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CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Juan Miguel “Migz” F. Zubiri, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Francis “Tol” N. Tolentino led the prayer, to wit:

We praise and glorify You, Almighty God, for the gift of life and protection You have clothed this nation and its people. Your grace and boundless love have been our constant source of light, of hope, and of strength in times of great distress and tribulations. We acknowledge our human frailties, and for our shortcomings, we implore Your mercy and understanding.

Today’s gospel reading from Mark 5:1-20 speaks of how Jesus cleansed and freed the man. We rely on Your forgiveness to cleanse us and bring us back to the path that leads to You.

As we gather today, united in mind and spirit by our shared faith in You, may it be the utmost good of this nation and its people that we will seek and pursue as we fulfill our duties as lawmakers and as servant leaders. May our conflicting views find unification, and our different opinions find meaningful compromise; and may we remain resolved in our commitment to serve the people amid peace and chaos, health and illness, growth and decline.

We fervently pray for this honored Chamber to remain as a collective soul, always in pursuit of peace and justice, unfailingly advancing the people’s ultimate good. May the work we do transform us into meaningful instruments of positive change for the country, for people empowerment and nation-building. May light and hope dawn once again for the Filipino nation.

We pray for wisdom, honor, humility, hope, prudence, and strength. May the laws we create truly and meaningfully impact the lives of our *kababayan*. May each Member of

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the Philippine Senate be blessed with the grace to positively change and build the nation. May we all become instruments for the completion of Your divine plan for this great race and life.

All these we humbly seek in the Name of Jesus, Your Son, who lives with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Thereafter, the Body sang the national anthem.

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

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

Senator Villar (M) arrived after the roll call.

Senator Cayetano (A) was on official business to attend gatherings of organized associations of Filipinos in Singapore and other meetings, as stated in the January 30, 2023 letter of the senator's chief of staff.

Senator Escudero was unable to attend the session because he was out of the country, as stated in the January 23, 2023 letter of the senator's chief of staff.

Senator Villar (C) was unable to attend the session because of recent exposure to COVID-19, as stated in the January 30, 2023 letter of the senator's chief of staff.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

At the instance of Senator Villanueva, the Members greeted Senator Legarda on the occasion of her birth anniversary.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

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

- Former Laguna Governor E. R. Ejercito;
- Former Presidential Management Staff Secretary Zenaida Angping;

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- Atty. Jose Daluz III and GM Edgar Donoso of the Metropolitan Cebu Water District;
- Mayor Miguel Decena of Enrile, Cagayan;
- Bishop Dan Balais;
- Bishop Leo Alconga;
- Bishop Peter Tan-Chi of CCF;
- Bishop Noel Pantoja of PCEC;
- Pastor Mars Rodriguez of PJM; and
- Former BSP Deputy Governor Diwa Guinigundo.

Senate President Zubiri welcomed the guests to the Senate.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, the session was suspended.

It was 4:07 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:17 p.m., the session was resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR VILLANUEVA

Senator Villanueva made the following statements in commemoration of the National Bible Day:

We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank our colleagues who supported the passage of Republic Act No. 11163, or “An Act Declaring the Last Monday of January Every Year as a Special Working Holiday in Observance of National Bible Day.”

I also wish to express my most sincere gratitude and appreciation to the National Bible Day Board of Trustees chaired by our dear friend, Sen. Manny Pacquiao, who wants to extend his best regards to our dear colleagues.

Let me also acknowledge the presence of our bishops and pastor leaders who are here before us, namely, Bishop Noel Pantoja of Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches, Pastor Peter Tan-Chi of Christ Commission Fellowship, Bishop Leo Alconga of Philippines for Jesus Movement, Bishop Dan Balais of Intercessors Federation of the Philippines, Pastor Mars Rodriguez, and Bro. Diwa Guinigundo.

This morning, we had a great time. This Representation had the honor of attending the celebration of National Bible Day at the Christ Commission Fellowship. And in the midst of the festivities, I was overwhelmed with inexplicable joy and lightness of spirit. I remember how these positive emotions seemed foreign, not just to me but to millions of Filipinos during the days of COVID-19.

The pandemic is not yet over and we are faced with the multitude of new challenges and uncertainties both as a nation and in our own personal lives.

Let today’s celebration then be a reminder of the goodness and promise of the Lord Jesus Christ. He said in Matthew 11:28-30: “Come to me all of you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

The operative word here is “learn.” When we were still discussing the bill in the Senate, we made clear that the intention of the law is to bring the Holy Bible, the Word of God, closer to us

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and encourage Filipino Christians to read and meditate on it, so we may learn from His wisdom, find hope in Christ, and experience the transformative power of the Word of God.

