

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

S e n a t e

Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 34

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

SESSION NO. 34
Tuesday, November 8, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:57 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

Lacson, P. M.	Pimentel Jr., A. Q.
Lim, A. S.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Magsaysay Jr., R. B.	Roxas, M.
Osmeña III, S. R.	Villar, M.
Pangilinan, F. N.	

PRAYER

Sen. Richard J. Gordon led the prayer, to wit:

Lord, we come before You today, a nation torn by various interests, a nation torn apart by a lack of a common vision. As our nation squabbles, Lord, we must learn to realize that we bring our common future closer and closer to that road to perdition.

You are the great healer, touch this nation and give us the light of Your Spirit that we may acknowledge and seek healing for our individual wounds, that in so doing we may heal the wounds of this great nation.

Fill us with Your divine wisdom, that we may be able to discern between our needs and our wants, and chart a common path that will take us to the grand future that You intended for our people.

Grant us the courage to stand for what is right, the fortitude to sacrifice for a better tomorrow, and the gift of empathy that we may set aside personal interests and do what is best for our country and the common good.

Amen.

ROLL CALL

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

Arroyo, J. P.	Ejercito Estrada, L. L. P.
Defensor Santiago, M.	Enrile, J. P.
Drilon, F. M.	Flavier, J. M.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Gordon, R. J.

With 17 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Angara, Madrigal and Recto arrived after the roll call.

Senators Biazon and Lapid were on official mission abroad.

Senator Cayetano was absent.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 33 and considered it approved.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary of the Senate read the title of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 364, which the Chair referred to the Committees on Foreign Relations; and Youth, Women and Family Relations, to wit:

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY RELATIONS AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, WHETHER OR NOT THE RIGHTS OF FILIPINO WOMEN ARE ADEQUATELY PROTECTED AND GUARANTEED UNDER THE VISITING FORCES AGREEMENT (VFA) BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

to

PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN THE LIGHT OF THE ALLEGED RAPE OF A FILIPINA BY SEVERAL U.S. SERVICEMEN INSIDE THE SUBIC FREEPORT ZONE

Introduced by Senator M. A. Madrigal

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:01 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:05 p.m., the session was resumed.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CHAIR

At this juncture, the Chair announced that after the introduction of committee amendments on Senate Bill No. 1402, as agreed upon, the members would hold a caucus to discuss Senator Pimentel's proposal to convert the Senate into a Committee of the Whole for purposes of the budget debates. It urged all the members to be present in the caucus.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 31
ON SENATE BILL NO. 1402**

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Flavier, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 1402 (Committee Report No. 31), entitled

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

Senator Flavier stated that the parliamentary status was the period of committee amendments.

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the following committee amendments were approved by the Body, one after the other:

1. On page 5, line 10, change the word "Homes" to HOME; on line 11, after the words "child-caring institution," insert a comma (,) and the phrase MONITORED BY THE DSWD and a comma (,); and on line 12, replace the words "youth offenders" with CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW;
2. On the same page, line 14, after the word "facility," insert the phrase FOR THE YOUTH MONITORED BY THE DSWD;
3. On the same page, line 18, delete the word "in" between the words "end" and "view," and replace the word "in" with INTO;
4. On the same page, line 20, replace the word "are" with IS;
5. On the same page, line 25, after the phrase "framework of restorative justice," insert the phrase IN DEALING WITH CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW, and delete the rest of the text of Section 4;
6. On page 6, reword lines 8 to 25 as follows:
 - (1) the right to humane treatment from the time of his/her initial contact with the criminal justice system. ACCORDINGLY, the apprehending officer or person:
 - (a) MUST properly identify himself/herself to the Child in Conflict with the Law;
 - (b) MUST NOT use vulgar or profane words;
 - (c) MUST NOT sexually HARASS or IN ANY WAY ABUSE the Child in Conflict with the Law;
 - (d) MUST avoid the display or use of any firearm or weapon or other instruments of force or restraint unless absolutely necessary;
 - (e) MUST notify the parents or nearest relative of the Child in Conflict with the Law and the local social welfare officer as soon as the apprehension is made;
 - (f) MUST TAKE the Child in Conflict with the Law to an available government medical or health officer for a physical or mental examination; and
 - (g) MUST KEEP the Child in Conflict with the Law in quarters separate from that of the opposite sex and adults;

