



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Senate
Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 9
Wednesday, August 11, 2010

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SESSION NO. 9
Wednesday, August 11, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:26 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Juan Ponce Enrile, called the session to order.

PRAYER

The Body observed a minute of silent prayer.

ROLL CALL

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

Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Honasan, G. B.
Cayetano, C. P. S.	Legarda, L.
Drilon, F. M.	Marcos Jr., F. R.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Recto, R. G.
Enrile, J. P.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Sotto III, V. C.
Guingona III, T. D.	Zubiri, J. M. F.

With 14 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Angara, Arroyo, Osmeña and Villar arrived after the roll call.

Senator Lapid was on official mission abroad.

Senator Defensor Santiago was on sick leave.

Senators Lacson and Pangilinan were absent.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session as he was under detention.

At this juncture, Senate President Enrile relinquished the Chair to Senate President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 8 (August 10, 2010) and considered it approved.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the gallery of Ramon Magsaysay Awardee Atty. Antonio Oposa.

Senate President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada welcomed Attorney Oposa to the Senate.

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. 701, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING COMMERCIAL
ESTABLISHMENTS AND PUBLIC
INSTITUTIONS TO USE APPRO-
PRIATE FILTERING DEVICES AND
FIREWALLS THAT WILL RESTRICT
CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO HARMFUL

MATERIALS, DEFINING FOR THAT PURPOSE OFFENSES RELATED THERETO, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 702, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND MECHANISMS FOR THE CREATION, OPERATION, ADMINISTRATION, AND COORDINATION OF THE PHILIPPINE BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BOOK CITY", CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE, THE BOOK PUBLISHING ENTERPRISE ZONE AUTHORITY (BPEZA) AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 703, entitled

AN ACT ADOPTING A RETAIL PRICE MAINTENANCE AND UNIFORM DISCOUNTING SCHEME IN BOOK TRADE WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE AND QUALITY-LADEN TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER RELATED EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS TO BE USED BY PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; Education, Arts and Culture; and Ways And Means

Senate Bill No. 704, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH CENTERS REGARDING WOMEN'S HEALTH AND DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONDUCTING A RESEARCH PROGRAM ON HORMONE DISRUPTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 705, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING STIFFER PENALTIES FOR CRIME OF THEFT AND ROBBERY OF PORTABLE COMMUNICATIONS DEVICES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 706, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING THE STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL EXTENSION SYSTEM TO ACCELERATE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 707, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING AS UNLAWFUL THE REPRODUCTION OF COPYRIGHTED BOOKS AND PRINTED MATERIALS THROUGH PHOTOCOPYING, DUPLICATING, PRINTING MACHINES OR SIMILAR MEANS WITHOUT THE WRITTEN CONSENT

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OF THE COPYRIGHT OWNER,
WHETHER THE PUBLISHER OR
THE AUTHOR OR BOTH

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce;
and Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 708, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NUMBERED SEVENTY-SIX HUNDRED
AND FIFTY-THREE ENTITLED "THE
NEW CENTRAL BANK ACT" AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committee on Banks, Financial
Institutions and Currencies**

Senate Bill No. 709, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING TELECOMMUNI-
CATIONS SYSTEMS ACCESSIBILITY
TO THE HEARING-IMPAIRED AND
SPEECH-IMPAIRED

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Public Services; and
Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 710, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MEDICAL
RESEARCH FACILITY TO SEARCH
FOR VACCINES FOR DENGUE,
MALARIA, YELLOW FEVER AND
OTHER LOCAL VIRUS OR
BACTERIA-BASED DISEASES AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 711, entitled

AN ACT ADDRESSING THE SYSTEM
OF PROSTITUTION, IMPOSING
PENALTIES ON ITS PERPETRA-

TORS, PROVIDING PROTECTIVE
MEASURES AND SUPPORT
SERVICES FOR ITS VICTIMS, AND
DECRIMINALIZING VAGRANCY,
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
ARTICLES 202 AND 341 OF THE
REVISED PENAL CODE AND
AMENDING R.A. 9208, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; and Constitutional Amendments,
Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 712, entitled

