiyon.*

*Ang ina-avoid po din natin dito ay ang magkabangga pa ang mga magkaka-barangay, magkakaibigan, magkakapit-bahay, wala naman palang eleksiyon. Iyon po ang ating dapat ma-avoid. At kailangan ang pinal na desisyon para mahupa ang namumuong pagtutunggali sa ibaba. Hindi na dapat lalo pang lumala ang sitwasyon sa ating mga barangay. We have to defuse this growing tension and it can be achieved only after we settle this once and for all.*

*Sa panukalang ito, tinimbang natin ang sitwasyon ng bansa sa kasalukuyan – ang hirap ng buhay at hindi pa rin natatapos na pandemya sa isang banda, at ang epekto ng postponement sa buhay at kapakanan ng taumbayan.*

To strike the balance, in pushing for this postponement, we also have to ensure that it will be utilized so that more Filipinos are able to exercise their right of suffrage come election time. After all, their choice always decides the faith of our nation.

If the able sponsor, Sen. Imee Marcos, would allow, may this Representation be a cosponsor.

### COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR GO

In cosponsoring Senate Bill No. 1306, Senator Go likewise delivered the following speech:

I would like to cosponsor Senate Bill No. 1306 postponing the December 2022 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections.

First, I once again congratulate the COMELEC for the successful and generally peaceful conduct of the May 2022 National Elections which was truly commendable as it was the first electoral exercise in the Philippines to be conducted during a pandemic.



As officials of the basic political unit in the country, barangay leaders and SK officials are considered as frontliners in the delivery of basic services in the community. *Sila ang araw-araw na humaharap sa ating mga kababayan at nagsisiguro ng kaayusan sa mga barangay.* They are the primary planning and implementing unit of government policies and programs and projects in the community. *Naiintindihan ko po ang trabaho nila dahil sila po ang kaharap ko araw-araw noon. Mga suki po iyan at kasamahan natin sa serbisyo.*

To give local officials of the barangays and the Sangguniang Kabataan ample time and continuity to pursue and implement the programs they have set in their respective jurisdictions, I am endorsing this proposed measure. *Bigyan natin sila ng mas mahabang panahon para ipatupad ang kanilang mga proyekto na maaaring naantala dahil sa pandemya noong nakaraang dalawang taon.*

*Gusto ko lamang paalalahanan ang COMELEC na kapag ipagpaliban natin ang eleksyon ay dapat nilang siguraduhin na mas maraming botante ang makakaboto sa susunod na Barangay at SK Elections. Hindi dapat makompromiso ang karapatan ng ating mga kababayan na makaboto. I-engganyo natin silang magparehistro at bumoto ng kanilang barangay leaders sa susunod na eleksyon.*

*Habang ginagawa natin ang lahat upang malampasan ang krisis na ito, hindi dapat mapabayaan ang ibang serbisyo na dapat ibinibigay ng gobyerno, kasama na diyan ang karapatan ng taumbayan na bumoto. Lagi nating unahin kung ano ang makabubuti sa mga Pilipino.*

*Sa mga barangay at SK officials, ma-postpone man o hindi, patuloy ninyong gampanan ang inyong tungkulin at huwag pabayaang mga mahihirap—needy, helpless, at hopeless nating kababayan.*

It is for this reason that I would like to request to be made a coauthor of this measure.

#### **COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR ESTRADA**

In cosponsoring Senate Bill No. 1306 under Committee Report No. 4 of the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation, jointly with the Committee on Local Government and Committee on Finance, Senator Estrada delivered the following speech:

Let me convey my deepest gratitude and appreciation to our esteemed chairman of the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation, the lady senator from Ilocos Norte, Sen. Imee R. Marcos, for her urgent action on the bill filed by this representation.

This measure postponing the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections to December of next year is one of my priority bills. It takes place at a pivotal time for our country. The COVID-19 pandemic, which has adversely affected numerous aspects of our daily life, continues to spread among the population more than two years ever since its arrival in our country. Despite all the advancements we have made since then in trying to mitigate the risk posed by the disease, such as the rollout of vaccines and booster shots, there still exists the need to focus our efforts, resources, and time so that we can truly eradicate this disease and build our economy and our country back to its fullest potential.

Our barangays for the past two years of the pandemic have cooperated with the national government's efforts to stop the virus, them being at the frontline and giving social aid to help mitigate its risks. However, the negative consequences of the pandemic also affected the barangay system and its ability to effectuate the programs and policies for which they were put in position to accomplish. The respectable leaders of the numerous barangays and Sangguniang Kabataan all over the country were not given the opportunity to truly serve their constituents.