7. On page 7, line 23, remove the words "In general" and the comma (,);
8. On page 8, between lines 8 and 9, insert a paragraph to read as follows:

AT ALL TIMES, A CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW SHALL BE COMPLETELY SEPARATED FROM ADULT OFFENDERS. NO CHILD SHALL BE DETAINED TOGETHER WITH ADULT OFFENDERS. HE/SHE SHALL BE CONVEYED SEPARATELY FROM ADULT OFFENDERS TO OR FROM COURT. HE/SHE SHALL AWAIT THE HEARING OF HIS/HER CASE IN A SEPARATE HOLDING AREA.
9. On the same page, line 20, change the word "twelve (12)" to FIFTEEN (15);
10. On the same page, lines 22 and 23, replace the phrase "a delinquency prevention program" with the phrase AN INTERVENTION PROGRAM, and on line 23, change "Section 28" to SECTION 20;
11. On the same page, line 24, replace the phrase "A child above twelve (12) years but below fifteen (15) years of age" with the phrase A CHILD ABOVE FIFTEEN (15) YEARS BUT BELOW EIGHTEEN (18) YEARS OF AGE;
12. On the same page, line 25, change the phrase "a delinquency prevention program" to AN INTERVENTION PROGRAM;
13. On page 9, delete lines 1 to 3.
14. On the same page, line 7, after the dash (-) insert the following: THE CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW ENJOYS THE PRESUMPTION OF MINORITY. HE/SHE SHALL ENJOY ALL THE RIGHTS OF A CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW UNTIL HE/SHE IS PROVEN TO BE EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD OR OLDER.; and, on the same line, replace the words "child's age" to AGE OF A CHILD;
15. On the same page, line 10, change the words "him/herself" to HIMSELF/HERSELF;
16. On the same page, line 26, after the phrase "An Office of" insert the word THE;
17. On the same page, line 27, change the phrase "Department of Justice" to DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT;
18. On page 10, line 1, change the words "Secretary of Justice" to SECRETARY OF DSWD;
19. On the same page, line 4, change the words "Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)" to DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (DOJ);
20. On the same page, line 5, remove the bracket () before the semicolon;
21. On the same page, line 16, change the words "delinquency prevention" to INTERVENTION PROGRAM;
22. On the same page, line 22, change the phrase "Secretary of Justice" to SECRETARY OF DSWD;
23. On page 11, line 1, change the phrase "Secretary of Justice" to SECRETARY OF DSWD;
24. On the same page, lines 2 and 8, change the phrase "delinquency prevention" to INTERVENTION PROGRAM;
25. On the same page, line 11, delete the word "national";
26. On the same page, line 12, replace the word "delinquency" with INTERVENTION;
27. On the same page, line 14, after the word "entire," insert the word NATIONAL; and replace the words "delinquency effort" with INTERVENTION PROGRAM;
28. On the same page, lines 15 and 16, replace the words "delinquency prevention" with INTERVENTION;
29. On the same page, line 20, replace the word "child" with CHILDREN;
30. On page 11, line 25, change the phrase "delinquency prevention" to JUVENILE INTERVENTION;
31. On page 12, line 3, change the word "juveniles" to CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW; on line 8, delete the phrase "To conduct inspections," and capitalize the first letter in the word "through"; on line 10, change the phrase "on a regular basis" to TO CONDUCT REGULAR INSPECTION; on line 11, change the word "inspections" to INSPECTION; on line 16, change the words "delinquency prevention" to THE JUVENILE INTERVENTION PROGRAM; and on line 18, change the phrase "Secretary of Justice" to SECRETARY OF DSWD;