AN ACT SEEKING TO PROTECT THE
HEALTH AND SAFETY OF INDIVI-
DUALS INVOLVED IN GARBAGE
COLLECTION, WORKING IN
DUMPSITES OR ASSIGNED IN
DISASTER AREAS AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; Environment and Natural Resources;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 713, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION TWO
HUNDRED AND SEVENTY ONE OF
THE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE
CODE, AS LAST AMENDED BY
REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FOUR
THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED
SEVEN, RELATIVE TO VACATION
LEAVE OF JUDGES OF FIRST
INSTANCE

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; and Constitutional Amendments,
Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 714, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE
SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN,

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SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OR SANGGUNIANG BAYAN, TO DECLARE WORKING OR NON-WORKING SPECIAL HOLIDAYS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCALITIES TO COMMEMORATE SIGNIFICANT HISTORIC EVENTS PROVIDING GUIDELINES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Local Government

Senate Bill No. 715, entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING THE WELFARE OF THE FILIPINO FAMILY THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL FAMILY WELFARE PROGRAM, CREATION OF THE NATIONAL FAMILY WELFARE COMMISSION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 716, entitled

AN ACT RESTORING TO CONGRESS THE POWER TO APPROPRIATE PAYMENTS ON DEBT SERVICE, REVIVING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4860 (FOREIGN BORROWING ACT), AND REPEALING SECTION 7 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 81, SECTION 31 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1177 AND SECTIONS 1, 2 AND 3 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1967

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Finance; and Economic Affairs

Senate Bill No. 717, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING THE FARMERS' AND FISHERFOLK ASSISTANCE

ACT OF 2010 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 718, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE SERVICES, THROUGH THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS, REGULATING THEIR OPERATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 719, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR COUNSELING AND TESTING OF PREGNANT WOMEN AND NEWBORN INFANTS FOR INFECTION WITH HUMAN IMMUNO DEFICIENCY VIRUS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Youth, Women and Family Relations

Senate Bill No. 720, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO ALL DULY-APPOINTED BARANGAY TANOD BRIGADES DURING THEIR INCUMBENCY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 721, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR

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THE SAFE OPERATIONS OF THE LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) INDUSTRY, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL POWERS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, DEFINE AND PENALIZE CERTAIN ACTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Energy

Senate Bill No. 722, entitled

AN ACT DIRECTING THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO SUPPORT RESEARCH AND TRAINING IN METHODS OF DETECTING THE USE OF PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING DRUGS BY ATHLETES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Games, Amusement and Sports; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 723, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Agriculture and Food

Senate Bill No. 724, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE THROUGH THE EMPOWERMENT OF NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (NGO) AND PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS, INSTITUTING FOR THE PURPOSE A BOTTOM-UP MECHANISM IN CRAFTING DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 725, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING A MECHANISM FOR THE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO AND OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC LANDS BY FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK, MANDATING FOR THAT PURPOSE AN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS FOR THE TITLING OF SUCH PUBLIC LANDS THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF FREE PATENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 726, entitled

AN ACT TO ENSURE THAT EVERY FILIPINO IS GRANTED WITH BASIC HEALTHCARE SERVICES, PROVIDING FOR THE PURPOSE A MANDATORY UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE COVERAGE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 727, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MECHANISM FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF THE ISLAND OF BORACAY, MUNICIPALITY OF MALAY, PROVINCE OF AKLAN, DEFINING FOR THE PURPOSE THE MODE OF ACQUISITION FOR CERTAIN PARCELS OF ITS PUBLIC DOMAIN CLASSIFIED AS AGRICULTURAL LAND OPEN TO DISPOSITION UNDER PROCLA-

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MATION NO. 1064 AND PROVIDING ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 728, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 729, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE DEBT MANAGEMENT BOARD, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 730, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; Public Services; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 731, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING THE RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY BENEFITS

OF MILITARY PERSONNEL AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on National Defense and Security

Senate Bill No. 732, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY COUNCIL, PROVIDING POWERS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 733, entitled

AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2640 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO CREATE A PUBLIC CORPORATION TO BE KNOWN AS THE VETERANS FEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, DEFINING ITS POWERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," AS AMENDED, BY INCLUDING ALEJO SANTOS OF THE BULACAN MILITARY AREA VETERANS ASSOCIATION AS ONE OF THE MEMBERS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and National Defense and Security

Senate Bill No. 734, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 735, entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING WOMEN IN STATE CUSTODY, PRESCRIBING THE MINIMUM STANDARD RULES FOR THEIR TREATMENT, PENALIZING ACTS IN VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs; and Youth, Women and Family Relations

Senate Bill No. 736, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES IN ZAMBOANGA, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 737, entitled

AN ACT TO PREVENT AND CONTROL POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, PROVIDE PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Public Services; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 738, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FIVE BILLION PESO (Php5,000,000,000.00) COOPERATIVE TRUST FUND THAT WILL PROVIDE FINANCING FACILITIES TO LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMS OF COOPERATIVES AND APPROPRIATING THE NECESSARY SUM FOR INCLUSION IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS

ACT OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) CONSECUTIVE FISCAL YEARS IN FIVE EQUAL APPORTIONMENTS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Cooperatives; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 739, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MALAMPAYA SOUND SITUATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND SAN VICENTE, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AS A PROTECTED AREA PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586 (NIPAS ACT OF 1992) PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 740, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL HOMELOTS DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; and Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 741, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STRATEGIC FOOD SECURITY RICE RESERVE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 742, entitled

AN ACT CLASSIFYING TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING PETROLEUM

AS
105

PRODUCTS AS ZERO PERCENT (0%) VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT) TRANSACTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 108 (B) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9337, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TAX REFORM ACT OF 1997, AND FOR THE OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Energy

Senate Bill No. 743, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING AGRICULTURE EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES BY ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SYSTEM OF AGRICULTURE EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, PROVIDING FOR MECHANISMS OF IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Agriculture and Food; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 744, entitled

AN ACT IMPOSING SAFEGUARDS IN CONTRACTING LOANS CLASSIFIED AS OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8182, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8555, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1996, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 745, entitled

AN ACT UPHOLDING THE RIGHT OF PATIENTS TO THE REDRESS OF

THEIR TREATMENT-RELATED GRIEVANCES BY MANDATING THE CREATION OF GRIEVANCE BOARDS IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS TO BE SUPERVISED BY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

Senate Bill No. 746, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF PHARMACY IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5921, THE PHARMACY LAW, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 747, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS IN THE PROFESSION OF MIDWIFERY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7392 OR THE PHILIPPINE MIDWIFERY ACT OF 1992, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 748, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PRESERVATION, REFORESTATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ALL PHILIPPINE MANGROVE RESOURCES, DEFINING FOR THAT PURPOSE THE ACTS PROHIBITED WITHIN MANGROVE

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FORESTS, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Environment and
Natural Resources; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 749, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN EVERY BARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, FURTHER EXPANDING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 750, entitled

AN ACT INTRODUCING EDUCATIONAL REFORMS AND SUPPORTING THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EDUCATIONAL REFORMS IN SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from Chairman Reynaldo A. Villar of the Commission on Audit, furnishing the Senate a Report on the Salaries and Allowances received by Principal Officers and Members of Governing Boards of Government-Owned and/or Controlled Corporations and their Subsidiaries and the Secretaries, Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries and other officials of equivalent rank of National Government Agencies for Fiscal Year 2009.

To the Committee on Finance

Letter from Ombudsman Ma. Merceditas N. Gutierrez, endorsing the attached proposed pieces of amendatory legislation for authorship and support to strengthen certain components of the legal and structural framework of the Office of the Ombudsman.

