



**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**

**S e n a t e**

**Pasay City**

# **Journal**

**SESSION NO. 33**

Monday, November 12, 2007

**FOURTEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

**SESSION NO. 33**  
Monday, November 12, 2007

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:14 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Manny Villar, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

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

Dear Lord, we come to You today to ask for Your grace that we may perform our duties and functions to the best of our abilities. Let our actions be guided by the oath we took to serve our country and our countrymen with unceasing devotion and dedication.

We pray for the Filipino people that in times of peace or turmoil, You grant us strength, courage and wisdom – that we may be resilient and steadfast as we work together to lead our country to development.

We pray for Mariannette Amper, the child who committed suicide due to extreme poverty. We pray for our unfortunate brothers and sisters in Jolo who lost their homes, to those who were flooded out in Camarines Sur and to those who were devastated not only by natural tragedies but also man-made tragedies such as those who were affected by the Glorietta explosion and the Cavite blast as well as the casualties of violent incidents arising from elections.

We pray for our brother and sister, Dulce Saguisag and Sen. Rene Saguisag, that You grant him and his family spiritual and physical healing from their deep personal loss.

May we find in our hearts the wisdom and sincerity to create hope rather than

despair, opportunities rather than abject surrender and cynicism, and the commitment to inculcate duty, dignity and determination in our leadership, in our people so that we may prevail against the pain of lack of choice.

All these we pray in Your Name.

Amen.

**NATIONAL ANTHEM**

The St. Scholastica's College High School Glee Club led the singing of the national anthem and thereafter rendered the song entitled, *Paalam Na*.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Emma Lirio-Reyes, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, E. J.	Honasan, G. B.
Aquino III, B. S. C.	Lacson, P. M.
Arroyo, J. P.	Lapid, M. L. M.
Biazon, R. G.	Pangilinan, F. N.
Cayetano, C. P. S.	Pimentel Jr., A. Q.
Defensor Santiago, M.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Roxas, M.
Enrile, J. P.	Villar, M.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Zubiri, J. M. F.
Gordon, R. J.	

With 19 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Legarda and Madrigal arrived after the roll call.

Senator Cayetano (A) was absent.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session. *AT*

*10*

**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. 32 and considered it approved.

**REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

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

**BILL ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 1823, entitled

AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING  
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 198,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
PROVINCIAL WATER UTILITIES  
ACT, AS AMENDED, PROVIDING  
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M.  
Lapid

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

**RESOLUTION**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 193, entitled

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING  
AND COMMENDING THE TWO  
FILIPINO POWERLIFTERS ERLINDA  
PECANTE FOR WINNING THE  
GOLD IN THE WORLD MASTERS  
POWERLIFTING CHAMPIONSHIP  
IN OSTRAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
AND ENRIQUE RAFAEL "RICHIE"  
ROSALES FOR WINNING THE  
BRONZE MEDAL IN THE INTER-  
NATIONAL POWERLIFTING FEDE-  
RATION WORLD OPEN CHAMPION-  
SHIP IN SOELDEN, AUSTRIA LAST  
OCTOBER 15-20, 2007

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M.  
Lapid

**To the Committee on Rules**

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

*It was 3:27 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 3:32 p.m., the session was resumed.

**RECONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the approval of the Journal of Session No. 32 in view of Senator Arroyo's desire to make a correction thereto.

**APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL AS CORRECTED**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 32 and considered it approved, subject to the correction made by Senator Arroyo to insert into the Journal the full text of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 192 including the annexes.

**CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 193**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 193, entitled

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING  
AND COMMENDING THE TWO  
FILIPINO POWERLIFTERS ERLINDA  
PECANTE FOR WINNING THE  
GOLD IN THE WORLD MASTERS  
POWERLIFTING CHAMPIONSHIP  
IN OSTRAVA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
AND ENRIQUE RAFAEL "RICHIE"  
ROSALES FOR WINNING THE  
BRONZE MEDAL IN THE INTER-  
NATIONAL POWERLIFTING FEDE-  
RATION WORLD OPEN CHAMPION-  
SHIP IN SOELDEN, AUSTRIA LAST  
OCTOBER 15-20, 2007.

With the permission of the Body, only the title of the resolution was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the Record of the Senate. *10*

## ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 193

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 193 was adopted by the Body.

## PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR PIMENTEL

Availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Pimentel rendered a report on his participation in the International Conference on Federalism in New Delhi last week.