32. On the same page, line 26, replace the words "delinquency prevention" with INTERVENTION;
33. On page 14, line 3, change the phrase "The membership of these local councils" to EACH LOCAL COUNCIL, and the words "taken from" to COMPOSED OF; on line 5, delete the phrase "a representative of the"; and on line 9, change the phrase "plan on delinquency prevention" to JUVENILE INTERVENTION PROGRAM;
34. On the same page, line 17, replace the phrase "delinquency prevention" with JUVENILE INTERVENTION;
35. On the same page, line 18, amend the title of Chapter 2 to read as follows: COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE INTERVENTION PROGRAM;
36. On the same page, lines 19 and 20, replace the phrase "*Delinquency Prevention Plans*" with INTERVENTION PROGRAM; and on line 24, change the word "delinquency" to INTERVENTION;
37. On page 15, line 2, after the words "implementation of" insert the phrase JUVENILE INTERVENTION and delete the phrase "related to delinquency prevention"; and on line 3, thereafter, delete the phrase "delinquency prevention plans and";
38. On the same page, line 9, replace the word "the" with EVERY;
39. On the same page, line 10, replace the phrase "*Delinquency Prevention*" with JUVENILE INTERVENTION; and on line 11, replace the phrase "delinquency prevention" with JUVENILE INTERVENTION;
40. On the same page, lines 18, 21 and 23, change the word "prevention" to INTERVENTION; and on line 23, change the word "include" to INCLUDES;
41. On page 16, line 2, change the word and figure "twelve (12)" to FIFTEEN (15) and the words "Section 25" to HEREIN; and on line 11, after the word "in," insert the word THE;
42. On the same page, line 18, change the phrase "*Procedure for Taking the Child into Custody*" to PROCEDURE DURING INITIAL CONTACT WITH THE CHILD; and on line 19, change the phrase "a child is taken into custody" to OF INITIAL CONTACT WITH THE CHILD;
43. On the same on page, between lines 19 and 20, insert a new paragraph, to read as follows:
 - (1) EXPLAIN TO THE CHILD IN SIMPLE LANGUAGE AND IN A DIALECT THAT HE/SHE CAN UNDERSTAND WHY HE/SHE IS BEING PLACED UNDER CUSTODY AND THE OFFENSE THAT HE/SHE ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED;
44. On the same page, line 20, change the number "(1)" to (2) and renumber the succeeding subsections accordingly;
45. On page 17, line 6, change "section 7" to SECTION 8;
46. On the same page, line 8, before the word "Notify," insert the phrase WITHIN EIGHT (8) HOURS AFTER APPREHENSION, then change to lower case the first letter of the word "Notify"; after the word "the," insert the word CHILD'S; and delete the word "and" between the words "guardians" and "local";
47. On the same page, lines 9 and 10, delete the phrase "immediately upon apprehension and not later than eight (8) hours therefrom" and, in lieu thereof, insert the phrase AND PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF THE CHILD'S APPREHENSION; on line 10, and wherever found in the bill, change to lower case the title "Local Social Welfare Development Officer"; and on line 14, after the word "appropriate," change the period (.) to a semicolon (;);
48. On the same page, line 20, after the word "same," change the period (.) to a semicolon (;);
49. On the same page, line 21, replace the word "If" with the phrase ENSURE THAT SHOULD; on line 21, change the word "is" to BE; on lines 21 and 22, replace the phrase "to secure him/her" with the phrase THE CHILD SHALL BE SECURED; and on line 23, change the period (.) to a semicolon (;);
50. Still on page 17, between lines 25 and 26, insert a new paragraph, to read:
 - (12) RECORD THE FOLLOWING IN THE INITIAL INVESTIGATION:
 - (A) WHETHER HANDCUFFS OR OTHER INSTRUMENTS OF RESTRAINT WERE USED, AND IF SO, THE REASON FOR SUCH;

A

ms

(B) THAT THE PARENTS OR GUARDIAN OF A CHILD, THE DSWD, AND THE PAO HAVE BEEN DULY INFORMED OF THE APPREHENSION AND THE DETAILS THEREOF;

(C) THE EXHAUSTION OF MEASURES TO DETERMINE THE AGE OF A CHILD AND THE PRECISE DETAILS OF THE PHYSICAL AND MEDICAL EXAMINATION OR THE FAILURE TO SUBMIT A CHILD TO SUCH EXAMINATION; AND

(13) ENSURE THAT ALL STATEMENTS SIGNED BY THE CHILD DURING INVESTIGATION SHALL BE WITNESSED BY HIS/HER PARENTS OR GUARDIAN, SOCIAL WORKER, OR LEGAL COUNSEL IN ATTENDANCE WHO SHALL AFFIX HIS/HER SIGNATURE TO THE SAID STATEMENT;

51. On page 18, line 1, change the phrase "investigation shall be conducted" to TAKING OF THE STATEMENT OF THE CHILD SHALL BE CONDUCTED; on line 5, insert the article THE between the words "of" and "child's";

52. On the same page, line 12, change "Section 20" to SECTION 22 and the word and figure "twelve (12)" to FIFTEEN (15); on line 13, delete the semicolon (;); and after the word "or," insert the phrase "ABOVE FIFTEEN (15) BUT BELOW 18 YEARS OLD, WHO ACTED WITHOUT DISCERNMENT";*