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

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. 751, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE VISION AND POLICIES OF GOVERNMENT IN THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT SECTOR, CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 752, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 753, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR THE MINOR CHILDREN OF SOLDIERS AND POLICEMEN WHO ARE SLAIN

IN THE LINE OF DUTY AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 754, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 8479, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "DOWNSTREAM OIL
INDUSTRY DEREGULATION ACT"

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Energy; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 755, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN
INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR
AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY
GENERATION AND TRANSFER
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Agriculture and
Food; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 756, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN
PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL
DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF
THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committee on Labor, Employment
and Human Resources Development**

Senate Bill No. 757, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL
PROTECTION TO BUYERS OF REAL
ESTATE ON INSTALLMENT PAY-
MENTS BY REQUIRING SUBDIVI-
SION OR REAL ESTATE OWNERS

TO HAVE AN INDIVIDUAL TITLE
ON EVERY LOT AVAILABLE FIRST
BEFORE OFFERING THE SAME FOR
SALE, PROHIBITING ANY MORT-
GAGE, LIEN OR ENCUMBRANCE
ON THE SAME, MAKING THE
ANNOTATION ON THE TITLE OF
THE CONTRACT TO SELL OR SALE
MANDATORY, MAKING IT COM-
PULSORY FOR THE EXECUTION
OF A DEED OF ABSOLUTE SALE
AND THE DELIVERY OF THE TITLE
TO THE BUYER UPON COMPLE-
TION OF INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS,
AND PROVIDING OTHER PRO-
TECTIVE MEASURES, INCLUDING
THE IMPOSITION OF PENALTY
FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committee on Urban Planning,
Housing and Resettlement**

Senate Bill No. 758, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING MONEY TRANS-
FERS TO THE PHILIPPINES OF
OVERSEAS FOREIGN WORKERS
FROM THE IMPOSITION OF
DOCUMENTARY STAMP TAX,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTION 181 OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 8424, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE "TAX REFORM ACT OF 1997,"
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 759, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES
IMPOSED AGAINST FAILURE TO
SECURE AN ENVIRONMENTAL
CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE FOR
UNDERTAKINGS IN ANCESTRAL
DOMAINS AND OTHER CRITICAL
AREAS OR FOR VIOLATIONS OF
THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS
THEREOF, THEREBY AMENDING
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1586 AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Cultural Communities

Senate Bill No. 760, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE OF THE PRESCRIBED INCREASES AND ADJUSTMENTS IN THE WAGE RATES OF WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6727, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "WAGE RATIONALIZATION ACT," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 761, entitled

THE BUDGET IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Finance

Senate Bill No. 762, entitled

AN ACT TO INSTITUTIONALIZE MICRO-CREDIT FINANCING AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3844, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE CODE OF AGRARIAN REFORM IN THE PHILIPPINES" APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 763, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM TAX ALL ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS

GRANTED TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, INCLUDING THOSE IN THE STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 764, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9184, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT REFORM ACT

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Senate Bill No. 765, entitled

AN ACT ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY IN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES AND IN THE USE OF INTELLIGENCE AND CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS GRANTED TO ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE A JOINT CONGRESSIONAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE TO STRENGTHEN THE OVERSIGHT POWERS OF CONGRESS TO MONITOR INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OF ALL AGENCIES OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AND TO OVERSEE HOW INTELLIGENCE AND CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS ARE EXPENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 766, entitled

AN ACT TO INCREASE SHORT TERM GRAIN AVAILABILITY, MINIMIZE

VULNERABILITY TO EXTERNAL PRICE AND SUPPLY SHOCKS AND ACHIEVE IMMEDIATE RICE SECURITY, MANDATING FOR THAT PURPOSE THE CREATION OF A FERTILIZER SUPPORT MECHANISM AND THE RESTRUCTURING AND REORIENTATION OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Trade and Commerce; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 767, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING REFORMS IN NATIONAL GOVERNMENT BUDGETING, AMENDING FOR THESE PURPOSES PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF BOOK VI OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987, AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Finance; and Government Corporations and Public Enterprises

Senate Bill No. 768, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING OFFICIAL LOCAL AND FOREIGN TRAVELS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE USE OF FUNDS REQUESTED FOR THE PURPOSE, DEFINING PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH DISCLOSURE, ACCOUNTING, LIQUIDATION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

Senate Bill No. 769, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE PURCHASE OF BRAND NEW MOTOR VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Trade and Commerce