With the barangay being the most basic form of government in our country, it serves as the pillar from which government is able to accomplish its duties and obligations, managing the citizens at the level that the national government simply could not match. It is vital that they be, at least, given the opportunity to fulfill their electoral mandates, making up for opportunities taken away by the pandemic. It would be most prudent to do so since by ensuring the execution and the implementation of the programs they were elected for, it warrants a better cohesion of government at both the barangay and national levels, which is essentially a key to the betterment of our country.





Furthermore, as the most recent national elections have demonstrated, elections in our country have sowed divisiveness and violence among different individuals and groups in our society. Families, friends, and even strangers have attacked each other due to differing political views during the past election, and with majority of the government, including no less than his excellency Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, advocating for national unity and peace and security, holding an activity that would fuel the still apparent divide in our political system would be most inappropriate.

*Sa Kongreso po iniaatang ng batas ang responsibilidad ng pag determina ng halalan at termino ng ating mga barangay at para sa ikapagkakaisa ng ating politikal na pagkakahati-hati dulot ng nagdaang pambansang halalan. Gayon na rin ay para sa layunin na mabigyan pa ng sapat na pagkakataon ang ating mga barangay na tapusin ang kanilang mga proyekto at programang naantala. Dahil sa maraming lockdowns at dalawang taon ng pandemiya ay ating ginagamit muli ang kapangyarihang ibinigay sa atin ng batas.*

Even though differences in ideals and policies is fundamental, vital, and indeed a very essence of democratic governance, this Representation believes that we need to tackle first the problems which are truly negatively affecting every single Filipino on a day-to-day basis, such as the lingering effects of the pandemic, surging inflation, and rising costs of living. This bill is set out to fulfill this very objective.

I look forward that this measure will be enacted into law at the soonest time possible.

### **REQUEST OF SENATOR TOLENTINO**

Senator Tolentino requested to be made cosponsor of the measure.

### **COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR TOLENTINO**

In cosponsoring Senate Bill No. 1306, Senator Tolentino delivered the following speech:

I join my colleagues, as well as the chairperson of the Committee on Electoral Reforms, in pushing for the postponement of the barangay and Sangguniang Bayan elections, not just as a former local government chief executive, but as the vice chairperson myself of the said committee.

Previous speakers have spoken. The Lower House have spoken resoundingly clear that it should be postponed. Election fatigue should not be overstressed.

Just this morning and late this afternoon, we witnessed the confirmation of the new DILG Secretary Benhur Abalos Jr.

Secretary Abalos, since this morning, during my private talks with him and during his committee confirmation hearing, stressed the need to amend the decades old Local Government Code. And amending the Local Government Code would not just be adding additional functions, or modifying functions of the officials enumerated therein. Amending the Local Government Code would entail restructuring even the basic functions of the barangay officials as well as the Sangguniang Kabataan officials in relation to their new-found functions relative to the implementation of the Mandanas ruling. That is why I am in favor of a one-year postponement of the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections because it will pave the way for the long-awaited revision of the Local Government Code.

The time of one year would probably be sufficient enough for our barangay officials to lead in the grassroots level, the post-pandemic economic recovery envisioned by our President and the national government.

### **REMARKS OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Senator Angara informed the Body that it is provided in the Local Government Code that Congress should undertake a mandatory review of the Code at least once every five years, therefore it is their legal duty to do so.



**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1306**

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

**REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEE**

At this juncture, Senator Villanueva referred the privilege speech of Senator Padilla, entitled "*Ang Ekonomiya ng Medical Cannabis*," delivered on September 12, 2022, to the Committee on Health and Demography, and to the Committee on Ways and Means.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 5 ON SENATE BILL NO. 1310**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 1310 (Committee Report No. 5), entitled

AN ACT ERADICATING MOBILE PHONE OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION-AIDED CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES, REGULATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE REGISTRATION AND USE OF ALL SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY MODULE (SIM) FOR ELECTRONIC DEVICES.

Senator Villanueva stated that the parliamentary status was the period of interpellations.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Poe, sponsor of the measure, and Senator Pimentel for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR PIMENTEL**


Asked by Senator Pimentel on the overall objective of the measure, Senator Poe replied that its main objective is security in view of the power of text messaging which has continuously fooled people and would continue to do so. She added that the technology has been used in committing criminal activities such as terrorism aided by mobile phones in detonating bombs in certain places.