53. On the same page, line 14, change the age "12" to 15; and after the word "old," insert the phrase BUT BELOW EIGHTEEN (18) AND WHO ACTED WITH DISCERNMENT;

54. On page 19, line 3, change the initial letters of the words "Victimless Crimes" to small letters;

55. On the same page, line 13, after the word "investigation," insert the word STAGE;

56. On the same page, line 17, change "Section 28" to SECTION 30;

57. On page 20, line 5, after the word "two," insert the figure (2);

58. On the same page, line 7, change "Section 23 (a) and (b)" to SECTION 24 (1) AND (2); and on line 8, change the word "do" to DOES;

59. On the same page, line 13, change "Section 23 (a) and (b)" to SECTION 24 (1) AND (2); and on line 14, change the word "do" to DOES;

60. On the same page, line 23, change the word "diversions" to DIVERSION; and on line 27, delete the word "accused" between the words "the" and "child";

61. On page 22, line 8, replace the words "to deal" with IN DEALING;

62. On the same page, line 27, after the word "Law," add a sentence which reads: "IF THERE IS AN ALLEGATION OF TORTURE OR ILL-TREATMENT OF A CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW DURING ARREST OR DETENTION, IT SHALL BE THE DUTY OF THE PROSECUTOR TO INVESTIGATE THE SAME";

63. On page 23, line 4, capitalize the first letter of the word "sec.";

64. On the same page, between lines 7 and 8, insert a paragraph to read as follows:

UPON SERVING THE SUBPOENA AND THE AFFIDAVIT OF COMPLAINT, THE PROSECUTOR SHALL NOTIFY THE PUBLIC ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF SUCH SERVICE, AS WELL AS THE PERSONAL INFORMATION, AND PLACE OF DETENTION OF THE CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW.;

65. On the same page, line 15, after the word "court," insert the words SHALL ORDER;

66. On the same page, between lines 15 and 16, insert another paragraph to read as follows:

(a) THE RELEASE OF THE MINOR ON RECOGNIZANCE TO HIS PARENTS AND OTHER SUITABLE PERSONS;

(b) THE RELEASE OF THE CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW ON BAIL; OR

(c) THE TRANSFER OF THE MINOR TO A YOUTH DETENTION HOME/YOUTH REHABILITATION CENTER.;

67. On the same page, delete line 15 starting from the word "may" until the word "court" on line 21, and insert another paragraph, to read as follows:

Ar MB

*As corrected by Senator Pangilinan on November 9, 2005

THE COURT SHALL NOT ORDER THE DETENTION OF A CHILD IN A JAIL PENDING TRIAL OR HEARING OF HIS/HER CASE.;

68. On the same page, line 22, capitalize the initial letter of the word "measures";
69. On page 24, line 1, insert a new "Section 37" to read as follows:

SEC. 37. PROHIBITION ON THE IMPOSITION OF DEATH PENALTY. – IN NO CASE SHALL DEATH PENALTY BE IMPOSED ON A CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW.

70. On the same page, line 1, change "Section 37" to SECTION 38; renumber the succeeding sections accordingly;
71. On the same page, between lines 5 and 6, insert a new paragraph, to read as follows:

CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW WHO HAVE REACHED THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN (18) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWENTY-ONE (21) PENDING TRIAL CAN AVAIL OF THE SUSPENDED SENTENCE, PROVIDED THE OFFENSE WAS COMMITTED WHILE HE/SHE WAS A CHILD UNDER THIS ACT.;

72. On the same page, line 19, capitalize the letter "s" in the word "secretary";
73. On the same page, line 22, after the first sentence, insert a sentence to read as follows:

THE WORDS "CONVICTION" AND "SENTENCE" SHALL NOT BE USED IN REFERENCE TO A CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW WHO IS FOUND CRIMINALLY LIABLE.;

74. On the page 26, line 9, delete the article "a" between the words "conceal" and "material";
75. On page 27, lines 5 to 9, delete the sentence "Under controlled conditions, the Child in Conflict with the Law may be brought together with carefully selected adults as part of a special program that has been determined by the head of the facility to be beneficial for the child in conflict with the law," and in lieu thereof, insert the sentence: UNDER NO OTHER CIRCUMSTANCE SHALL A CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW BE PLACED IN THE SAME CONFINEMENT AS ADULTS.;