The Bible is the most fundamental tool, the foundation, and the blueprint of our faith as Christians.

In Section 3 of R.A. No. 11163, the law recognizes the value of the Holy Bible as the core of our faith especially since we are a predominantly Christian nation and the largest Christian nation on our side of the world. Today, as we celebrate National Bible Day, let us take a pause from our busy and harried lives and reflect on the wisdom of the Lord and how we have applied what we learned from the Bible in our own lives, for faith without action is dead.

Let me end, with the brief manifestation and declaration that God will continue to bless the work of our hands and grant us wisdom and true understanding as we fulfill our mandate as legislators and servants of Christ, that our Lord Jesus Christ will look favorably upon our nation as we heed God's Word and that He will fill us with hope and strength to conquer every trial. As Psalm 33:12 says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3968 ON THIRD READING

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Third Reading, House Bill No. 3968, printed copies of which were distributed to the senators on January 26, 2023.

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

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMONA IN THE PROVINCE
OF CAVITE INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF
CARMONA.**

Secretary Bantug called the roll for nominal voting.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Angara | Legarda |
| Binay | Padilla |
| Cayetano (P) | Pimentel |
| Dela Rosa | Poe |
| Ejercito | Revilla |
| Estrada | Tolentino |
| Gatchalian | Tulfo |
| Go | Villanueva |
| Hontiveros | Zubiri |
| Lapid | |

Against

None

Abstention

None

With 19 senators voting in favor, none against, and no abstention, House Bill No. 3968 was approved on Third Reading.

MANIFESTATIONS ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3968

In manifesting their support for the approval of House Bill No. 3968 on Third Reading, the following senators made the following remarks:

By Senator Ejercito

As chairperson of the Senate Committee on Local Government, I would like to express my gratitude for the support of this august Chamber for the approval of the charter of the city of Carmona for the third and final reading.

Carmona has all the characteristics of a city but does not enjoy such privilege despite being one of the most prosperous municipalities in the entire country. This bill embodies the hard work, dreams, and aspirations of the people of Carmona. The passage of the bill will pave the way for more opportunities for its people and more investments for its local government.

I would like to thank our colleagues for their contributions during our committee hearings and plenary deliberation as well as to the Legislation department of the Senate and our staff who helped us polish and enhance the bill. I would like to give much appreciation to our Minority Leader, Sen. Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III, for his intellectual insights that allowed us to come up with a better version of the bill.

Nais ko naman pong kilalanin sa puntong ito sina Rep. Roy Loyola, ang kaniyang butihing maybahay at dakilang ina ng Carmona, Mayor Dahlia Loyola; ang mga miyembro ng Sangguniang Bayan at ang mga department heads at mga empleyado ng munisipyo. Hindi po maiatawaran ang kanilang pagsusumikap upang maisakatuparan ang ganap na pagiging lungsod ng bayan ng Carmona.

Sabi nga po ng mga Gen Z, “I deserve.” Talaga naman pong deserved na deserved ito ng Carmona at masaya po tayo na sa puntong ito ay naging mahalagang parte tayo sa makasaysayang araw na ito para sa mga mamamayan ng Carmona.

By Senator Tolentino

Less than two years ago, or on the 28th of July 2021, I sponsored in this Chamber Committee Report No. 270, which on April 10, 2022 became Republic Act No. 11683, entitled “An Act Amending Section 450 of Republic Act No. 7160, Otherwise Known As the ‘Local Government Code of 1991,’ as Amended by RA 9009, by Providing for the Requisites for the Conversion of a Municipality into a Component City, and for Other Purposes,” of course, with the help of our colleagues here.

Under this law, “[a] municipality or a cluster of barangays with a locally generated average annual income, as certified by the Department of Finance, of at least four hundred million pesos (P400,000,000.00) for the last two (2) consecutive years based on 2012 constant prices may also be converted into a component city if it has either a population of not less than 100,000 inhabitants, as certified by the PSA, or a contiguous territory of at least one hundred (100) square kilometers, as certified by the Land Management Bureau: *Provided*, That three (3) years after the effectivity of this Act”—I am referring to Republic Act No. 11683—”and every three (3) years thereafter, the threshold amount of four hundred million pesos (P400,000,000.00) shall be increased by five percent (5%).”

RA 11683 paved the way for the passage of this bill which we have approved on Third Reading.

To my good friend and fellow Caviteño, Rep. Roy Loyola, your 12 years of waiting has now finally borne fruit.