On whether the mandatory SIM Card Registration Bill would address mobile-phone aided criminal activities, Senator Poe answered that while it might not be a silver bullet, it is a step in the right direction. She said that the problem is that a criminal would just use a single SIM and would just discard it after committing a crime and then use another one to commit another crime. With the proposed measure, she said that it would at least eradicate criminal activities.

Senator Pimentel asked if the bill would be able to address crimes that are committed through telecommunications technology such as terrorism, the dissemination of fake news, and hoax orders placed through delivery applications. He stated that he had filed a bill protecting delivery riders from such bogus orders and would like to know if the measure would be effective in preventing such acts.

Senator Poe replied in the affirmative, saying that the measure gives law enforcers access to the information assigned to each mobile number, allowing them to investigate the perpetrators of such crimes. She pointed out, however, that the validation of the information provided during the SIM registration is critical to the investigation.

Senator Pimentel stated that telecommunications technology can be used to commit a wide range of crimes, including terrorism, which can be committed through telecommunications technology. In relation thereto, he asked whether explosive devices could be detonated via text or call from a mobile phone.



Senator Poe explained that different types of crimes are handled by different agencies of the government. She said that the NTC handles fraud or scam cases and can order telecommunications companies to search for specific mobile numbers involved in the crime. She stated that the information gathered would be forwarded for investigation to the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and the Philippine National Police (PNP). She added that terrorism-related crimes involving the detonation of explosive devices via mobile phones would be handled by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) and the NBI.

Senator Pimentel noted the timeliness and relevance of the measure, given that mobile phones can be used for terroristic acts.

When asked if the anonymity of a non-registered SIM emboldens a criminal, Senator Poe responded that criminals are indeed emboldened by the fact that they cannot be identified when using their mobile phones, and thus the measure can help in curbing lawless activities. She also emphasized the importance of strengthening the cybercrime divisions of the country's security agencies.

Senator Pimentel emphasized the importance of being cautious in crafting the bill to avoid being vetoed by the President, as was the case with the previous bill passed in the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress for violating the "one subject matter expressed in the title per law" rule.

Senator Poe agreed, saying that the previous bill's contentious provisions on the "Code of Conduct for Social Media" could be separated from the SIM registration provisions, with the former possibly referred to the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media.

Asked why she preferred the term "SIM" rather than "SIM card," Senator Poe responded that with modern technology, one may be able to buy an electronic SIM (eSIM), which is activated by inputting a code sent by the telecommunications company via text, and eliminates the need for physical SIM cards.

In terms of registration, she stated that there are various ways in which registration can be implemented. As an example, she stated that SIMs may only be activated after the user's identity has been verified through the presentation of identification cards containing vital information such as the user's name, address, date of birth, and photograph. She added that registration must be done in person at Public Telecommunications Entities (PTEs) to protect the information submitted, or it can be done online with proper security features. Senator Poe went on to say that some countries, such as Singapore, implement such online processes with adequate security safeguards.

She revealed that such were some of the processes proposed by various stakeholders, including telecommunications companies. She then emphasized the need for having the stakeholders present during the drafting of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to provide technical advice on how to come up with a workable IRR.

Senator Pimentel shared his experience years ago of purchasing a local SIM card in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and having to register the number before using it. He pointed out that other countries were already ahead of the Philippines at the time. He then asked about other countries' experiences with the SIM registration process, specifically with regard to data privacy, and whether there had been any public outcry over the additional processes required to purchase a SIM. Senator Poe stated SIM registration has already been implemented in several countries, including Saudi Arabia, Australia, China, South Korea, and Japan. She stated that the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Israel are the only countries not implementing it. She stated that she has not heard of any opposition against the measure.



When asked about the telecommunications companies' reaction to the bill, Senator Poe stated that they were very supportive of it during the hearings. She added that because the companies have e-banking platforms, registering the SIMs will benefit their operations and protect them from fraudulent transactions. Senator Pimentel expressed his gladness for the support of the telecommunication companies.

Senator Poe believed that while some will oppose the measure, the necessity of having a mobile phone will prevail and the situation would eventually normalize.

*In the course of Senator's Pimentel's interpellation, Senate President Zubiri relinquished the Chair to Senator Ejercito.*

Senator Villanueva intervened at that point, stating that Globe Telecom, Smart Communications Inc., and Dito Telecommunications have received 15.7 million complaints out of their combined 162 million subscribers. He stated that the only way to address the complaints is to implement SIM registration.

When asked if consumer groups had been consulted, Senator Poe answered in the affirmative, adding that except for the Democracy.Net, which had reservations over data privacy, there were no other objections to the bill. Nonetheless, she stated that after explaining that the PTEs would be responsible for storing the gathered information and that prior subpoena would be required to gain access to it, Democracy.Net dropped their objection.

