



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Senate
Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 14
Tuesday, August 24, 2010

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

Sen. Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. led the prayer composed by his father, former President Ferdinand E. Marcos, to wit:

Father of all mankind,

We ask You to look down upon our people, and fill our hearts with Your spirits, that we may have the grace and the wisdom to look into ourselves and, in so doing, see our weaknesses and our strengths.

So many of us have lived in corruption, greed and violence, forgetting that this nation – or any other nation – cannot survive and grow and prosper unless we learn to live as brothers, striving not for selfish ends, but for the common good.

Give us strength to rebuild our lives, leaving forever our selfish, corrupt and derelict ways.

Make us see what we are and what we could be, open our eyes, our minds and our hearts to the things that need to be done, and the things we can do to make this rich and beautiful land a joy and comfort to all our people.

We have set ourselves great and never-ending task; stand by us in our labor, and teach us not to weary nor to lose faith, neither to seek reward beyond what is just, but rather to see in our work the full measure of our own reward, and to see in it the full expression of ourselves.

When the day's toil is ended, teach us to look to the morrow's labor as part of our continuing sacrifice, bring us not to the temptation of luxury, ease or privilege, nor to the blandishments of power or comfort that corrupt; but make us a sturdy race, self-reliant, cheerful and upright.

Teach those who lead to act with firmness but with humility, with humility but with wisdom, with wisdom but with justice, and with justice but with compassion, and teach those who follow the true duties of being men and being members of a community of men.

Cleanse us of our anger, our bitterness, and our recrimination of the past; spare us the doubts and anxieties of the present; and purify us for our sacrifice so that we may raise a people who will be their own strength today and their warranty against the future.

Our Father, these we pray.

Amen.

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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:

Angara, E. J.	Lapid, M. L. M.
Arroyo, J. P.	Legarda, L.
Cayetano, C. P. S.	Marcos Jr., F. R.
Drilon, F. M.	Osmeña III, S. R.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Recto, R. G.
Enrile, J. P.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Sotto III, V. C.
Honasan, G. B.	Zubiri, J. M. F.

With 16 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Cayetano (A), Guingona and Villar arrived after the roll call.

Senator Pangilinan was on official mission.

Senator Defensor Santiago was on sick leave.

Senator Lacson was absent.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

With the permission of the Body, the Chair suspended the session to allow the members to greet Senators Sotto and Pangilinan on the occasion of their birthday.

It was 3:30 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:31 p.m., the session was resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto thanked the Senate President and his colleagues for the greetings and for entrusting him the position of Majority Leader. He assured them of working hard so as not to lose their confidence in him.

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. 13 and considered it approved.

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of former DepEd Undersecretary Vilma Labrador and Councilor Dorothy "Doray" Delarmente of the 1st District of Quezon City.

The Senate President Pro Tempore welcomed the guests to the Senate.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR MARCOS

Senator Marcos said that he was one with much of the country as he spent the evening before watching with mounting horror the events of the hostage crisis as they unfolded in front of the Quirino Grandstand in Manila. He recalled that while everyone hoped and prayed for a resolution to the situation without bloodshed, shots rang out and the escaped driver reported that the gunman had randomly shot at his hostages, wounding or killing many of them.

He stressed that the government cannot shirk responsibility for the terrible and unnecessary tragedy especially as the fatalities were guests in the country, and he underscored the need for the Senate to express recognition of blame and show sympathy and condolences to the victims and their loved ones and communicate this sentiment through the Embassy of the People's Republic of China and the Special Administrative Region of Hong Kong.

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 143

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 143, entitled

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SINCEREST
AND MOST HEARTFELT CONDO-
LENCES TO THE FAMILIES,
FRIENDS, RELATIVES OF THE
VICTIMS OF THE UNFORTUNATE
HOSTAGE INCIDENT IN MANILA
ON 23 AUGUST 2010, AND TO
THE SPECIAL ADMINISTRATIVE
REGION OF HONG KONG.

pc

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.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 143

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 143 was adopted by the Body, subject to style as requested by Senator Drilon.

ALL SENATORS AS COAUTHORS

At the instance of the Chair, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, all senators were made coauthors of the resolution.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR ZUBIRI

Availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Zubiri spoke on the hostage-taking incident that happened the previous day.

Following is the full text of the speech:

CRIMINALITY ON THE RISE, WHAT WENT WRONG?

Dead men tell no tales. I could have said that along with many Filipinos, but let me move ahead from the carnage yesterday at the park—named after our national hero, Jose Rizal, who abhorred violence—into the underlying issues.

In his death, former Police Senior Inspector Mendoza, the hostage-taker, opened the telling tale of how unprepared and inept the police are at handling this crisis. I admit that despite reviewing documentaries of hostage-taking crisis in other countries, I have not gained expertise. I am not an expert, I am just a concerned legislator, one of the millions of *usiseros* around the world.