Senator Pimentel said that the conference brought out the fact that federalism is not a silver bullet that can solve all the nation's problems. He said that he, along with the delegates from Sudan, Nigeria and other non-federal states, was asked to deliver a talk on the proposals to adopt the federal system in the Philippines.

In his presentation, Senator Pimentel stated that the Philippines has long been a unitary state but this system has spawned a lot of problems in terms of development and law and order. For instance, he pointed out the Moro secessionist problem which started when Magellan stumbled into the country and claimed the islands in the name of King Philip, and the Spanish colonizer established a unitary system of government for easier control and effective administration.

Citing history, Senator Pimentel stated that:

- ◆ When he was a young boy, the Muslims of Mindanao started to act up against the colonial masters, particularly the Americans who replaced the Spaniards in 1896. At that time, the Moro secessionist problem was a tribal undertaking; the rebellion of the Moros of Lanao led by Dimakaling was suppressed by the government and a lot of people died and many properties destroyed. For a time, the secessionist movement in Lanao fizzled out.
- ◆ When he was in high school, another tribal Moro group, the Muslims of Sulu, rebelled against the government. Again, the government used force to put out the secessionist move and succeeded in stifling the aspirations of the people of Sulu.

- ◆ Shortly before martial law, another uprising was led by the Maguindanaoans in Central Mindanao. The government succeeded in imposing the rule of the central government on Maguindanao; but, when martial law was declared, the biggest uprising of the Muslims took place, and this time, it was a unified effort of the Moros under the banner of the MNLF. The government fought the MNLF and sought the help of Khadafi in Libya to broker a peace agreement between the MNLF and the government. The government succeeded in effecting a temporary truce in the fight between the government and the MNLF and for a time, there was "relative peace" in Mindanao because shortly after Misuari was co-opted into serving the government as the ARMM governor, another Muslim group, the MILF, led by Salamat Hashim, came out challenging the government.

Senator Pimentel noted that basically, the Muslim secessionist was directed against the highly centralized government and that the use of force has never succeeded in quieting down the aspirations of the Moro people for a recognition of their culture and way of life.

Senator Pimentel stated that even as he disagreed with President Arroyo's and Speaker De Venecia's policies with respect to amending the Constitution primarily to adopt a parliamentary form of government and to back ride on the issue of federalism as he surmised that they have hidden agenda to prolong themselves in power, since 1982, his party, PDP-Laban, has been advocating for the adoption of the federal system to dissipate the causes of Muslim unrest in Mindanao and to promote a more equitable development policy for the country. He said that under a highly centralized system of government, certain areas in the country would have to take the backseat in the matter of development and that the more developed areas in the country are those that have representatives of powerful personalities who can access the presidency or the authorities running the central government. He believed that peace and development are two sides of the same coin: there could not be development unless there is peace; and there could not be peace unless there is development. He maintained that these two areas—peace and development—would be achieved through the adoption of the federal system of government. <sup>As</sup>

He narrated that the problems of Iraq, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Sudan were also brought up during the conference and the need for these countries to adopt the federal system was also articulated.

Senator Pimentel informed the Body that he would file a resolution seeking the adoption of the federal system of government to start an honest-to-goodness discussion on the merits or demerits of the system so that the people could understand what the system is all about, because unless the issue is understood, people cannot be expected to even consider the matter seriously. He said that those who plan to run for the presidency in 2010 would still be able to do so, citing the United States as a model, which is federal but presidential. He maintained that there is no need to adopt a parliamentary form of government to fit into the federal constitution that would be drafted with the approval of the people.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Senator Angara noted that despite the history of fighting and revolts, the people of Mindanao no longer want to get out of the Philippine Republic.

Senator Pimentel said that when Salamat Hashim took over to continue the struggle for the liberation of the Moro peoples, they have muted down the secessionist aspect of their revolt against the government. He assumed that the option remains if the government does not act decisively to acknowledge their culture and the right to pursue the development of that culture under an atmosphere that is much more free than what is presently obtaining in the country.

Senator Angara agreed, recalling that the matter was brought up in one of the LEDAC meetings where both he and Senator Pimentel had expressed some impatience over the slowness of the process. He observed that the Moro uprising was caused by a highly centralized government, a system of government which the Spaniards understandably imposed so that the Spanish governor general would know everything that was happening anywhere else in the Philippines. He recalled that when the Americans came at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, they simply followed the status quo because it was very convenient for a colonizer to just pursue it; hence, the Philippine Bill of 1902, the Jones Law, and the Administrative Code of 1916 adopted the same

administrative setup. He said it was the reason why many Muslims who have a distinct culture and history rebelled against this kind of setup.

