



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

S e n a t e

Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 56

Monday, February 18, 2008

**FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SESSION NO. 56
Monday, February 18, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

At 5:07 p.m., the Senate President Hon. Manny Villar, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Francis Joseph "Chiz" G. Escudero led the prayer, to wit:

Panginoon, hiling at dalangin Po namin ay bigyan kami ng tapang at ng lakas na baguhin namin ang kaya naming baguhin, alang-alang sa mas nakatataas na interes at kapakanan ng aming mga kababayan.

Gayun din, hiling namin ang kapayapaan sa aming pag-iisip na matanggap ang di namin kayang baguhin at palagi sa lahat ng aming gawain.

Nawa ay palagi Ninyo kaming gabayan upang iwasto kung ano ang mali, upang ituwid kung ano ang baluktot at upang matulungan ang pinaka at mas nangangailangan sa aming mga kababayan at sambayanang Pilipino.

Salamat Po.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Senate Choir led the singing of the national anthem.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 5:10 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:29 p.m., the session was resumed.

ROLL CALL

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

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

With 18 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Angara and Defensor Santiago were on official mission, the latter abroad.

Senator Revilla was absent on account of sickness.

Senator Legarda was absent.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session.

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 55 and considered it approved. *AS*

PO

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. 2079, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAIR ELECTIONS ACT

Introduced by Senator Gordon

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 2080, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL AND ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Gordon

To the Committees on Science and Technology; and Finance

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**BILL ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 2081, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6981 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY

AND BENEFIT PROGRAM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan announced that as agreed upon by the members of the Majority and Minority, the session would adjourn early to give way to important matters that were being addressed by the committees.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 5:31 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION


At 5:31 p.m., the session was resumed.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

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

It was 5:31 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


EMMA LIRIO-REYES
Secretary of the Senate

Approved on February 19, 2008