The little that I know of and understand about hostage crisis is that primary to all calls, “judgement call,” if you wish to call those orders on the ground, is the protection to the lives of the hostages and the hostage-taker. Next, is that the negotiation has a short-term objective of creating the opportunity for police to separate the hostages from the hostage-taker. And, with success to separate them, there is a window for the police to rescue the hostages and disable the hostage-taker.

The negotiator always plays a crucial role. One of the values of a well-handled negotiation

is that it becomes a tool for controlling part of the environment. Only part, because the hostage-taker controls the tension-filled space between him and his hostages. A foremost concern is that police should create an atmosphere of calm — “calculated calm” — that would help in putting sense into the hostage-taker’s mind enough to let him abandon his plan.

And the extreme course of action is to take out the hostage-taker, with violent force if called for, that he loses control of the situation and the hostages are set free.

But that should have been the last recourse of our police forces last night. And when force was needed, the PNP should have sent the best of what they have. With all due respect to the police on the ground, it seems that the group that was dispatched to assault the bus were men from the Manila Police District SWAT team and not the elite Special Action Force Units trained in close-quarter battle and other scenarios, the same men that were utilized during the Peninsula siege.

I respect the issue of jurisdiction, being that the area was the responsibility of the Manila Police District, but as soon as foreign hostages were taken and the international media covered the story, then it ceased to be a local isolated case and it transformed into an international incident with foreign governments monitoring the situation and its outcome. Because of that, the full resources of our national government should have been used and the top brass should have taken over and not just low-ranking police officers addressing both the public and the personnel on the ground. Even the negotiators were police officers of the same rank as that of former P/Insp. Mendoza, who were obviously not in a position to promise him anything. This was tipped to me by a friend who is a police general.

Where was General Versoza throughout this whole incident? Where was the NCRPO Chief, General Santiago? And most especially, where was Secretary Robredo, the head of DILG, throughout this whole affair? I was monitoring this incident from lunchtime till its end, and I only saw Secretary Robredo in the evening right after the takeover of the bus. Being the head of the DILG and more particularly the National Police Commission, should he not have taken control of the situation and probably, earlier in the day when the situation was calm, could he not have promised Mendoza a review of the case himself and not delegate that task to the Vice Mayor of Manila? Could he not have just

promised him reinstatement in exchange for the lives of all the hostages? Why could he not have done that just to save the lives of those innocent civilians?

The Secretary would have been more credible and believable than all the negotiations there. At this point, a review of the capacity of the Philippine National Police, the Internal Affairs Group, and the NAPOLCOM, is in order. Aside from the horrific incident that jarred the nation last night, in these last few months, our country has been waking up with news of a series of heinous crimes. Such barbaric and reprehensible acts were perpetrated by criminal syndicates and murderers. Let me enumerate these other heinous crimes.

Early morning last Monday, a Korean national was killed by gunmen in the boundary of Pasig City and Cainta, Rizal at the C-5. The victim was identified as Cho Tae Hwan, a pastor, and his companions were kidnapped by the suspects, both of which were later released after paying an unspecified amount to the captors. All the victims were Christian pastors out to spread the good news to our country. And yet, we greeted them with violence and despair. The sad part is that tomorrow, the Foreign Minister of Korea, Minister Yu Myung-Hwan, is to visit our country.

On August 5 this year, the Zamboanga City airport was bombed. Initially, the police investigation pointed to politics as the motive behind such heinous crime. Although the public was relieved to find out that it was not an act of terrorism, nevertheless, such dastardly act left two people dead and terrorized the people of Zamboanga City and our air passengers.

On that same day, August 5, on the seas of Zamboanga City, pirates shot the captain of the fishing boat M/V Queensa and hacked to death five others. Apparently, this incident represents a common occurrence of piracy and killing in the Sibuagay Sea, Moro Gulf, and Celebes Sea. Commercial quantities of agricultural produce, fish catch and boats are lost to pirates along with the lives of hard-working Filipinos. I thought this would happen only in the shores of Africa.

A day after the Zamboanga airport bombing and pirate attack, in August 6, retired Navy Commander Ernesto Paiton, his wife, Chief Petty Officer Carmelita Paiton, their daughter, Erlita, and the couple's niece and nephew, Sharon Celino and Renato Cabatuan, both teenagers, were massacred inside their residence on Westcom Road, Naval Officers Village in Barangay San

Miguel, Puerto Princesa City. Let me emphasize that the crime was perpetrated a few meters away from the Naval Camp. The crime broke the quiet and peace in Puerto Princesa City, known for its low crime rate and warmth of its people.

Puerto Princesa Mayor Edward Hagedorn offered half a million pesos as a reward for information leading to the arrest of the killers. A suspect is now under the custody of the Task Force Paiton.

Add to the list, the massacre that made the country so infamous especially in the field of journalism and made us an entry in the *Guinness Book of World Records*, though not a reason for celebration but of national shame. I am referring to the infamous Maguindanao massacre which happened on November 23, 2009.