Senator Pimentel expressed hope that the telecommunications companies would develop an easy-to-navigate SIM registration process, as some sectors of Filipino society might find difficulty filling out forms.

Concerning data security, he inquired whether telecommunications companies, which maintain an information database of registered SIMs, would submit such data to a central database. Senator Poe answered in the negative, stating that the companies are responsible for keeping their subscribers' records and information for a period of 10 years. She reiterated that there are restrictions on who can access such information. She also stated that, while data privacy is critical, situations in which crimes have already been committed warrant a waiver of the right to privacy.

When asked if the measure applies to foreigners in the country who use mobile phones with international SIMs, Senator Poe stated that the measure applies only to devices that are locally registered. She stated that if an international number is identified, information from his country of origin could be obtained. She stated that, while the U.S. does not have a SIM registration policy, there are other laws in place that allow mobile numbers to be easily traced.

Senator Pimentel then inquired whether the U.S. does not have a policy requiring SIM registration. Senator Poe answered in the affirmative. She believed that the absence of such policy in the U.S. is due to the fact that the country has a system in place that allows consumers to opt-in or opt-out of receiving marketing text messages and the like. She believed that because they have the technology and capacity, the system is strictly enforced. She doubted that the Philippines possesses similar capabilities.

Senator Pimentel believed that it is due to a lack of technology in the country, and that everyone is merely a consumer. He wondered if a consumer is asked what messages they want to receive before a SIM is released.

Senator Poe stated that in the U.S., when a customer logs in a store's website, they would be asked if they want to receive notifications from the store. She assumed that the burden of



protecting the consumer is placed on the merchants, resulting in a self-regulation practice, something that does not exist in the Philippines.

Senator Pimentel thanked Senator Poe for informing the Body that the U.S. does not adopt the SIM registration system. He stated that he would look into the legality of their objection.

Senator Poe believed that the public's apprehension is whether or not the law would infringe on their constitutional rights. She assured the Body that the committee would ensure that the public's rights would not be violated because the information to be provided would be similar to that provided for electricity or landline phone registration, except that the SIMs use a more advanced technology. She stated that the information will be kept secure as long as telcos do not sell a person's information. She also assumed that because of their technological capabilities, the U.S. does not require a SIM registration law. She reiterated that the proposed measure would not violate people's constitutional rights.

Senator Pimentel concluded by stating that he had read about a phone manufacturer releasing a new phone model that does not require a SIM because it is already built in. He suggested that the Committee look into the possibility of including such phones in the measure, as well as changing the language to "anticipate technology" as part of the bill's language due to the fast pace of technology. Senator Poe stated that the Committee would look into the matter.

Senator Pimentel expressed concern about the phone with a built-in SIM, and requested the Committee to prepare for it. He then reiterated his support for the bill, stating that it would address numerous issues such as spam messages and the potential use of mobile phones in illegal activities such as terrorism, fraud, scamming, phishing, fake news, and hoax ordering.

Senator Poe stated that the authorities are still investigating the hoax wine order, which has raised many questions and controversies.

Senator Pimentel concluded his interpellations and thanked Senator Poe for the time given to him. Senator Poe thanked Senator Pimentel as well for the clarity and inputs that he shared.

## **COAUTHORS**

Senator Villanueva manifested that Senators Go and Tolentino are coauthors of Senate Bill No. 1310

## **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS**

There being no other interpellation, upon of motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of individual amendments, Senate Bill No. 1310 being a substitute bill.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF SENATOR VILLANUEVA**

On page 2, line 13, Senator Villanueva proposed to insert a new paragraph D, to read as follows:

- D. *SMISHING/VISHING* – SHALL REFER TO A TYPE OF PHISHING ATTACK THAT TARGETS VICTIMS THROUGH MOBILE TEXTING/MESSAGING, OR VOICE CALLS THAT MAY INCLUDE SENDING OR PROVIDING HYPER-LINKS REDIRECTING TO LEGITIMATE-LOOKING, BUT FRAUDULENT SITES



**THAT MAY STEAL USER'S PERSONAL DATA, INTRODUCE MOBILE MALWARE, OR COMMIT OTHER FRAUDS.**

He explained that the root cause of the problem that many phone subscribers suffer from are smishing or vishing. Senator Poe stated that the committee would accept the proposed amendments, but proposed to delete the phrase "LEGITIMATE-LOOKING, BUT." The Chair (Senator Ejercito) proposed that the amendment be placed after line 13, and not on line 12 as earlier mentioned.