Senate Bill No. 770, entitled

AN ACT SUBJECTING TREATIES, INTERNATIONAL OR EXECUTIVE AGREEMENTS INVOLVING FUNDING IN THE PROCUREMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, GOODS, AND CONSULTING SERVICES, TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SCOPE AND APPLICATION OF PHILIPPINE PROCUREMENT LAWS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9184, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT REFORM ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 771, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A "PEOPLE'S FUND," EARMARKING ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE VALUE-ADDED TAX TO THE SAID FUND, FOR THE EXCLUSIVE ALLOCATION TO THE EDUCATION AND HEALTH NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Finance; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 772, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND REORIENT THE MANDATE OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO ENSURE FOOD SUFFICIENCY, FOR THAT PURPOSE RATIONALIZING ITS FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Agriculture and Food

Senate Bill No. 773, entitled

AN ACT INTRODUCING TRANSITORY MEASURES TO PROVIDE CONSUMER AND SMALL SAVER RELIEF, PROMOTE INDIVIDUAL ECONOMIC STABILITY AND BUILD INDIVIDUAL CONFIDENCE BY PROVIDING A STIMULUS TAX REFUND TO FIXED INCOME EARNERS, PROTECTING INTERESTS OF DEPOSITORS OF BANKS AND OF HOME OWNERS, AND GIVING TAX CREDIT INCENTIVES TO EMPLOYERS WHO PROVIDE NEW PERMANENT JOBS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Ways and Means; Economic Affairs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 774, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON FOOD AND OTHER BASIC COMMODITIES TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO AFFORDABLE FOOD AND ADEQUATE FOOD SUPPLY, PRESCRIBING GUIDELINES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Trade and Commerce

Senate Bill No. 775, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING ATTAINMENT OF GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE EDUCATION OUTCOMES, ADOPTING AN OMNIBUS EDUCATION REFORM PROGRAM, IDENTIFYING FOR THAT PURPOSE THE STRATEGIC COMPONENTS OF SUCH PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Science and Technology; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 776, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4200, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND PENALIZE WIRETAPPING AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS OF THE PRIVACY OF COMMUNICATION, AND FOR THE OTHER PURPOSES" BY INCREASING THE PENALTIES PROVIDED THEREIN AND REGULATING THE OWNERSHIP, POSSESSION, SALE, IMPORTATION AND USE OF WIRETAPPING DEVICES, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 777, entitled

AN ACT FURTHER PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR WOMEN AGAINST ABUSES OF UNEQUAL POWER RELATIONS, EXPANDING FOR THAT PURPOSE THE DEFINITION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND INCREASING THE PENALTIES

MD

THEREFOR, THEREBY AMENDING
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7877 AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment
and Human Resources Development; and Civil
Service and Government Reorganization**

Senate Bill No. 778, entitled

AN ACT TO DEFINE THE ROLE OF
THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
PHILIPPINES (AFP) DURING
ELECTIONS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws;
and National Defense and Security**

Senate Bill No. 779, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH FAIR
PRACTICES IN THE PROCESSING
OF INFORMATION RELATING OR
PERSONAL TO INDIVIDUALS,
CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE A
PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION
COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 780, entitled

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT ANY
EMPLOYER, LABOR CONTRACTOR
AND LABOR ORGANIZATION
FROM DISCRIMINATING AGAINST
ANY INDIVIDUAL BECAUSE OF
THE INDIVIDUAL'S AGE

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committee on Labor, Employment
and Human Resources Development**

Senate Bill No. 781, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING CERTAIN INDICA-
TIONS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL
INCAPACITY AS A GROUND FOR
THE DECLARATION OF NULLITY
OF MARRIAGE, AMENDING
ARTICLE 36 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER
NO. 209, AS AMENDED, OTHER-
WISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY
CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and
Family Relations; and Constitutional Amend-
ments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 782, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 1991 OF
R.A. NO. 386, ALSO KNOWN AS
THE CIVIL CODE OF THE
PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committee on Constitutional Amend-
ments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 783, entitled