Let me also mention that the country has become the transshipment point of cocaine in the Asian region. It is a very alarming development. It seems that the *modus operandi* of drug syndicates is to dump cocaine bricks from foreign vessels off shore along our coastline. These are off-loaded in bulk, into a vessel waiting for the contraband or dumped into our waters, shallow enough for our local fishermen to dive to and fish out of the water. Then these cocaine bricks will be purchased from the fishermen by local drug syndicates at a very low price and then distributed locally or to other countries in the region.

With cocaine now replacing *shabu* as the drug of choice among drug users, I fear that this would result in the rise of drug-related heinous crimes. With all these heinous crimes happening, we can only ask why this kind of crimes continue? Why have the perpetrators of these crimes become emboldened? It seems that they are not afraid anymore of our laws and our enforcers. To them being caught is simply free board and lodging in our jails. It is not a big deal to them. Of equal importance, too, is the phenomenon of incorrigible criminals, murderers among them — those who cannot be reformed and cannot be corrected. These persons can change their ways but only in the direction of worsening criminality. I begin to wonder if it is because we have lifted the death penalty from our Penal Code. Is it because the criminals know that no matter how barbaric and demonic their criminal activities are, they will only be meted life imprisonment no matter how many they have killed or how evil their methods are? How I wish there is an available study that pinpoints the correlation between the rise of these heinous crimes and the lifting of the death penalty.

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Unfortunately, our research yielded a negative result. However, in the meantime, what can we do? What can Congress do to at least minimize or deter these crimes? Let us start the debate on the death penalty and let the experience of other countries guide us in our decision. I wonder why our OFWs, when they go to Saudi Arabia, to China and other places, including Singapore, where the death penalty is implemented, they are meek as a lamb. And yet, when they come home, they abuse our laws. I have interviewed many OFWs, and they told me: "*Dahil takot po kami mamatay doon sa mga bansang iyon.*" I sincerely believe that when the death penalty was in place and the execution of the hardened and godless criminals by lethal injection got full media coverage, the commission of heinous crimes decreased. This belief has prompted this Representation to file Senate Bill No. 2383, "An Act Reimposing the Death Penalty on Certain Heinous Crimes," in the hope that once the bill is passed into law, it will deter the commission of heinous crimes. Let us restore the death penalty for heinous crimes. I always say, "If you do the crime, you do the time." Now I say, "If you do a heinous crime, then you can say goodbye to your time." And lastly, I am asking that we, as a country, apologize to the citizens and government of Hong Kong for the lives they lost and for the blunders, for certainly there were many blunders we have committed, that resulted in this tragedy to both nations.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR REVILLA

Also availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Revilla delivered the following speech:

MOURNING BLACK MONDAY OF AUGUST 23, 2010

I rise to articulate the anger, frustration and sorrow of the Filipino people and the international community.

Anger, because of the bloodshed that happened at the Quirino Grandstand that was showcased to the world; frustration over the seeming inability of our peacekeeping forces to address the situation; and sorrow over the innocent lives lost.

Yesterday, about ten in the morning, we were all surprised with the news of a hostage situation at the Quirino Grandstand involving a bemedalled police officer and a bus load of tourists from Hong Kong. The demand of dismissed Police Senior Inspector Rolando

Mendoza was straightforward – release the decision on his motion for reconsideration questioning his dismissal from the service. It was simple. It was actionable.

To show his good faith, Mendoza consequently released seven hostages. Upon the prodding of his brother, SPO2 Gregorio Mendoza, his earlier imposed 3:00 p.m. deadline was extended. From there, it became a waiting game. Everything was still amicable then, and although tension filled the air, the situation was still relatively calm.

In the meantime, the world continued to watch the developments that were broadcast live over local television networks, radio stations and even international news networks.

A little after seven in the evening, everything went sour. In a matter of a few minutes, everything headed south.

The hostage-taker discharged his M16 rifle that sparked an exchange of fire. The police forces assaulted the bus, an assault that would last over an hour until six survivors were rescued, but only after ten were killed, including the hostage-taker.

Alam ko pong napakahirap sabihin ngayon kung ano ang dapat ginawa o ano ang dapat nangyari. We were not there. But from my personal experience, I can say, I have been there, done that.

In 2007, I was called upon by the PNP to help in the successful negotiation of a similar incident. *Wala na po akong ibang tinutukoy kundi ang Jun Ducat hostage-taking incident noong March 28, 2007. Napakaraming pagkakahalintulad ng dalawang insidente.* Even the negotiator, *si Colonel Yebra, ay pareho. Ang malaking pagkakaiba lang, walang buhay na nasayang noon.*

In 2007, the police were calling the shots. I was fortunate enough to become a tool, an instrument, that led to the results. Sure, I gave my two cents worth every once in a while, but truth be told, the police had the final say, and the police was followed. I do not know if that was the case yesterday. What I know is that after seven o'clock, all the hard work of our negotiators, all their gains throughout the day, were flushed down the drain.