76. On the same page, line 13, change the period (.) to a comma (,) and insert the phrase AND SHALL BE DETAINED SEPARATELY FROM MALE CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW.;
77. On the same page, line 26, insert the word THE between the words "by" and "local";
78. On page 28, line 2, delete the phrase "a Youth Detention Center"; and on line 4, delete the words "center or";
79. On the same page, lines 7, insert the word DETENTION between "Youth" and "Homes"; delete the phrase "by Private Organizations"; and after the title, insert the sentence: THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS SHALL SET ASIDE AN AMOUNT TO BUILD YOUTH DETENTION HOMES AS MANDATED BY THE FAMILY COURTS ACT.; on line 8, between the words "Youth" and "Homes," insert the word DETENTION;
80. On page 29, line 14, delete the word "in" between the words "end" and "view";
81. On the same page, line 19, after the period (.), insert a sentence to read as follows: THE DSWD SHALL ESTABLISH YOUTH REHABILITATION CENTERS IN EACH REGION OF THE COUNTRY.;
82. On the same page, line 21, delete the article "a" before the word "community-based";
83. On page 30, line 16, change the word "sentences" to SENTENCE and the word "are" to IS; on line 19, add the word AND between the words "welfare" and "development"; on line 21, change the word "Children" to CHILD;
84. On the same page, line 26, after the word "training," change the comma (,) to a semicolon (;); and delete the comma (,) after the word "and";
85. On the same page, line 27, after the number "(5)," insert a separate paragraph, to read as follows:

IN ACCORDANCE THEREWITH, THE FAMILY OF THE CHILD IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW SHALL ENDEAVOR TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE IN THE COMMUNITY-BASED REHABILITATION.

86. On the page 31, line 8, change the word "had" to HAVE;

871. On the same page, line 14, replace the word "become" with the words MAKE THE CHILDREN;
88. On page 32, line 7, remove the letter "s" in the word "origins";
89. On the same page, line 20, change the word "their" to HIS/HER;
90. On the same page, line 25, change the word "code" to ACT;
91. On the same page, line 27, change the word "more" to LESS; and on lines 27 and 28, change the words and figure "Six Thousand Pesos (PHP6,000.00)" to TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (PHP20,000.00);
92. On page 33, line 11, change the words and figure "Ten Million Pesos (PHP10,000,000.00)" to FIFTY MILLION PESOS (PHP50,000,000.00);
93. On the same page, line 16, change "12" to "15";
94. On the same page, line 17, change the word "twelve" to FIFTEEN (15);
95. On the same page, line 20, replace the words "the local social welfare and development officer" with the words SUCH OFFICER;
96. On the same page, line 23, capitalize the letter "a" in the word "act";
97. On page 34, line 16, before the period (.), replace the phrase "Department of Justice" with DSWD AND DOJ; and before the word "shall," replace the phrase "Department of Justice" with DSWD AND THE DOJ;
98. On the same page, line 20, delete the article "the" before the word "Human";
99. On the same page, lines 21 and 22, replace the words "one (1) year" with SIX (6) MONTHS;
100. On page 35, line 1, insert the word EFFECT between the words "take" and "after"; and
101. On the title of the bill, replace the words "DELINQUENCY PREVENTION" with INTERVENTION; and change the phrase "DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE" to DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

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

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1402

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:32 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:33 p.m., the session was resumed.

At the instance of Senator Pangilinan, the Chair directed the Secretariat to prepare a clean copy of Senate Bill No. 1402, incorporating the approved committee amendments, which would be the basis of individual amendments in the next day's session. It expressed hope that the individual amendments would be finished the next day so that the Body could approve the certified measure.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan announced that as agreed upon by Senate President Drilon, and Senators Pimentel and Villar, the session would be suspended to enable the Body to go into caucus to discuss the proposal to convert the Senate into a Committee of the Whole to discuss the national budget.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:35 p.m.

16

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:17 p.m., the session was resumed.

REMARKS OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan stated that in the caucus, the Members have agreed, in principle, to convert the Senate into a Committee of the Whole to discuss the national budget. He stated that matters agreed upon in caucus, including the rules to govern the Committee of the Whole and the proposed schedule, shall be officially acted upon by the Body in the next day's session.


The Chair added that the members have also agreed to have a series of briefings next week on the Anti-Terrorism Bill.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

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

It was 6:18 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate

Approved on November 9, 2005 *Elu 16*