Senator Cayetano (P) stated that while she understands the concern of Senator Poe to abbreviate the wording to "REDIRECTING TO FRAUDULENT SITES," she also believed that Senator Villanueva wanted to emphasize that some sites appear to be legitimate when it is not. She suggested that the phrase be reworded to "SEEMINGLY LEGITIMATE."

Senator Poe responded by saying that a site may not be legitimate-looking at all and still be fraudulent.

Senator Pimentel noted that the amendment was introducing the term "phishing attack." He inquired whether the bill included a definition of "phishing." Senator Poe stated that "vhishing" means voice attack, while "phishing" means text attack.

Senator Cayetano (P) opined that it would not hurt to include in the bill the definitions of fairly new terms. Senator Villanueva stated that he would propose the definition of "phishing" at a later time.

The Chair (Senator Ejercito) reminded Senator Villanueva that the proposed amendment should be marked as letter "D," and the following paragraph would be relettered as "E." He then inquired if his amendment would come before the definition of "phishing."

Senator Villanueva requested that his amendment be suspended to allow Senator Poe to introduce her own amendments.

### **POE AMENDMENTS**

As submitted by Senator Poe, there being no objection, the Body approved the following amendments, one after the other:

#### *Page 3*

1. On line 1, before the word "Registration," delete the words "Sale and";
2. On line 11, as an omnibus amendment, replace the term "SIM buyer" with "END-USER";
3. On line 16, replace the semicolon (;) with a period (.), and insert a new sentence, to read as follows:

FOR JURIDICAL ENTITIES, THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION, AS WELL AS THE DULY-ADOPTED RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE, IN CASE OF CORPORATIONS, AND A SPECIAL POWER OF AUTHORITY, IN CASE OF OTHER ENTITIES, SHALL BE PRESENTED;

4. On line 22, before the acronym "SIM," insert the word LOCAL;

#### *Page 4*

5. On line 6, before the word "database," replace the words "a centralized" with ITS RESPECTIVE.

*At this juncture, Senator Ejercito relinquished the Chair to Senate President Zubiri.*



**PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF SENATOR POE**

On page 4, Senator Poe proposed to replace lines 19 to 21 with the following:

IN CASE OF ANY CHANGE IN THE INFORMATION AFTER THE REGISTRATION OF THE SIM OR THE LOSS OF SIM, OR THE LOSS OF SIM, DEATH OF THE SUBSCRIBER, OR ANY REQUEST FOR DEACTIVATION, THE SUBSCRIBER SHALL INFORM THE PTE THROUGH ITS FACILITY ESTABLISHED FOR SUCH PURPOSE: *PROVIDED*, THAT IN THE CASE OF DEATH OF A SUBSCRIBER, SUCH FACT MAY BE REPORTED TO THE CONCERNED PTE BY THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY, RELATIVES, OR LEGAL GUARDIAN.

IN CASE OF ANY CHANGE IN THE INFORMATION AFTER REGISTRATION, THE CONCERNED PTE SHALL CLEARLY NOTE SUCH CHANGE IN ITS DATABASE.

IN CASE OF LOSS OF SIM, DEATH OF THE SUBSCRIBER OR REQUEST FOR DEACTIVATION, THE CONCERNED PTE SHALL DEACTIVATE SAID SIM WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS FROM THE REPORT OF THE SUBSCRIBER: *PROVIDED*, THAT REGARDLESS OF ANY DEACTIVATION, THE RELEVANT DATA AND INFORMATION SHALL BE RETAINED BY THE PTE PURSUANT TO THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT.

Senator Pimentel stated that the proposed amendment was quite lengthy and difficult to follow. He requested that the Body be given a copy of the amendment or that the Secretariat flash it on the screen.

Senator Poe explained that the amendment was intended for subscribers who have died, and for the telco to deactivate or transfer the subscription to their name when notified by a legal guardian or relative, and that the information of the change shall be kept in the database for a period of 10 years.

Senator Pimentel stated that the bill is already in the period of amendments, where even periods, commas, and semicolons are being corrected. He stated that while he understands the gist of the amendment, the Body should be allowed to see it.