Senator Pimentel agreed as he pointed out that Congress had to enact two organic acts to govern Muslim Mindanao, but despite these two laws the clamor for more power is still there because the government was not able to satisfy the longings of the Moro peoples for more autonomy in the running of their affairs. He disclosed that he had talked with practically all the known Moro rebels in the country and a host of other Muslim leaders, *ulamas*, business people, and members of Congress and the academe, and they believe that the only peaceful solution that can address the problems of the Moro peoples in Mindanao would be the adoption of a federal system of government. He said that the more fundamentalists among them would like the adoption of the Shari'a although he warned against the possible problems that may arise if this is not managed carefully. He pointed out that, in fact, some Muslim legislators from Egypt, Indonesia and Malaysia whom he talked to agreed on the possibility of adopting the Shari'a in a locale like the Philippines provided that it can be modified and adopted to the needs of modern times. He agreed with Senator Angara that the Shari'a, which is central to Muslim education and religion, should be carefully instituted because it can be abused as in the case of Pakistan where the Al Qaeda and the Taliban used the Shari'a network to inculcate, nurture and train terrorists.

Moreover, Senator Pimentel said that if the Shari'a is to be applied in the federal state of Bangsamoro, it would have to conform to the modern demands of penology as circumscribed by the provisions of the Constitution.

Senator Angara observed that in spite of the overly centralized bureaucratic system that has never honored the aspirations of local communities, the Muslims have nonetheless accepted two autonomous laws, thereby confirming the conclusion that they have accepted a framework within the Republic.

Senator Pimentel agreed, as he bemoaned that everything is so centralized that even the construction of a bridge to connect two provinces has to get the approval of Malacanang. For his part, Senator Angara pointed out that a governor who wants to lead a tourism or investment mission abroad has to get the permission from Malacañang through the DILG. <sup>100</sup>

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Senator Angara recalled that during the regime of Francisco Franco, he controlled every nook and cranny of Spain to the consternation of the people in the regions, especially the Basques who aspired to be autonomous. He narrated that upon the death of the strongman in 1975, the regions of Basque, Catalonia and Andalucia became autonomous and eventually federal. Since then, he said, Spain, one of the poorest countries in Europe, blossomed to become the third richest country in Europe, with every state competing for tourism and investments because it has the authority to do so.

In addition, Senator Pimentel said that Filipino overseas workers in Spain have no complaints about the way they are treated because in terms of salaries, they are on equal footing with their Spanish counterparts.

Senator Angara also pointed out that like citizens of former colonies of Spain in Latin America, the Filipinos can get Spanish citizenship after three years residency. He posited that the Spanish model is something that can be pursued to satisfy the longings and expectations of the Filipinos. The other mode, he stated, is to grant genuine autonomy to different regions and when they have reached the development stage where they can sustain themselves, a federal system could be adopted. He said that this intermediate mode provides the transition so that the nation does not break up.

Moreover, Senator Angara stated that once the federal system is in place, a particular state would have its own separate judiciary, police, school district, health system and security system. But while he believed the NCR, Metro Cebu, Regions IV, III and I have the potential to become federal states, he doubted if poorer regions like the ARMM, CAR or CARAGA would be able to meet the requirements.

Senator Pimentel asserted that the full implementation of a federal form of government envisioned for the country would take time as the structure has to be put in place, the powers defined, the boundaries negotiated, and even the more contentious issue of wealth distribution between the central government and the federal states determined. He emphasized that the model of federal system for the Philippines must be able to address the problems that are being sought to be addressed, otherwise, it might just create more problems. It would be advantageous for those concerned to start talking about the issue of

federalism because at the end of the day, they would have to come up with a proposal that would subordinate the agendas of some people and regions to the greater need of the nation.

Further, Senator Pimentel recalled that one of the points underscored in the New Delhi conference is that federalism is based on the principle of respect for people and their views which may differ from those of the majority. He narrated that a former Belgian prime minister admitted that federalism was giving them a lot of problems because everything applied to a federal states has to be negotiated but, nonetheless, the process towards unity has been a peaceful one.

#### INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR LEGARDA

Asked by Senator Legarda whether dividing an already divided country into federal states could really solve the problems in Mindanao, specifically the rebellion of some Muslim groups and the poverty in many areas, Senator Pimentel clarified that creating federal states out of a unitary state does not necessarily mean dividing the nation. He pointed out that under international law, practice and tradition, the adoption of a federal system has always been recognized as an effective way of keeping the nation together. He stated that he has yet to see a nation that has voluntarily adopted a federal system break up into independent states. He recalled that the Federated Republic of Yugoslavia, which was created when Marshall Josip Broz Tito forcibly incorporated different states into a federation, broke up into several states upon his death; and Singapore was expelled from the Malaysian Federation because the Malays feared the ethnic Chinese would become the majority racial group. He believed that adopting a federal system in the Philippines could solve the situation in Mindanao because its objective is to attain peace and order and, on the other side, development. He admitted that federalism is not a guaranteed formula to solving all the problems of poverty but, certainly, it would equalize the opportunity for development.

Senator Pimentel explained that what he envisions for the Philippines is melding regions with linguistic commonalities into federal states: Northern Luzon, Central Luzon, Bicol, Southern Tagalog, with Metro Manila converted into a federal administrative region like Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia or Washington D.C. in the United States, Eastern Visayas, Central Visayas, <sup>Abc</sup>

Western Visayas, Northern Mindanao, Southern Mindanao and Bangsamoro. He acknowledged that the development capability of these federal states would differ as some would be richer than the others, but he believed that this could be solved. As an example, he cited the Australian central government which has shown the way by having an equalization fund to address the development needs of its other poorer states. In the same manner, he said that in the case of the Cordilleras, where the rugged terrain makes building of roads more costly than in other places in the Philippines, the central government could place a certain amount from the equalization fund at the disposal of the federal state for the building of roads.

He argued that the adoption of a federal system of government would not eradicate every instance of poverty as in the case of India, which has amassed a great amount of wealth as a result of its economic policies, is still trying to eradicate poverty.

Asked what would happen to cities, provinces and municipalities, presently the political subdivisions of the country, Senator Pimentel suggested that the local government units — cities, provinces and municipalities — be kept intact as their dissolution might cause a revolt or would mean difficulty in getting the plebiscite approved. He said that similar to India, the positions of governors and mayors could be retained.

Replying to another query, Senator Pimentel said that the constituencies of the federal states could elect their own “federal governors” or “prime ministers” or whatever title they might see fit for their governors.

*In the course of the interpellation of Senator Legarda, Senate President Villar relinquished the Chair to Senate President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada.*

As regards the budget, specifically how it would be divided among the federal states, Senator Pimentel said that the sharing of the resources, funds, monies or revenues of the nation could be 30-70, or 30% in favor of the central government and 70% in favor of the federal states. He explained that the federal states would get the greater share simply because many of the powers of the central government would be devolved to them, such as the power over the police, economic and natural resources. He said that the power that the central government would retain

are those involving diplomacy, foreign affairs, currency, national army, and national judiciary system. However, he clarified that he does not advocate a Supreme Court for every federal state because there must be just one working judicial system embracing the entire archipelago, with the exception of the Shari'a court in the ARMM which should be retained.

Asked whether the autonomy of a province has the same effect as that of a federated state, Senator Pimentel said that the Local Government Code provides for the local autonomy that the LGUs currently enjoy, albeit with limitation as there is only a sharing of money at 60-40, that is, 60% of revenues are retained by the central government and 40% go to the LGUs, and only three major powers were devolved to them: health, social welfare and agriculture. He lamented the fact that in spite of the mandate of the Local Government Code, many powers concerning health are still retained by the central government.

At this point, Senator Legarda asked on the difference between federating and at the same time providing autonomy, especially for regions like CAR and ARMM that were established for idealistic reasons but where poverty, ignorance, and lack of basic services continue and where there is no improvement in the lives of people. She said that while the intent of federalism is to solve the current social, economic and political problems, the country might just end up granting autonomy to certain regions.

Senator Pimentel explained that the failure of the CAR is attributed to the refusal of the people of the region to create an autonomous region. On the other hand, despite the problems in the ARMM, he pointed out that a lot of developments have been taking place like the building of roads because money had been poured into the coffers of the local government offices. And while there are people who are wallowing in the mire of poverty in the ARMM, he argued that it is not the fault of the ARMM law but its lack of implementation because it is inhibited by the supervening powers that the central government still exercises over it and the rest of the country.