Hindi po ako naririto ngayon para magturo at manisi. Hindi po ito panahon ng pagtuturuan. Pare-pareho naman nating nakita kung ano ang naging mga pagkakamali. The first step is not to point fingers and make

excuses, but it is to admit errors so that they can be rectified and prevented from happening again. *Wala namang may gusto doon sa mga nangyari. Wala naman sigurong pulis na ginustong ganoon ang maging bunga. Pero, ganunpaman, napakapangit.*

Ang trabaho ng pulis ay sala sa init, sala sa lamig. In all honesty, *naniniwala naman ako na ang mga pulis, yung mga ground troops*, did their best. They were following orders, putting their lives on the line. *Kitang-kita pa nga natin kung papaanong muntik nang tamaan yung isang pulis nang subukan niyang pasukin yung bus at bigla siyang paputukan galing sa loob.*

Pero, this is not to say *na walang pagkakamali* tactically. The police had the entire day to prepare for the assault. Why did the assault end up so despicably?

In the first place, *bakit biglang nagdilim ang paningin ni Captain Mendoza? Bakit kinailangang arestuhin nang ganun ang kanyang kapatid na sinasabing dahilan ng kanyang pagwawala?* Who gave the order? *Bakit imbes na palamigin ang ulo ng hostage-taker tulad ng ginawa ng mga negotiator all day long*, all of a sudden, *ginalit ito?*

Things were further complicated by how the tactical movements of the police were exposed and fed to the hostage-taker in real time. *Alam na alam ni Captain Mendoza kung ano ang ginagawa ng mga pulis.*

The world watched the Philippines yesterday, and continues to watch us, more than ever. What could we show them; what could we tell them; *Saan tayo pupunta?*

We were dealing with a bemedalled policeman, one of the best amongst the best in the whole country. He was well equipped. He knew exactly what to do, but not necessarily the right thing to do. He did what he thought was the best thing to do, in order to be heard, to gain attention to the hilt. Did we listen intently?

Sineryoso ba natin si Captain Mendoza? Or did we treat it as just another qualm from a disgruntled, demoralized policeman? *Na-appreciate ba natin ng buong-buo ang pagkagrabe ng sitwasyon?* Was everything really under control? Was bullet per bullet the best option, *lalo pa't hindi naman nakikita kung saan nanggagaling yung putok?* Could a renegotiation have worked better? *Mas maganda kaya kung nakipaghintayan tayo?*

Could there have been a better ending had better judgment prevailed over impatience,

stress, or wanting an early end? Do we have to hurry to get where we want to go? Lesson learned. Another lesson learned. How many lessons should we learn, before we finally learn?

Kinailangan bang mahigit sa 30 pulis ang sumugod doon sa bus, lalo pa at naging easy target sila nung hostage-taker? Was that number necessary, considering they could have fallen victim to friendly crossfire among themselves?

Indeed, an end came. August 23, 2010 has now gained infamy in our history as Black Monday, a day our nation will mourn for all the generations to come. What had been done cannot be undone. But it could happen again. Can we afford another Black Monday?

This is a wake-up call that necessitates the pushing of the right buttons in all aspects of handling hostage-taking cases — from crowd control to make-way-for-the-ambulances; advanced planning and enforcement; to proper handling of the crime scene until the SOCO has made its final report; to the official announcement and who is to announce the casualties or survivors at the hospital and the official plight of the culprit.

This should truly be a wake-up call. *Napakalaki na po ng ating pinagbayaran. Napakalakas ng sigaw ng lahat para huwag nang maulit ang ganitong mga pangyayari. Sobrang lakas na wala nang tulog na hindi magigising. Kaya lang, may kasabihan nga, napakahirap gisingin ang nagtutulog-tulugan. Napakahirap gisingin ang gising! Baka naman gising na nga tayong lahat, pero may ilang ayaw bumangon. Huwag naman po sana.*

This incident mirrors the extreme need to upgrade the capabilities of our police force to effectively respond to hostage-taking situations.

It has brought to my mind scenes way back in 2002 when members of the national police also mishandled a hostage drama in Pasay City. True, maybe the PNP did their best, maybe, but obviously, the best is by no means good enough.

Nagtagal yung hostage drama ng halos tatlong oras hanggang pinagsasaksak ng 13 beses ang kanyang hostage na four years old. Police responded by gunning down the hostage-taker. *Sa autopsy, nakitang yun mismong biktima ay may limang tama ng bala mula sa pulis, yung isa pa nga, sa puso tumama.*

Paulit-ulit na lang ba?

Authorities should now seriously look into the proper measures that need to be imple-

mented. *Kailangang may malinaw na police cordon. Kailangan centralized at controlled ang information. Kailangan completely isolated ang hostage-taker. Kailangan may tamang mga kagamitan. Kailangan may tamang training. Sabi nga ng kabataan, "Kailangan pa bang i-memorize yan?"*

The police and media must seriously have a talk. Not to point fingers, but the hostage-taker should not be fed what is going on in real time. With every freedom is a corresponding responsibility. The question is: Who is now taking responsibility? Freedom is not freedom to put others in peril, freedom is to promote life and protect life. Let us use our freedoms responsibly.