Senator Poe requested the Secretariat to upload the amendments and flash the same on the screen.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

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

*It was 5:47 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 6:42 p.m., the session was resumed.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1310**

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

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2 ON SENATE BILL NO. 1290**

*(Continuation)*

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 1290 (Committee Report No. 2), entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING ACTIVE TRANSPORT BY ESTABLISHING A SAFE PATHWAYS NETWORK OF BICYCLE LANES, WALKWAYS AND SLOW STREETS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Senator Villanueva stated that the parliamentary status was the period of interpellations.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Cayetano (P), sponsor of the measure, and Senator Pimentel for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR PIMENTEL**

Acknowledging Senate Bill No. 1290 as a happy bill, Senator Pimentel opined that passing the proposed measure into law would lead to modernizing communities and local government units.

When asked if the country's existing roads, streets, and boulevards are designed to accommodate the implementation of the Safe Pathways Network, and which government agency would be in charge of their implementation if the bill becomes law, Senator Cayetano (P) agreed that Senate Bill No. 1290 would indeed be a happy bill if proper implementation is ensured. She responded that most of the country's cities, particularly metropolitan areas, have long had a road network a semblance of a main road with many side roads.

She stated that the Safe Pathways Network, which is primarily a network of bicycle lanes, walkways, and slow streets, recognizes that it does not need to create new streets but must simply redesignate functions of existing roads in cities, metropolitan areas, and municipalities by modifying how the streets are used.

She explained that the local government units (LGUs), with the help of their respective communities, would be the primary government agency in charge of redefining street use. For example, she stated that the streets of Taguig considered as a "*probinsyudad*," which is a city with provincial customs are sometimes traditionally used as a venue for funeral wakes, rendering a particular street inaccessible to vehicles and causing it to function as a slow street. While the LGUs would have yet to define their slow streets, she stated that the bill specifically states that traffic rules and regulations must still be followed, and that the LGUs should consult with the Department of Transportation (DOTr) about it.

However, Senator Pimentel noted in the bill that the majority of the LGUs' actions in the proposed measure's implementation are always in consultation with either the DOTr and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH). He then expressed concern that there might not be a clear delineation between which government entity, the LGUs, the DOTr, and the DPWH, should bear responsibility for certain acts.

While Senator Cayetano (P) admitted that she is not an expert on such matters, she stated that she introduced an earlier version of the bill during the previous Congress and held numerous hearings and consultations with stakeholders. She then expressed confidence in the version of the proposed measure—Senate Bill No. 1290 under Committee Report No. 2—that has been agreed upon by various stakeholders. She regarded the bill as a feat because it advances the interests of bikers, which is very unusual for the DOTr to address given that it is primarily concerned with issuing guidelines on the use of motorized transportation. However, she believed that the pandemic has accelerated acceptance and adoption of alternative modes of transportation, particularly active transportation.

Regarding the roles and responsibilities of concerned agencies in the implementation of the proposed measure, Senator Cayetano (P) stated that the general rule would be for the LGUs to



handle the Safe Pathways Network, but in consultation with the DOTr and the DPWH. She explained that such would be the case if there were national roads under construction a responsibility of the DPWH and the DOTr had designated certain roads as major thoroughfares. She stated that if necessary, the LGUs may seek guidance from the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) on the cohesive guidelines of its member cities and municipalities because major thoroughfares, such as EDSA, connect various cities in Metro Manila.

At this point, Senator Pimentel read Section 11 of the bill, to wit:

*“Sec. 11. Sources of Funding. – The funds necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be sourced from the amounts set aside by LGUs for infrastructure projects within their jurisdiction, as well as from the appropriations of the DOTr and DPWH under the General Appropriations Act (GAA), and the Special Road Fund from the Motor Vehicle User’s Charge as provided under Republic Act No. 8794, as amended.”*

*At this juncture, Senate President Zubiri relinquished the Chair to Senator Ejercito.*

As to how funds from the appropriations of the DOTr and the DPWH under the GAA would be devolved to the LGUs in the implementation of the Safe Pathways Network, Senator Cayetano (P) stated that the DOTr has already recognized the need for the bike lane network project in the country, particularly during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown restrictions when medical front liners have turned to walking and biking to work, and that its funding has been included since the 2021 and the 2022 GAA and even under Republic Act No. 11494, or the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act of 2020. As such, she stated that the DOTr would use its fund for it, depending on the actual project under its jurisdiction.

In addition, she recalled that, in November 2020, the DOTr had secured P1.3 billion in the pandemic budget for 2021 to fund the installation of a bike lane network in Metro Manila, Metro Cebu, and Metro Davao as part of its pandemic recovery plan. The allotment, she said, was part of the P9.5 billion funding allotted by Congress to the DOTr under Bayanihan 2.