The Municipality of Carmona has an average locally generated annual income of P499.907 million for the fiscal years 2020 and 2021 based on the 2012 constant prices, as certified by the Bureau of Local Government.



In fact, through the able leadership of Rep. Roy Loyola and Mayor Dahlia Loyola, the Municipality of Carmona became the country's richest municipality, as attested by the Annual Financial Report of the Commission on Audit, with P6.212 billion in total assets.

In 2021, Carmona was awarded as one of the top municipalities with the highest locally sourced revenues nationwide in the awarding ceremony for the Top Performing LGUs in Local Revenue Generation for fiscal year 2021 by the Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF).

While falling short of the 29.75 square kilometers in terms of land area, the Municipality of Carmona qualifies for cityhood under RA 11683 with its 106,256 population as of its 2020 census, which is more than the minimum required by law.

The Municipality of Carmona will be the first beneficiary of RA 11683 and will be the eighth city in the Province of Cavite after the conduct of a plebiscite for this purpose.

Again, let me express my congratulations to Rep. Roy Loyola, Mayor Dahlia Loyola, the members of the *Sangguniang Bayan*, and the people of the future City of Carmona. *Mabuhay po kayo!*

By Senate President Zubiri

Senate President Zubiri stated that the journey to Carmona cityhood was a two-step process that required the passage of a law amending the Local Government Code and the passage of the current bill creating the City of Carmona.

By Senator Revilla

We thank our colleagues for the swift passage of the measure seeking to grant cityhood to Carmona. I congratulate Rep. Roy Loyola and, of course, Mayor Dahlia Loyola. *Kumbaga*, after 12 years, finally, *nakuha na ninyo*.

Ang tapang at husay ng mga kababayan natin sa Carmona ay naipamalas nila nang paulit-ulit sa pakikibaka para sa kanilang mga adhikain. Bilang Caviteño po, napakalaking karangalan na ngayon ay nadagdagan na naman ang bilang ng lungsod ng aming probinsiya, ang lalawigan ng Cavite.

As we continue to contribute to the country with our vibrant economy, we continue to spread our roots for the enrichment, not only of our humble province, but the entire nation.

Isang pasasalamat muli kay Sen. JV Ejercito sa pagtutok sa punukalang ito at sa inyong lahat!

By Senator Cayetano (P)

I join our colleagues in congratulating the local government and the people of Carmona. But, actually, what I also like to be able to do right now is to plant the seed of sustainability in the hearts of our local leaders. The future of our country, many academicians and many futurists say, is in the hands of the cities.

I hope that when we grant cityhood, when we use our legislative power to empower the local governments, the principles of sustainability are there. And everything from the availability of food supply, availability of medicines, accessibility of education, parks, and education—all of these now fall in the hands of these cities that we are empowering.

So, we would like them to know that we are their partner in ensuring their success, but we also look toward them to provide these models that other municipalities and other cities can look up to.

Maraming salamat po and congratulations to the people of Carmona!

EXPLANATION OF VOTE OF SENATOR GATCHALIAN

Let me explain my *yes* vote to the conversion of Carmona into a city despite my dissent to the passage of Republic Act No. 11683, which serves as the basis for its cityhood.



In the Eighteenth Congress, both Houses opened a new avenue through RA 11683 for the cityhood of a municipality or cluster of barangays by reaching a locally generated average annual income of at least P400 million for at least two consecutive years based on the 2012 constant prices. In addition to this, the local government should either have a population of at least 100,000 residents or a territory of at least 100 square kilometers. Since the Carmona cityhood bill is the first case where we will apply the new requirements set forth by RA 11683, this Representation, notwithstanding my contrary opinion over the same, respects the collective wisdom of this Congress but feels the need to ensure that the new requirements set forth therein are complied with.

During the interpellations on the said bill, we learned that Carmona has complied with the new income and population requirements set forth by the new law. We also learned the proper application of the portability clause set forth by the same law, which was intended to cushion the impact of the allotment for existing cities in the national tax allocation.

Given these discussions on compliance with the pertinent provisions of RA 11683, as well as the support for the bill relayed through a letter dated December 5, 2022 by the League of Cities of the Philippines, this humble Representation feels that it is only proper to extend a *yes* vote to the Carmona Cityhood Bill.

Sa pagsasabatas ng panukalang ito, mas marami pang industriya ang mahihikayat na mamuhunan sa Carmona. Kaya naman nasa mga kamay natin ang susi sa pagbubukas ng maraming oportunidad tungo sa pag-usbong ng lokal na ekonomiya ng buong Cavite.