Napakalaki ng dagok ng hostage-taking kahapon sa ating bansa. Maaring makaapekto ito sa ating ekonomiya, sa ating turismo, at higit sa lahat, sa ating milyong-milyong mga OFW sa buong mundo. The ripple effect of this incident can become so pervasive. *May ilang nangangamba na nga na baka mabiktima ang ating mga OFWs sa mga vengeance-motivated crimes. May ilan ding nagsasabi na pati ang hiring ng mga Filipinos abroad ay baka maapektuhan.*

Kaya naman, kailangan, once and for all, na masiguro ang pagsasaayos ng ating mga kakayahan at kahandaan. Concrete actions must be taken to ensure every Filipino and the whole world that this will not happen again.

I hope the outrage, frustration, and sorrow do not simply die down and fade away. *Sana, ang mga buhay na nabuwis ay hindi masayang.* Yesterday is done. *Tapos na yun.* But tomorrow is yet to come. Let us make it a better tomorrow.

To end, I extend a Catholic prayer for times of danger.

"O God, Who knowest us to be set in the midst of such great perils, that by reason of the weakness of our nature, we cannot stand upright, grant us such health of mind and body, that those evils which we suffer for our sins we may overcome through Thine assistance. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen."

RESERVATION TO INTERPELLATE

Senator Ejercito Estrada made reservation to interpellate Senator Revilla after Senator Zubiri.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR CAYETANO (A)

Senator Cayetano (A) said that based on the biblical principle that what one reaps depends on what he sowed, Senator Revilla was correct in saying that no one wanted what had happened. He noted that the policemen were placed at a more difficult situation of having to make decisions in order to resolve the crisis.

Asked how much money Congress had provided to the PNP for training, Senator Zubiri admitted that there was obviously lack of funds for training but on the other hand, he noted that there seemed to be a lot of pocket money for police officials for their foreign travels as had been the case of the so-called Euro generals.

Senator Cayetano (A) agreed that certain police officials should be held responsible for the improper use of the PNP budget. But he agreed that clearly, there was not enough funding to cover training, uniform and ammunition expenses. Likewise, he noted that foreign trainings are usually viewed as junket, unless these are freely granted by other countries like Australia and the U.S., and everytime police officers would wish to avail of these trainings, they seek assistance from sponsors to augment their allowances.

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that Congress should make sure that law enforcement agencies are provided with ample funds for their equipment and training. He recounted that in the 2009 budget, he was instrumental in adding P1 million for each crime laboratory which includes the purchase of lie detector test machines, among others, and P5 million for Metro Manila. However, he lamented that so far the budget has not been released.

He said that the escape of the Abu Sayyaf members detained at Camp Bagong Diwa, which he personally witnessed because his residence was just behind the facility, was proof that the police lacked the needed training and equipment. He lamented that the government has to reinvent the playbook everytime that there is a crisis in the country, for instance, the destruction of the dams in Pangasinan caused by a typhoon, the escape of the Abu Sayyaf which resulted in the review of the BJMP procedures, or the need to look into the actions of the MMDA and the DENR in the

aftermath of Typhoon *Ondoy*. He said that the question of Senator Zubiri on why the situation was left to the hands of the MPD and not the elite forces was a valid one.

Senator Cayetano (A) reiterated that legislators should do their part to ensure – and not to be dictated upon even by Malacañang – that the PNP, the AFP and other law enforcement agencies should be provided with appropriate funding to cover the expenses for extensive training. He thanked Senators Zubiri and Revilla for having brought up issues that need to be addressed swiftly. He said that if the senators wanted results, they should not excuse any negligence, bad decision or failure in providing for the necessary funding.

Senator Zubiri agreed with the points raised by Senator Cayetano (A). However, he pointed out that there was also the problem of misuse of PNP funds as had been clearly exposed in the hearing of the Blue Ribbon Committee on some police officials who were carrying almost P6 million worth of pocket money in Moscow, which could have been used instead to purchase firearms and ammunition and to conduct training.

Senator Zubiri pointed out that the hostage crisis situation involving innocent foreign civilians has become a national security concern the moment it was monitored by BBC, CNN and other foreign nations because of the implication on the country's tourism and economy. He disclosed that the Philippines has already been blacklisted by seven nations including China and Iran.

Senator Zubiri narrated that it was him who suggested to the field operations commander through Julius Babao, who was covering the situation, that the police use a cable wire to open the door of the bus instead of the sledge hammers that were used to break the glass windows of the bus. He expressed dismay that the police even used the Manila plastic rope, which was useless against a steel door. Nonetheless, he said that he would focus not on the tactical operations that ensued but on what could have transpired prior to the actual assault. He pointed out the absence of high ranking officials like General Versoza who could have promised Mendoza that his demands would be met. He believed that this tactic would have calmed down Mendoza and he could have allowed the release of the hostages.