AN ACT SUPPORTING EFFECTIVE
PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE
ASSISTANCE TO PARENTS WHO
WANT TO HELP THEIR CHILDREN
BECOME SUCCESSFUL READERS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and
Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 784, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
DEVOLUTION OF THE CONTROL,
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION
OF MUNICIPAL OR TERTIARY
PORTS FROM THE PHILIPPINE
PORTS AUTHORITY TO LOCAL
GOVERNMENT UNITS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Public Services; and
Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 785, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING TAX INCENTIVES
TO DEVELOPERS AND BUILDERS
OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AND/
OR HOUSING PROJECTS BY
EXEMPTING THEM FROM THE
PAYMENT OF REAL ESTATE
TAXES, DEFINING THE CONDITION
THEREOF AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Ways and Means;
and Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement**

Senate Bill No. 786, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PRIVATIZ-
ATION OF GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 787, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AND
ESTABLISHING THE CODE OF THE
PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR
THE PRACTICE OF POLITICAL
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 788, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 386, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE CIVIL CODE OF THE
PHILIPPINES, ARTICLE 2180

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and
Culture; and Constitutional Amendments,
Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 789, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUMMARY
TITLING OF REAL PROPERTIES
USED AS SITES FOR PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Environment and
Natural Resources; Education, Arts and
Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 790, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Government Corp-
orations and Public Enterprises; Science and
Technology; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 791, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING PRIVACY
PROTECTION FOR MOTOR
VEHICLE OWNERS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws;
and Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 792, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING GOVERNMENT-
OWNED AND -CONTROLLED CORP-
ORATIONS (GOCCs) AND AGENCIES
TO ASSIGN TWENTY-FIVE PER-
CENT OF THEIR ADVERTISING
EXPENDITURES FOR ADVERTISE-
MENT IN THE REGIONAL,

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PROVINCIAL, MUNICIPAL AND
CITY PUBLICATIONS AND RADIO
STATIONS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 793, entitled

AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING VOLUNTARY ARBITRATION AS THE PREFERENTIAL MODE OF LABOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLES 217, 260, 261, 262-A, 262-B, 263(G) AND ARTICLE 277(F), AND INCORPORATING A NEW ARTICLE 262-D OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 794, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING HIGHER EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN, ESTABLISHING A WOMEN'S HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 795, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING INCEST

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Senate Bill No. 796, entitled

AN ACT TO REDUCE MEDICAL MISTAKES AND MEDICATION-RELATED ERRORS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 797, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE FOOD, MEAT AND POULTRY PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN A GENETICALLY ENGINEERED MATERIAL, BE LABELED ACCORDINGLY

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 798, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL PROGRAM THAT WILL PROVIDE PREGNANT WOMEN WITH ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 799, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLES 155 AND 157 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, STRENGTHENING THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAW GOVERNING THE FAMILY HOME

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Ways and Means

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Senate Bill No. 800, entitled

**AN ACT PENALIZING THE ACT OF
MONEYLENDING WITH INTEREST
BY SALARY-DISBURSING OFFICERS
IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ENTITIES,
PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR
VIOLATIONS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

**To the Committees on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization; and Labor, Employ-
ment and Human Resources Development**

**RECONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL
OF THE JOURNAL OF SESSION NO. 8**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the approval of the Journal of Session No. 8 in view of Senator Arroyo's desire to make corrections thereto.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ARROYO

Senator Arroyo noted that as reflected on page 168 of the Journal of Session No. 8, the Body adopted Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84 but he pointed out that two of its "whereas" clauses, the basis of the resolution, were entirely incorret. He specifically cited the second "whereas" clause which stated that "on 25 July 2007, the Senate formally adopted Senate Resolution No. 3 '*Expressing the Sense of the Senate that Sen. Antonio Trillianes IV be Allowed to Participate in the Sessions and other Functions of the Senate in Accordance with the Rule of Law.*'" He maintained that there was never a Senate Resolution No. 3 that was adopted by the Senate in the 14th Congress, and he indicated that at the appropriate time, he would elaborate on that point.