To end, I would like to congratulate the local government of Carmona headed by Rep. Roy Loyola and Mayor Dahlia Loyola, as the passage of this bill signals tremendous progress for their constituents.

Again, thank you very much and congratulations to the City of Carmona!

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. 42 (January 25, 2023) and considered it approved.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATE PRESIDENT ZUBIRI

Senate President Zubiri informed the Body that he, together with Senator Gatchalian, chairperson of the Committee on Basic Education, and Senator Cayetano (P), chairperson of the Committee on Sustainable Development Goals, Innovation and Futures Thinking, attended the education summit of Vice President and Education Secretary Sara Duterte. He stated that the Vice President gave a very concise presentation of the problems of the education system of the country and the potential solutions by first establishing that the country was in grave trouble. He added that the Vice President showed that 81% of Filipino learners, who were the test takers in the 2018 tests for competency and literacy, were unable to comprehend the questions nor provide a possible solution to basic math and comprehension problems. He stated that participation from the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the private sector would be needed for the proposed solutions to be realized.

He then expressed his gratitude to Vice President Duterte for organizing the summit and stated that Congress needed to be aware of the problem in order to address it, as he agreed that a poor education system would result in a poorly educated young population.

In addition, he informed the Body that he had provided the President with a copy of the bill that the Senate had introduced regarding the school feeding program for all public school students, which had been passed by the Eighteenth Congress. As he expressed optimism that the program would finally be implemented, he disclosed that the President and the Vice President intend to incorporate it into the education program.



Senator Villanueva echoed the sentiments of Senate President Zubiri and congratulated the entire DepEd family, lauding the Senate's efforts as part of EDCOM II, led by Senators Gatchalian, Angara, Cayetano (P), and himself. He concurred with Senate President Zubiri that significant challenges lay ahead, especially in the education sector, but noted that EDCOM II was well underway. He expressed gratitude to Senate President Zubiri for providing EDCOM II with a permanent office on the Senate premises.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, the session was suspended.

It was 4:40 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:43 p.m., the session was resumed.

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 19 on Proposed Senate Resolution Nos. 120 and 134 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19

Upon motion of Senator Villanueva, there being no objection, the Body considered Committee Report No. 19, re: Proposed Senate Resolution No. 120, entitled "A Resolution Directing the Senate Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations (Blue Ribbon), to Conduct an Inquiry, in Aid of Legislation, on the Alleged Overpriced and Outdated Laptops Procured by the Department of Education (DEPED) through the Department of Budget and Management Procurement Service (DBM-PS)," and Proposed Senate Resolution No. 134, entitled "Resolution Directing the Senate Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations (Blue Ribbon) to Conduct an Inquiry, in Aid of Legislation, on the Procurement by the Department of Education, through the Procurement Service of the Department of Budget and Management, of Laptops for Teachers for Use in Distance Learning."

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Tolentino, chairperson of the Blue Ribbon Committee, to sponsor the report.

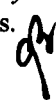
SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR TOLENTINO

In sponsoring Committee Report No. 19, Senator Tolentino delivered the following speech:

After conducting almost five extensive hearings during the last quarter of 2022, as chairman of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, I have the honor to report out Committee Report No. 19 in relation to Proposed Senate Resolution No. 120 and Proposed Senate Resolution No. 134 regarding the alleged overpriced and outdated laptops procured by the Department of Education (DepEd) through the Procurement Service - Department of Budget and Management (PS-DBM).

We scrutinized five sets of TSNs—Transcript of Stenographic Notes—consisting of 1,193 pages, three various memoranda filed by undersecretaries of the Department of Education, former undersecretaries, and some members of the PS-DBM, including Special BAC No. 1, voluminous pages likewise.

The evidence gathered by the committee consisted of 10,662 pages—*inaral po lahat iyan*. We came out with the committee report consisting of 197 pages, excluding the attachments.



The COVID-19 pandemic has affected our lives in more ways than we have expected. And while we are yet to come to terms with the changes, the COVID-19 pandemic has pushed us back to break from our traditional ways of doing things and transition into doing every online, including the delivery of education.

For the last 14 or 15 months, I have seen right in front of the Quirino Grandstand the temporary quarantine facilities, consisting of several container vans. *Kanina lang po, ginigiba na iyong harap ng Quirino Grandstand to show the semblance of going back to normal, but hindi pa rin ho nakakalimutan ng education sector ang nangyari.* And as the Senate President mentioned a while ago, there was an education summit conducted today, which we should all support.