Senator Zubiri agreed with Senator Cayetano (A) that the PNP budget should be increased, especially in light of the fact that the country has been faced with the same problems for the last 20 years.


Senator Cayetano (A) stated that elite or trained PNP officials and personnel should be deployed in major cities in the country. He expressed hope that the personnel of the Department of Labor and Employment and the Department of Foreign Affairs, especially those stationed in Hong Kong, would be working overtime to assure the 200,000 to 300,000 overseas workers that the Philippine government is working on its diplomatic ties with China, especially with the Hong Kong government. Noting that the abuses and crimes of recent times have been committed by bemedalled policemen, Senator Cayetano (A) suggested the strengthening of the internal police system, as had been done in Japan, U.S. and Europe.

Senator Zubiri said that he has asked for a review of the capacity of the PNP's Internal Affairs Service, and Human Resources Development Fund which has a measly P3.3 million budget.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto agreed that there was really a need to reform the Philippine National Police and the policies of the National Police Commission. He expressed concern over the fact that some policemen neither follow the order of their superiors nor respect court orders.

Senator Sotto believed that even though the incident had negatively affected the Philippines' image in the international community, it is the hostage-taker and not the government, police or the media that ought to be blamed for the sad outcome. Senator Zubiri disagreed as he pointed out that while crime happens everywhere in the world, what matters is how the authorities respond to the situation. For instance, he said that the police were unable to launch a surprise assault on the hostage-taker as it took them 15 minutes to board the bus, using sledge-hammers instead of ladders, cables or explosives to gain entry into the vehicle. He believed that if the incident happened overseas such as in Hong Kong or the United States, the local police would have exercised all its powers to safely rescue the hostages.



He maintained that while the hostage-taker was rightfully condemned for his actions, the situation could have been resolved without violence. He said that the hostage crisis, which showed the lack of training and coordination within the PNP and among other responding agencies, only underscored the need to review the training procedures of the police.

Senator Sotto pointed out that even though the hostage crisis played out like a scene from the movies, fantastic rescue operations that are shown on the silver screen do not happen in real life. He believed that the hostage-taker was agitated but not deranged and as such, he stressed the importance of studying the details that set off the mass shooting. He surmised that Mendoza — who initially became agitated following a phone conversation with his brother over a letter sent to him by the Ombudsman — could have been further affected by his brother's claim of being arrested by the police, even though it appeared as though the latter made the statement to agitate Mendoza.

Senator Sotto also disagreed with the premise that such a tragedy would not have happened had the incident taken place in another country, noting that the outcome of the situation would depend on the mental state of the hostage-taker at the time as had been the case with Mendoza, who was a decorated police officer before being indicted by the Ombudsman for extortion. He said that the situation and even the policies of the NAPOLCOM ought to be immediately reviewed because they do not have all the details surrounding Mendoza's case. He recalled that even the father of the victim, who had charged Mendoza with extortion, brought the case to the Office of the Ombudsman because he did not trust the Internal Affairs Service's handling of the case.

Further, he believed that the deliberate selection of the tourists as hostages only showed that Mendoza had planned the whole incident to get the attention of the government. However, he said that he also understood the President's reason for not giving in to Mendoza's demands lest this set a precedent for others who might resort to such violent means to get what they want from the government. He pointed out that the number one commandment is not to give in to a hostage-taker.

Senator Zubiri stressed that the safe release of the hostages ought to be the primary concern of the crisis team and as such, he was puzzled over the decision to have Manila Vice Mayor Isko Moreno

handle the negotiations rather than the mayor himself. He said that this could have been another source of agitation for Mendoza, who would more likely listen to a higher ranking government official.

He also believed that one must be willing to make decisions that would save the lives of innocent civilians. He said that unleashing the Special Action Force and snipers should only be a final recourse in the event that the hostage-taker is bent on actually killing his hostages.

Relative thereto, Senator Zubiri also scored the tactical lapses that resulted in last night's botched rescue operation. For instance, he noted that another source of agitation for Mendoza might have been media reports concerning his relatives including the fact that he heard the cries of his children over the radio. He also believed that the authorities who invited Mendoza's brother to the area ought to have done so quickly and quietly. He said that no civilians would have been harmed had the authorities set up a security cordon to prevent the media and bystanders from being hit by stray bullets.

He clarified that he was not blaming the police for the tragedy because he himself entrusts his life to these lawmen. However, he said that last night's incident made the Philippines a laughing-stock among law enforcement communities around the world. He believed that aside from getting better training, the PNP ought to be better equipped as the lawmen who participated in the rescue operation lacked basic equipment such as ladders, bulletproof jackets and gas masks. He suggested that the authorities' response to the hostage-taking be reviewed to avoid having a repeat of such a tragedy and that the SWAT units, who are supposed to be the Manila's finest, go through some retraining.