He likewise pointed to the third "whereas" clause which stated that "a majority of Senators filed on 11 November 2008 Senate Resolution No. 765 '*Amending the Rules of the Senate by Incorporating a Rule to Allow Senators to Participate in Senate Sessions, Hearings, and/or Meetings Through Remote or Electronic Means*' in order to enable Senator Trillianes, among others, to participate in the sessions and other official functions of the Senate. However, the aforementioned measures have not been

implemented, thus preventing Senator Trillianes from exercising his mandate meaningfully and depriving the electorate proper representation in the legislature." He stated that he was very familiar with the resolution as it was referred to the Committee on Rules headed then by Senator Zubiri. But he asserted that the Committee did not adopt or pass that resolution.

In view of the foregoing, Senator Arroyo asked that the adoption of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84 be reconsidered and that he be allowed to present the minutes of the meeting of the Rules Committee on Senate Resolution Nos. 3 and 765. He also noted that out of the 15 senators who signed Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84, Senators Drilon, Escudero, Recto, Honasan, Pangilinan and Zubiri qualified their votes with the comment, "with due respect to the Courts." By adopting the instant resolution, he argued that the Senate, in effect, was expressing its sense that "the Judiciary, through the Regional Trial Court of Makati-Branch 148, rectify the apparent injustice done to Senator Trillianes by allowing the temporary transfer of custody to the Senate." He asked that he be given time to do some research to show that the two resolutions were not adopted by the Senate in the 14th Congress.

In response, Senator Sotto said that the Committee on Rules acted on the information given to it, on the basis of which it reported out the resolution. He asked that he be allowed to check on the status of the resolutions mentioned in the two "whereas" clauses.

Senator Arroyo clarified that he was not ascribing any bad faith or wrongdoing as he suggested that Senator Sotto be given time to check the records.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 4:04 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:09 p.m., the session was resumed.

REPORT OF SENATOR SOTTO

In reply to the queries of Senator Arroyo, Senator Sotto affirmed that Proposed Senate Resolution

MS

No. 84 was adopted by the Body the previous day, and that it was originally filed as Senate Resolution No. 22 on July 23, 2007, by Senator Pimentel and a number of other senators, and referred to the Committee on Rules on July 24; it was discussed on the floor the same day, and underwent the period of individual amendments with Senators Arroyo, Enrile Gordon and Defensor Santiago dissenting from the resolution; and on July 25, 2007, Senate Resolution No. 22 was adopted as Resolution No. 3 with 17 senators voting in favor and Senators Arroyo, Defensor Santiago, Enrile and Gordon voting against. He added that Senators Angara, Defensor Santiago, Estrada, Zubiri, Cayetano (A), Gordon, Escudero, Revilla, Pangilinan and Madrigal gave explanations of their vote on the resolution.

As regards Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84, Senator Sotto affirmed that as stated in its third "whereas" clause, Senate Resolution No. 765 was filed but, it was not approved and, therefore, cannot yet be implemented. He said that Senator Trillanes' incarceration has indeed made it difficult to communicate with him, causing miscommunications between him and the Senate. Nonetheless, he said that Senate Resolution No. 765 fortifies Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84 that was adopted the previous day.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ARROYO

Senator Arroyo requested time to study Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84, as he pointed out that "causing the immediate implementation of the resolution by filing the appropriate manifestation and motion before the Regional Trial Court of Makati-Branch 148 at the soonest possible time and to perform any and all acts as may be proper and appropriate under the circumstances" is a direct intervention of the Senate in court proceedings.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR CAYETANO (A)

Senator Cayetano (A) commended Senator Sotto for immediately causing the adoption of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 68 (*Rules of Procedure Governing Inquiries In Aid of Legislation*), considering that the committees were ready to work right away. He acknowledged that there was no in-depth discussion on the resolution so as not to cause the delay of the publication of the *Rules* which is almost similar to the old *Rules*.

However, given the fact that there are some provisions of the *Rules* that may hamper the effectiveness of some of the committees, Senator Cayetano (A) said that he has manifested to Senator Sotto that he and a number of senators would propose some amendments to the *Rules* at the proper time, particularly on the number of senators needed when the inquiries are conducted, in order not to allow the people being investigated upon to unduly delay an investigation.

Senator Sotto said that the Committee on Rules intends to call again a meeting as soon as possible to take up specifically a provision on contempt.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of mayors from Ilocos Norte who are guests of Senator Marcos.