As I have mentioned, the education sector was one of the most adversely affected by the pandemic. At the time of the lockdowns, the pre-COVID baselines for the education sector, according to the Department of Education, can be summarized as follows—and the good Sen. Win Gatchalian will agree with these figures:

1. Basic Education had a total enrollment of 27,770,263 learners from Kindergarten to Grade 12, excluding the 21,786 enrollees in Philippine Schools Overseas (PSOs), resulting in a total of 27,748,477 learners in the country, of which 22,572,923 were accounted for by DepEd schools.
2. In addition to the learners, the DepEd employed over 900,000 regular personnel of which more than 800,000 are teachers. There were also about 10,000 contracts of service personnel in the various offices of the DepEd nationwide, adding some 300,000 private school teachers and personnel. *Marami rin po, during the lockdown period, na private elementary schools and high schools na nagsara na.*

Thus, basic education directly accounts for nearly 30 million learners, teachers, and personnel, not counting the ancillary services supporting the education system, including transport, food, and other services. This 30 million-figure represents about 27% of the current Philippine population and is 20% higher than the total number of people employed in the services sector—the biggest employer of the country's labor force.

To keep up with the demands of times, the Eighteenth Congress passed Republic Act No. 11494, or the Bayanihan to Recover as One, or the Bayanihan 2, which, among others, appropriated an amount of P4 billion to assist the DepEd in the implementation of the digital education, information technology, digital infrastructure, and alternative learning modalities, including the printing and delivery of self-learning modules of the DepEd.

A Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) was issued by the DBM on 11, November 2020. In the original proposal, and this came from the records of the committee, P2,400,000,000 was supposed to be allotted to provide mobile internet load to some 3.23 million high school learners nationwide. However, weeks after the issuance of the SARO, DepEd requested an amendment of the project to be funded by the appropriations from mobile internet load for senior high school students to “laptop for teachers,” supposedly to ensure that teachers have the necessary tools to conduct classes through online learning. But, this is not what happened.

Unfortunately, rather than maximizing the amount to get the possible laptops for our teachers, officials of the then DepEd administration and PS-DBM for reasons known only to them, reduced the number of laptops to be procured from 68,500 to only 39,583. This was accomplished by simply increasing the approved budget of the contract (ABC) per piece from P35,036.50 to P58,300.00 through a new price market survey conducted by PS-DBM. As a result of the reduction of quantity, less teachers received laptops and less students were reached and benefited from the program. To add insult to injury, the laptops procured had a speed of 1.8 gigahertz, which was way below the agreed specification of at least 1.9 gigahertz.

During the course of the hearings, some of which lasted for more than eight long hours—the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee would like to thank all the senators who participated extensively including Senators Gatchalian, Ejercito, Villanueva, Dela Rosa, some of whom are not here, including Senator Padilla—the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee has uncovered unequally contentious issues aside from the fact of the laptops being overpriced. The word “overpriced” originally came from the Commission on Audit, using the word “pricey” in their report— I am referring to the fact that the Memorandum of Agreement executed between the DepEd and PS-DBM was antedated.

Again, this came from the evidence gathered by the committee and, I repeat, *ang ebidensiya pong nakalap ng Senate Blue Ribbon Committee ay* roughly 10,662 pages.

Based on the evidence presented during that five separate hearings, open to the public, transparent, the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee has reached the following findings:

1. The contract for the supply and delivery of laptop computers for public school teachers under the 2021 DepEd Laptop for Teacher's Procurement Project was overpriced by at least P979 million;
2. There is sufficient basis to believe that there was conspiracy to facilitate and/or generate an overprice which indicates manifest partiality, evident bad faith, and/or gross inexcusable neglect on the part of senior officials and staff of the former DepEd administration and the PS-DBM. While they may seemingly act separately, concerted acts were evident to create an opportunity for favored bidders to submit bloated and excessive bids leading to an overprice in the purchase of laptops. This finding is supported by a Commission on Audit report and audit recommendations presented to the committee by the Commission on Audit itself;
3. The repeated changes by DepEd in the use and allocation of P2.4 billion from tablets to mobile connectivity load for students, and then to laptops for teachers, is highly arbitrary, unjustified, improper, and not beneficial to DepEd teachers and students;
4. The outsourcing of procurement tasked by DepEd to PS-DBM contravenes Section 7.3.3 of the 2016 Revised IRR of Republic Act No. 9184 as DepEd has the proficiency and capability to undertake the procurement. Further, rather than hastening the procurement, the transfer to PS-DBM procurement tasks delayed the process and facilitated the anomaly subject of the investigation conducted;
5. The Agreement entered into by the DepEd and PS-DBM dated 16 February 2021 was antedated as it was only signed on 28 May 2021, thereby making the procurement activities conducted highly irregular and questionable. In this regard, the obligating of funds supposedly for the procurement of the laptops on February 18, 2021 without the said Memorandum of Agreement in place, is likewise irregular and subject to question;
6. The increase of the unit price component of the approved budget for the contract (ABC) from P35,036.50 to P58,300.00, which caused the reduction of the quantity of the laptops, is highly irregular; it was generated from a manipulated market survey. This was gathered during the hearing, and the price analysis of PS-DBM which was accepted and approved by DepEd without question;
7. The Special Bids and Awards Committee, Head of procuring entity of PS-DBM, and the officials of DepEd caused grave and undue injury and prejudice to the DepEd and our public school teachers when they procured and accepted the entry-level Dell Latitude 3420 with Intel Celeron 1.8 gigahertz processor despite said processor being below the specifications stated in the bidding documents; and
8. Contrary to the avowed purpose of the procurement which is to ensure that teachers will have the necessary tools to conduct classes through online learning, the Dell Latitude 3420 procured were diverted to a large number of non-teaching personnel (about 12%), and as testified by teachers and the Commission on Audit during the hearings conducted, the laptops were too slow because the processor is Intel Celeron which is outdated, and the price is too high considering the entry-level specifications.

On the basis of the findings which I just mentioned, the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee recommends the following:

- The abolition of PS-DBM, and to require government departments, agencies, offices, instrumentalities, including GOCCs, SUCs, and local governments to conduct their own procurement as an exercise of their fiduciary duty to be accountable for the public funds appropriated for their respective offices.

I have filed the bill relative to this. I have filed today Senate Bill No. 1803 (Amending Republic Act No. 9184, otherwise Known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," providing for

the eligibility of bidders in the procurement of goods and infrastructure projects, and for other purposes.) I have a copy here, *kaka-file ko lamang po ito ngayon, 3:40 ng hapon ngayong araw na ito.*

The Senate Blue Ribbon Committee likewise recommends the following:

- Amend RA 9184, to provide for transparency and accountability requirements for joint venture entities or arrangements participating in biddings. *Iyong joint venture po dapat mayroon silang expertise doon po sa kanilang sinasalihang venture;*
- Amend RA 9184, to provide for transparency and accountability safeguards during the planning and pre-bidding stages of public procurement, including but not limited to the setting of the ABC and technical specifications or goods, services or infrastructure to be procured;
- Recovery of the overprice in the amount of at least P979 million as proceeds of corruption, and the amount totally recovered by the courts, by the Sandiganbayan, to be placed in a special National Teachers' Trust Fund, to support the health and medical needs of public school teachers and educational needs of their children through a special scholarship program;
- The immediate conduct of a Special Fraud Audit by the Commission on Audit to examine the various accounts and financial documents related to the overpricing of the laptops and determine relevant accountability; and
- Request the AMLC investigation on the overpriced procurement, including an inquiry into the bank deposits of the public officials identified in the investigation conducted by your Blue Ribbon Committee;

Further recommendation is to request the Bureau of Internal Revenue to conduct a Special Tax Compliance Audit or a tax fraud audit inquiry to determine whether the proper taxes were paid on the income of the joint venture consortium partners.

And, finally, the filing of criminal and administrative cases against officials of the DepEd and PS-DBM, which was mentioned in Committee Report No. 19.

To make matters worse, the Committee has also discovered during the course of our hearings that as of August 2022, there are still a total of 1,678 laptops that have not been distributed to teachers and are still gathering dust in some places. This could have helped 1,678 teachers in the fulfillment of their teaching duties. If we make an estimate of at least 30 students per teacher, these laptops could have benefited around 50,340 students had they been fully distributed.

As I have mentioned a while ago, I also filed Senate Bill No. 1802 abolishing the PS-DBM permanently. *Sayang po, sayang.*

In closing, the author and innovative learning and leadership consultant George Cuoros said, and I quote: "Technology will never replace great teachers, but in the hands of great teachers, it is transformational." And, indeed, what great transformation we could have achieved had the public officials from the former DepEd administration and the PS-DBM exercised their sworn duty to uphold the public trust and performed their fiduciary duty to safeguard and ensure the optimal use of public funds in the purchase of laptops for our public school teachers. This was sadly not the case.

This august Chamber, therefore, is called upon to enact legislation that will not only address the acts and omissions that have led to the overpricing of the DepEd laptops, but more importantly, to ensure that more effective safeguards are put in place to prevent a recurrence of this anomaly, which have compromised the integrity of our public school system and caused huge losses and wastage of government resources.