For his part, Senator Sotto conceded that there had been procedural lapses in the operation, but he refused to believe that Mendoza's relatives were harassed by the police, pointing out that Mendoza's brother went to the command center voluntarily.

REMARKS OF SENATOR HONASAN

At this juncture, Senator Honasan said that he was encouraged that the collective wisdom of the Body began to bear on a situation that has become a repeated occurrence. He added that Senator Sotto has confirmed his attendance to the hearing of the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs

scheduled on Thursday at 10 o'clock in the morning. He also invited Senator Zubiri to attend the hearing.

Senator Honasan said that management of violence is not an exact science as it happens even in more economically developed countries with better trained and well equipped police/military forces. He opined that in the Mendoza hostage-taking case, it would be premature to judge the conduct of the negotiators and the consequent police action because too many variables came into play: the weather, police equipment and training, unity of command within the police rank, and the management of public information. In fact, he noted, the area should have been cordoned off with a ribbon that says "Police line do not cross" but, he rued, this simply does not work in the Philippine culture where the ribbon apparently becomes an invitation to come closer to find out what is happening.

In this regard, he informed the Body that the hearing of the Committee on Thursday, August 26, 2010, would be in coordination with the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, chaired by Senator Escudero, and it would look into the torture issues, the privilege speech of Senator Zubiri on the killing of *balikbayans*, the spate of killings carried out by hired guns that Senate President Enrile mentioned, and the progress report on the hostage-taking at the Quirino Grandstand.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR SOTTO (Continuation)

Reacting to the statement of Senator Honasan, Senator Sotto agreed that indeed the management of violence is not an exact science, saying that nobody can be perfect in handling volatile situations like the one that transpired at the Quirino Grandstand. In the movies, he said, the whole scenario would have been over in two hours but in a real situation, everyone has to be very careful to avoid making any mistake. He stated that had the police believed the driver's statement that everyone in the bus was already dead and immediately attacked the bus, all eight hostages would have been killed. He asserted that the police acted correctly under the circumstance.

On the role of Vice Mayor Moreno as negotiator, Senator Sotto said that he knew the Vice Mayor to be an upright and trustworthy young man, and he bared that the Vice Mayor had, in fact, informed him earlier today that Mayor Lim had assigned him to handle the negotiations.

Asked by the Chair on the whereabouts of Mayor Lim during the incident, Senator Sotto assumed that he was in the vicinity of the Quirino Grandstand. He stated that he would rather believe Vice Mayor Moreno's account of the incident than anything that the brother of the hostage-taker has to say.

The Chair asked whether Mayor Lim delegated the task of handling sensitive issues like negotiating the release of hostages to the Vice Mayor. He recalled that as mayor of San Juan, he never delegated his duties, in particular dealing with emergency cases, to his vice mayor. In reaction, Senator Sotto stated that he would assume the Vice Mayor was given full authority by Mayor Lim, adding that the age of the mayor should also be considered.

Senator Zubiri stated that Vice Mayor Moreno was his good friend and he was not demeaning or questioning the latter's integrity. However, he stressed that a negotiator of higher stature, for instance, the DILG Secretary or the PNP Chief, could have been sent to talk to the hostage-taker to guarantee that his demands would be acted upon immediately.

Senator Sotto stated that the beef of the hostage-taker was with Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez to whom he directed his appeal. Besides, he said, the two negotiators were professionals. He revealed that Mendoza talked to the Ombudsman on the phone and she wrote a letter that Vice Mayor Moreno delivered to him.

On the observation of Senator Zubiri that the letter of the Ombudsman has no standing because the power to reinstate lies with the President of the Philippines and the head of the NAPOLCOM who is the DILG Secretary, Senator Sotto pointed out that Mendoza was asking for a reconsideration of his dismissal. He argued that the letter from the Ombudsman was the first step, and the second step would have been his reinstatement. He bared that the PNP already had plans on how to pacify Mendoza but he became agitated when someone on the phone told him that the letter from the Ombudsman was trash.

Further, Senator Sotto said that all the debate after the incident was just conjecture as he likened the situation to analyzing a lost basketball game. He hoped that the government would wake up from the nightmare someday and that the people of Hong Kong would realize that the unfortunate

incident was not the fault of the Filipinos or the Philippine government, adding that a similar incident can happen anywhere in the world. He recalled that the Japanese killed one million Filipinos in World War II but the Filipinos and Japanese are friends today.

At this juncture, the Chair relayed a report from Ted Failon from station ABS-CBN that it was Mayor Lim who dismissed Mendoza from service.