Noting that the government had appropriated P2 billion for active transport development for the fiscal year 2022, she then quoted the 2022 GAA, to wit:

*“The amount of Two Billion Pesos (P2,000,000,000) appropriated herein for active transport, bike share system, and Safe Pathways Program in Metro Manila shall be used to construct, protect bike lanes, procure bike tracks, improve end of trip cycling infrastructure, construct safe and accessible pedestrian pathways, and upgrade existing pop-up bike lanes into permanent bike lanes.”*

She then assured Senator Pimentel that the DOTr’s mandate for the proposed Safe Pathways Network has been communicated with the national agency.

On whether LGUs could access funding for the bike lane project from the DOTr, Senator Cayetano (P) replied that DOTr has no other choice but to comply, fund, and implement the project if local governments request it.

On whether he could ask the DOTr about the bike lane project in the coming budget hearings, Senator Cayetano (P) replied in the affirmative.

At this point, Senator Pimentel read Section 6 of the bill, to wit:

*“Section 6. Traffic Laws, Rules and Regulations. – All users of non-motorized vehicles and electric personal mobility devices shall obey traffic laws, rules and regulations and shall be subject to existing penalties for violation.”*



He agreed with the said provision, and stated that order must be observed even in the Safe Pathways Network.

When asked if users of non-motorized vehicles and electric personal mobility devices would be subject to existing penalties for violation under Section 6, Senator Cayetano (P) responded that the provision's intention is to maintain the status quo, and that existing traffic rules and regulations, as well as the corresponding penalties, would apply to multi-use, including bikers and users of electric personal mobility.

On whether traffic laws such as Republic Act No. 4136 (*Land Transportation and Traffic Code*), Republic Act No. 10913 (*Anti-Distracted Driving Act*), Republic Act No. 10586 (*Anti-Drunk and Drugged Driving Act of 2013*), Republic Act No. 8750 (*Seatbelts Use Act*), Republic Act No. 154 (*Motorcycle Helmet Act*), and Republic Act No. 10666 (*Children's Safety on Motorcycles Act*) would qualify as "traffic laws" referred to in Section 6 of Senate Bill No. 1290, Senator Cayetano (P) stated that all relevant traffic laws would apply. She said that the intention of the said provision is to ensure that bikers and users of electric personal mobility would follow the safety precautions in place for their own protection.

Senator Pimentel then suggested that the bill should follow the general rule that acts to be penalized should be specific, stating that Section 6 is a penal provision or section because it allegedly subjects bikers and users of electric personal mobility to existing penalties for violations. Senator Pimentel then suggested that the should follow the general rule that the acts to be penalized should be specific. Senator Cayetano (P) responded by stating that a person should not be punished if the act is not clearly defined as a crime, as it would be prejudicial to the person accused of committing such punishable act.

She further stated that the intention of Section 6 is to make people follow rules and regulations. She emphasized that the said provision does not create any new crimes, but rather simply refers to existing traffic rules and regulations.

Senator Pimentel said that when the bill is finalized, the Body should be conscious of Section 6 and the intent to punish or penalize users of non-motorized vehicles and electric personal mobility devices in addition to existing penalties. He further stated that the measure should be subjected to the general rule of clearly defining the punishable acts.

Senator Cayetano (P) stated that she has no intention of defining all laws and specifying new coverages, and that during the period of amendments, Senator Pimentel may propose and provide a more concise language to clarify the intent of the law, and that the measure does not exempt users of non-motorized vehicles and electric personal mobility devices from complying with other existing laws and their corresponding penalties. She reiterated that the measure does not create new crimes or acts punishable by law.

Senator Pimentel clarified that some of the traffic laws he mentioned do not cover some acts. Senator Cayetano (P) responded that if such was the case, then said acts are not covered by the measure, and non-motorized vehicles are also not covered.

Senator Pimentel opined that there are certain acts, such as overtaking, signaling, turning at intersections, reckless driving, obstructing traffic, driving or parking on sidewalks, that must be applicable for the sake of order. He advised the Body to proceed with caution, stating that they



could not simply use the words “traffic laws” and apply them broadly to users of non-motorized vehicles and electric personal mobility devices without specifying the traffic laws.

Senator Cayetano (P) proposed that the term “laws” be dropped in favor of “rules and regulations.” Senator Pimentel stated that he would need time to consider the proposal. He stated that he raised the issue to apprise the Body of the provisions in Section 6.

Senator Cayetano (P) responded that the intention is “as applicable,” and that there is no intention to be creative with the interpretation of the law because the existence of penalty requires its application to be restrictive.