Katulong po ang Senado hindi lamang ang paghahanap ng katotohanan. Katulong po ang Senado para matulungan ang ating mga guro at ang ating mga kabataang mag-aaral.

Sa dinami-dami po ng batikos, karangalan ko pong ibigay at ilahad ang Committee Report No. 19 na pinaghirapan ng inyong Komite.

Maraming salamat po. Mabuhay po ang Senado.

COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR TULFO

In cosponsoring Committee Report No. 19, Senator Tulfo delivered the following speech:

I commend the Chairperson of the Blue Ribbon Committee, Sen. Francis "Tol" N. Tolentino, for the thorough investigation conducted on the overpriced and outdated laptops procured by DepEd through the PS-DBM.

As the branch of government with the power of the purse, we are responsible for deciding how public funds are spent. During budget season, *hinihimay-himay natin ang mga gastusin ng mga ahensiya. Binibigyang halaga ang mga mas importanteng gastusin at binabawasan ang mga ahensiya na hindi maayos ang pagpapatupad ng kanilang mga pinangakong proyekto.*

Narinig ko po sa mga kasamahan ko rito na pinahirapan nila noong kasagsagan ng pandemya ang pagbigay ng budget para sa mga laptop ng ating mga guro, kaya masakit para sa akin at para sa mga gurong umasa na makatanggap ng mga laptop ang nangyaring ito. Imbes na nanaig ang malasakit para sa mga kabataan at mga guro natin, ang mga personal na interes ang inuna. Hirap na hirap na nga tayo na itawid ang mga pangangailangan na pangkalusugan at ang online na pag-aaral ng mga bata, hindi pa rin nakatiis ang ilan na manamantala. Walang patawad.

And so, I strongly support the recommendation in the committee report. More than the accountability of the people behind the irregular purchases, I hope that the findings during the hearings will help us prevent future wastage of our very limited public funds.

And no doubt, with our courageous Vice President Sara Duterte at the helm of the Department of Education, the interest of our students, teachers, and the school system will be the priority, and those in the DepEd will not dare repeat this again.

And, once and for all, let us learn from this incident and prevent the schemes perpetrated in these kinds of purchases from occurring in relation to our other appropriations. We must be vigilant and diligent in handling the money of the people. Every centavo must redound to the benefit of the people.

Again, kudos to the Blue Ribbon Committee chairperson, Sen. Francis "Tol" N. Tolentino.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 19**

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

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. 1713, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY, EXTENDING ITS CORPORATE TERM, AND AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 757 (P.D. 757), "CREATING THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY AND DISSOLVING THE EXISTING HOUSING AGENCIES, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"



Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1714, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A RESULT-BASED NATIONAL EVALUATION POLICY (RBNEP)

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1715, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE FUNCTION OF THE LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Local Government; and Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 1716, entitled

AN ACT SAFEGUARDING THE TRADITIONAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Cultural Communities and Muslim Affairs; Culture and the Arts; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1717, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11036 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MENTAL HEALTH ACT," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1718, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8172 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT FOR SALT IODIZATION NATIONWIDE (ASIN)," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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



Senate Bill No. 1719, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11232 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS, "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REVISED CORPORATION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1720, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING IMMUNITY FROM ALL TAXES THE SALE OF FERTILIZERS AND PESTICIDES TO ALL FARMERS, WHETHER CORPORATE OR OTHERWISE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 1721, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 34, 110, 113, 237-A, 255, 256, AND 257 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 1722, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING PLASMA DONATION AND COLLECTION, ESTABLISHING PLASMA BANKS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1723, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING AND REGULATING THE DONATION OF UMBILICAL CORD BLOOD, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1724, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING WORKERS' HEALTH AND WELLNESS BY PROVIDING

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**INCENTIVES TO EMPLOYERS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
WORKFORCE WELLNESS AND WORKPLACE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS**

Introduced by Senator Marcos

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Labor, Employment and Human
Resources Development; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1725, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF SAN ANDRES IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEZON, A PROTECTED AREA
WITH THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE
UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREA SYSTEM, TO BE
REFERRED TO AS THE ALIBIJABAN PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND
SEASCAPE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar (C)

**To the Committees on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and
Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1726, entitled

AN ACT INTEGRATING A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF PHILIPPINE HISTORY
DURING WORLD WAR II INTO THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

To the Committee on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education