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 83

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 83, entitled

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SOLID- ARITY WITH FILIPINO MUSLIMS AND MUSLIMS ALL OVER THE WORLD IN THE OBSERVANCE OF RAMADAN.

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

The Chair recognized Senator Guingona for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR GUINGONA

In sponsoring Proposed Senate Resolution No. 83, Senator Guingona delivered the following speech:

Ramadan is the ninth month in the Hijrah or Islamic lunar calendar. From 11 August to 11 September 2010, our Muslim brothers all over the world fast from dawn till sunset.

YB

The Holy Quran in Chapter 2, Verse 183 said:

O you who believe! Fasting is prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may become God-fearing.”

The Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him) said:

Whoever fasts during Ramadan with faith and seeking his reward from Allah will have his past sins forgiven. Whoever prays during the nights in Ramadan with faith and seeking reward from Allah will have his past sins forgiven. And he who passes Lailat al-Qadr in prayer with faith and seeking his reward from Allah will have his past sins forgiven (Bukhari, Muslim).

As we join in the celebration of the Muslims’ Holiest Month, may all of us realize the sorrow and hardship of those who face hunger and starvation, year after year, with no place to live, no home to come home to. These are our less fortunate brothers and sisters, like the evacuees and the internally displaced persons affected by the seemingly unending conflict in Central Mindanao.

And may we, Christians and Muslims, embrace *Sabr*, which means patience, as one of the essence of Ramadan, as we walk the road for peace in Mindanao. May we keep *Sabr* in our hearts and minds until we arrive at the final and peaceful solution for the challenges in Mindanao.

I respect and am inspired by our Muslim brothers and sisters who practice Ramadan. May this noteworthy practice of reflection, *Sabr* (forgiveness), and unity in the time of Ramadan be a year-long practice not only by our Muslim brothers and sisters but by every Filipino.

Allah is great. *Ahlan Wahsallam Ramadan!*

Thereafter, Senator Guingona read the text of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 83.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 83

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 83 was adopted by the Body.

COAUTHORS/COSPONSORS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto there being no objection, Senator Escudero and all the senators present were made coauthors and cosponsors of the resolution.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 84

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the adoption of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84 so that Senator Arroyo could introduce his amendments thereto.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 8 and considered it approved.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto said that as requested by Senators Cayetano (A) and Arroyo, consideration of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 84 would be held on Monday, August 16, 2010.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Nominated by Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the following senators were elected to the committees hereunder indicated:

Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs

- Chairman : Honasan
- Vice Chair : Villar
- Members :

Trillanes	Drilon
Legarda	Escudero
Zubiri	Marcos

Committee on Agrarian Reform

- Vice Chair : Pangilinan
- Members :

Lapid	Recto
Osmeña	Villar
Guingona	Escudero

Asked by the Chair if the Minority were nominating their members to the Committee on Agrarian Reform, Senator Honasan replied that he was waiting for the Minority to submit their nominees.

Committee on Public Information and Mass Media

Vice Chairs: Legarda
Villar

Members :

Drilon	Osmeña
Lapid	Marcos
Revilla	

Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations

Members :

Trillanes	Drilon
Lapid	Osmeña
Revilla	Escudero
Villar	Angara
Legarda	Honasan
Lacson	Defensor Santiago
Pangilinan	Arroyo
Recto	Cayetano (P)

Committee on Peace, Unification and Reconciliation

Members :

Legarda	Pangilinan
Trillanes	Drilon
Osmeña	Cayetano (P)

Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement

Vice Chair : Cayetano (P)

Members :

Villar	Lacson
Honasan	Legarda
Defensor Santiago	Revilla
Zubiri	Arroyo
Trillanes	

COAUTHOR

Senator Sotto manifested that Senator Escudero is coauthor of Senate Bill Nos. 151, 156, 167 and 170.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 4:28 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:31 p.m., the session was resumed.

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR


Nominated by Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Senator Escudero was elected as co-chair of the Legislative Oversight Committee on the Visiting Forces Agreement in his capacity as chair of the Committee on National Defense and Security.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Senate President Pro Tempore declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, August 16, 2010.

It was 4:32 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


EMMA LIRIO REYES
Secretary of the Senate

Approved on August 16, 2010