Asked if the shift to a federal form of government would mean amending the Constitution, Senator Pimentel replied in the affirmative. However, he clarified that this is not along the lines of the charter change envisioned by President Arroyo or Speaker de Venecia.

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Senator Legarda expressed apprehension that amending the Constitution would open up other areas instead of limiting it only to the shift to a federal form of government. Senator Pimentel said that precisely, Congress should be more discreet and discerning and should not allow itself to be manipulated by people who want to prolong their hold on power.

Replying to further queries, Senator Pimentel affirmed that his proposal would be limited solely to the shift to a federal system of government and not to a parliamentary form of government.

Noting that a genuine devolution of powers as envisioned by the Local Government Code has not taken place, Senator Legarda asked if the devolution of powers as envisioned in a federal state could end up similar to that of the current situation. Senator Pimentel noted that the analogy does not hold because the Local Government Code operates under a unitary system where all of the phases of implementation depend on the good graces of the people running the central government. In a federal system, he explained that the central government would have primacy only over the areas of competence that are retained by the central government, but not over those areas of competence that are being transferred to the federal states. He said that, indeed, the essence of devolution is to totally place a particular power in the hands of another entity, while decentralization is sharing that power with some other entity, but the control could still come from the central government.

#### **REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEE**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair referred the speech of Senator Pimentel and the interpellations thereon to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

*It was 4:30 p.m.*

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:30 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### **CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION TO REVIEW AND ASSESS THE STATE OF COMPETITIVENESS IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, Senators Angara, Cayetano (P), Pimentel, Enrile and Revilla were designated as members of the Congressional Commission to Review and Assess the State of Competitiveness in Science and Technology.

#### **CHANGE OF REFERRAL**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair approved the change of referral of Senate Bill No. 1748 (cyber sex operations as a form of prostitution) from the Committee on Justice and Human Rights to the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media.

#### **COAUTHOR**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, Senator Lapid was made coauthor of Senate Bill Nos. 1648 and 1659.

#### **ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

The Deputy Secretary for Legislation, Atty. Edwin B. Bellen, read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

#### **BILLS ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 1824, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6963, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT GRANTING SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO THE FAMILY OR BENEFICIARY OF ANY POLICE OR MILITARY PERSONNEL OR FIREMAN KILLED OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY OR BY REASON OF HIS OFFICE OR POSITION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Public Order and Illegal Drugs



Senate Bill No. 1825, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED NATIONAL POLICY AND PROGRAM GUIDELINES FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF DORMITORIES AND BOARDING HOUSES, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 1826, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE FULL REALIZATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AND THE RIGHT TO HEALTH, THROUGH THE STRENGTHENING OF A COMPREHENSIVE FREE VACCINATION AND IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM FOR FILIPINO INFANTS AND CHILDREN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1827, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING AND REGULATING TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES IN ALL HIGHER AND BASIC EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, CREATING A TUITION FEE RATIONALIZING COUNCIL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1828, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF AND THE CONDUIT

NETWORK FOR AGRI-AGRA CREDITS, PRESCRIBING A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF THE FUNDS FOR LENDING TO SMALL FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREBY AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 717 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AGRI-AGRA LAW

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Agriculture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 1829, entitled

AN ACT TO ENHANCE GENUINE FILIPINO CULTURE AND TO ENCOURAGE THE GROWTH OF PHILIPPINE ARTISTIC TRADITION THROUGH THE RE-INTRODUCTION AND REVIVAL OF THE *KOMIKS* (COMICS) AS POPULAR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS IN EDUCATION AND EFFECTIVE DISSEMINATION OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Public Information and Mass Media**

#### RESOLUTION

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 194, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS; AND ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE DETERIORATING WATER QUALITY OF THE LAGUNA LAKE THAT RESULTS IN LOSSES OF SOURCES OF LIVELIHOOD FOR FISHERFOLK FAMILIES LIVING WITHIN THE LAGUNA DE BAY REGION

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda *LL*

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Economic Affairs**

session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of the following day.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

*It was 4:35 p.m.*


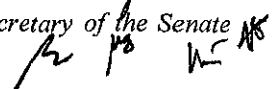
Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

*It was 4:35 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:35 p.m., the session was resumed.

  
EMMA LIRIO REYES  
Secretary of the Senate  


**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the President Pro Tempore declared the

Approved on November 13, 2007