Senate Bill No. 1727, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE INTEGRATION OF THE NATIONAL BUILDING
CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6541 ENTITLED
“AN ACT TO ORDAIN AND INSTITUTE A NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF
THE PHILIPPINES” AS A MAJOR SUBJECT IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING,
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, SANITARY
ENGINEERING, ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING, AND ARCHITECTURE, AND
ITS INCLUSION AS A TOPIC IN THE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS FOR
THESE PROFESSIONS

Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

**To the Committees on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; and Civil
Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 1728, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL TELEMEDICINE SYSTEM IN
THE PHILIPPINES

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Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1729, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT OF A TEACHING SUPPLIES ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

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

Senate Bill No. 1730, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DAY CARE WORKERS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1731, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL CARE PLAN TO ENCOURAGE COOPERATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESEARCH FOR THE EDUCATION AND SUPPORT OF PERSONS WITH AUTISM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

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

Senate Bill No. 1732, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING INCENTIVES AND OTHER BENEFITS TO RURAL HEALTH UNIT DOCTORS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

To the Committees on Local Government; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1733, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL CHECK-UP AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar (M)

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1734, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 213, SECTION 213.1, SECTION 213.2, SECTION 213.3, SECTION 213.4, SECTION 213.5, AND SECTION 213.6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8293, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES," AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10372, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Culture and the Arts

Senate Bill No. 1735, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAWAYAN, PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE KAWAYAN TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1736, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING DIKET FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF UMINGAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AS TOURIST DESTINATION PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Tourism; Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1737, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SITIOS OF KAINGGIAN, BUTAC, COSCOSNONG, LONGBOY, BANGCAG, AND BOTIGUE FROM BARANGAY MAN-ATONG IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SUYO, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR AND CONSTITUTING IT INTO A DISTINCT AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY BUTAC

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1738, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE KALINGA PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA INTO A LEVEL III REGIONAL



HOSPITAL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE NORTHERN CORDILLERA REGIONAL
MEDICAL CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committee on Rules

Senate Bill No. 1739, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE SITIOS OF KIMBUAYA, LONGBOY, BULALA,
KINAPIAN, INDADANGAN, KUMANIBE AND MACAAG FROM BARANGAY
SUYO PROPER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SUYO, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS
SUR AND CONSTITUTING IT INTO A DISTINCT AND INDEPENDENT
BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY KINAPIAN

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1740, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE KAPARKAN FALLS IN BARANGAY CAGANAYAN,
MUNICIPALITY OF TINEG, PROVINCE OF ABRA AN ECOTOURISM SITE,
ESTABLISHING THE KAPARKAN FALLS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

**To the Committees on Tourism; Environment, Natural Resources and Climate
Change; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1741, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT
CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAYOYAO, PROVINCE OF IFUGAO,
TO BE KNOWN AS THE MAYOYAO TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT
CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1742, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOP-
MENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF BACARRA, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, TO BE
KNOWN AS THE BACARRA ILOCOS NORTE TESDA TRAINING AND
ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1743, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE PARAISO TI CARIBQUIB LOCATED IN SITIO DARAMUANGAN, BARANGAY CARIBQUIB, MUNICIPALITY OF BANNA, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committees on Tourism; Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1744, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE AS THE GARLIC CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committee on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform

Senate Bill No. 1745, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 288 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 1746, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR FACILITIES UTILIZING WASTE-TO-ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

To the Committees on Energy; Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1747, entitled

AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE CAPABILITY AND STREAMLINE THE ORGANIZATIONAL ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND ITS BUREAUS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

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



Senate Bill No. 1748, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINE VISAYAS TACLOBAN COLLEGE INTO AN AUTONOMOUS CONSTITUENT UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINE SYSTEM TO BE KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES TACLOBAN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1749, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY MADILAY-DILAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TANAY, PROVINCE OF RIZAL

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1750, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE SOUTHERN TAGALOG REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF BACOR, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11233, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

To the Committee on Rules

Senate Bill No. 1751, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RAILWAYS SYSTEM IN THE EASTERN VISAYAS REGION, FROM ORMOC CITY, TO BAYBAY CITY, MAASIN CITY AND TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN RICARDO IN THE PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 1752, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ORMOC CITY LUNG CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

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MANIFESTATION OF SENATE PRESIDENT ZUBIRI

Senate President Zubiri reminded the Members on the briefing by the Finance Team of the Marcos administration led by Secretaries Benjamin Diokno, Amenah Pangandaman, and Arsenio Balisacan, and Governor Felipe Medalla.

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 the following day.

It was 6:17 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

Approved on January 31, 2023

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