Senator Pimentel stated that the term “as applicable” means that the acts are ambiguous and there is no guidance on the behavior of the person concerned.

Finally, he expressed concern about a provision in the Safe Pathways Act that allows pedestrians and possibly baby strollers to mix with people using electric personal mobility devices, which could lead to a collision.

Senator Cayetano (P) stated that she has taken the time to visualize any potential mixed use while keeping in mind everyone’s safety. She stated that as a biker, she has been able to bike, walk, and run while her children ride a scooter. However, she recognized that there is no one-size-fits-all formula and that each street or LGU would have different characteristics.

She stated that the general idea is to have a separate walkway, and she expressed hope that a specific area can accommodate a separate walkway, bike lane, and motorized lane, similar to some South Korean roads. She mentioned a similar road along Lakeshore in Taguig City, complete with elevated sidewalk, a bike lane, and an island separating the road. While it is the ideal pathway, she acknowledged the fact that it may not be feasible in many existing cities and communities. She stated that it would be up to the LGUs to manage the shared spaces, and that they may even prohibit certain modes of transportation, similar to how bicycles are not allowed in the SLEX and NLEX. Nonetheless, she stated that the roads in the country are multi-use, and it is up to the LGUs to make them safe. Senator Pimentel stated that the key concept is “safety” because the measure is concerned with safe pathways. He stated that while infrastructure remains unchanged, the behavior is expected to differ from current norms. He hoped that the LGUs would draft their own ordinances to complement the measure if it becomes law.


Senator Cayetano (P) stated that other countries and cities have adopted various approaches, citing Singapore, Denmark, and Tokyo as examples. She believed that the old belief that a lack of motor vehicles was a sign of lack of development had been reversed. She further explained that the increase of non-motorized and active transport is now viewed as a sign of development as it translates to more people utilizing the road.

#### **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS**

There being no further interpellation, upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1290**

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



## MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND PRIVILEGES

Pursuant to Section 13, Rule X of the *Rules of the Senate*, upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body elected Senator Binay as the chairperson of the Committee on Ethics and Privileges.

## CREATION OF THE SUBCOMMITTEES ON HIGHER, TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Pursuant to Section 18, Rule X of the *Rules of the Senate*, upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the following subcommittees were created upon the instruction of the chairperson of the Committee on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education:

1. Subcommittee on the Philippine Qualifications Framework in relation to Senate Bill No. 364, the "Lifelong Learning Development Framework Act," and Proposed Senate Resolution No. 10968, or "The Philippine Qualifications Framework Act," to be chaired by Senator Villanueva;
2. Subcommittee on Education Roadmap Act in relation to Senate Bill No. 11, or the Education Roadmap Act, to be chaired by Senator Cayetano (P); and
3. Subcommittee on the "Revitalized Reserve Officers Training Corps Act," in relation to Senate Bill No. 468, to be chaired by Senator Dela Rosa.

## CHANGE OF REFERRALS

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body approved the change of referrals of the following:

1. Proposed Senate Resolution No. 8 (*Vetting process for nominees to compose the Marawi Compensation Board*), from the Committee on Rules to the Special Committee on Marawi City Rehabilitation and Victims Compensation;
2. Proposed Senate Resolution No. 185 (*Alarming Reports of Abuse, Kidnapping, Disappearances and Killing of Women in the Country*), from the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations, and Gender Equality to the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs as the primary committee, and to the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality as the secondary committee;
3. Senate Bill No. 173 (*Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expression, and Genetic Resources Act*), from the Committee on Basic Education to the Committee on Culture and Arts, as secondary committee, retaining the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship as the primary committee; and
4. Senate Bill No. 160 (*Amending Republic Act No. 11223, or the Universal Health Care Act*), from the Committee on Finance to the Committee on Migrant Workers as secondary committee and to the Committee on Finance as tertiary committee.

## MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR CAYETANO (P)

Noting that the number of people in the Session Hall had decreased, Senator Cayetano (P) informed the Body that based on her carbon dioxide monitor, the air reading in the Session Hall had dropped from 1,000 to 664.

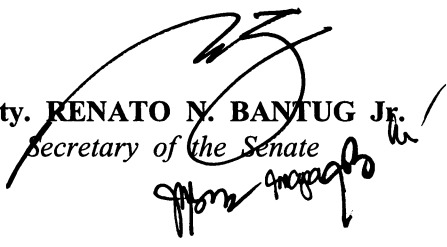
## ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, September 19, 2022.

*It was 7:20 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

Atty. RENATO N. BANTUG Jr.  
*Secretary of the Senate*



Approved on September 19, 2022