Senator Zubiri agreed that crime management is not an exact science, but he maintained that the government could have sent a negotiator with a higher position when talks bogged down at 3 p.m., after Mendoza dismissed the letter of the Ombudsman. He asked where the DILG Secretary or General Versoza and his fellow generals were at that time. He agreed that there were a lot of questions to be answered and that the PNP should not be severely criticized for the bloody end to the incident but, he noted, their reputation had already been damaged. He asked that the PNP and the Armed Forces be extended the help they needed by strengthening their capabilities to handle dangerous situations. He noted that the Philippines has the most number of armed groups like MILF, NPA, Abu Sayyaf, and all sorts of criminal syndicates that sow terror and destruction.

On the issue of the Philippine seas being the drop-off point in the shipment of cocaine, Senator Sotto clarified that the cocaine bricks found in the seas off Samar were not intended for the Philippine market. Quoting reports from PDEA and the international narcotic enforcement groups, he clarified that the cocaine was being shipped from South America to Guangzhou, China, but it was dumped in the Samar seas when the carriers were informed that the Chinese coastguard was going to inspect the boat. He said that the veracity of the report could be proven by the fact that none of the cocaine bricks has a beamer in it and they were, in fact, scattered all over the area. He explained that the strategy of drug dealers in Florida was to put beamers on the contraband so that it could be located easily when it is dropped off in the high seas.

On the possibility that the country could become a cocaine market, Senator Sotto confirmed that there was a cocaine market in the country, as he disclosed that the shipment in Davao was really intended

for the Philippine market. He urged the people to be cautious and wary about cocaine because when its price is half that of shabu, apparently it is an introductory offer.

Senator Zubiri assumed that the cocaine carriers were afraid to be apprehended by Chinese authorities, because in China, drug trafficking carries the penalty of death by musketry.

Senator Zubiri agreed to the points raised earlier by Senator Cayetano (A) and to Senator Sotto that the PNP should be strengthened. But he urged everyone to be cautious about what transpired yesterday. In the meantime, he said, questions have to be answered. He expressed hope that the incident would not happen again as he urged the Members to help rebuild the image of the country.

Senator Zubiri stated that at this point in time, nobody wants to be in the place of Tourism Secretary Lim who, he surmised, must have cried buckets of tears as he watched the incident unfold in all international media outlets. He said that Secretary Lim is faced with a tough job of promoting the Philippines and the Body ought to support him in that endeavor.

REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEE

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Zubiri and the interpellations thereon to the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended.

It was 5:07 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:10 p.m., the session was resumed.

DEFERMENT OF THE INTERPELLATION ON THE SPEECH OF SENATOR REVILLA

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body deferred the interpellation on the speech of Senator Revilla to a later day.

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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. 1101, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DIRECT REMITTANCE TO THE HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT OF ITS FORTY PERCENT (40%) SHARE OF THE GROSS COLLECTION DERIVED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FROM NATIONAL WEALTH TAXES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 293 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1102, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 53 AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT TO EXEMPT THE PUBLISHER, EDITOR OR REPORTER OF ANY PUBLICATION FROM REVEALING THE SOURCE OF PUBLISHED NEWS OR INFORMATION OBTAINED IN CONFIDENCE BY INCLUDING WITHIN ITS COVERAGE JOURNALISTS FROM BROADCAST, NEWS AGENCIES AND INTERNET PUBLICATIONS

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 1103, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING SOUND WASTE MANAGEMENT BY REQUIRING ALL DEPARTMENT STORES, MALLS,

AND COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS TO UTILIZE REUSABLE ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY SHOPPING BAGS AND PROVIDE THEM FREE OF CHARGE TO CUSTOMERS AND PATRONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 1104, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE CASH AND NON-MONETARY BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES OF WINNING FILIPINO OLYMPIAN/S, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9064, AN ACT GRANTING CASH AND OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO NATIONAL ATHLETES, COACHES AND TRAINERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1105, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING HYDROPONICS AGRICULTURE AS AN INSTRUMENT TO SOLVE PROBLEMS OF FOOD SECURITY AND AS A MECHANISM OF WISE USE OF SCARCE LAND RESOURCES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1106, entitled

AN ACT CELEBRATING THE AGE-OLD VALUE OF DISTINCT FILIPINO BAYANIHAN SPIRIT, DECLARING FOR THE PURPOSE THE 20TH DAY

OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS
A NATIONAL THANK YOU DAY

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1107, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ACT OF
IMPOSING CORPORAL PUNISH-
MENT ON CHILDREN, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7610, AS AMENDED,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS SPECIAL
PROTECTION OF CHILDREN
AGAINST CHILD ABUSE, EXPLOIT-
ATION AND DISCRIMINATION
ACT, PROVIDING PENALTIES
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and
Family Relations; and Justice and Human
Rights**

Senate Bill No. 1108, entitled

AN ACT TO INCLUDE TRADITIONAL
GAMES AND SPORTS IN THE
PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.)
COURSES IN ALL LEVELS OF
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES OF THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1109, entitled

ISANG BATAS NA NAGPAPALA-
GANAP NG KALINANGANG
PILIPINO SA PAMAMAGITAN NG
MALAWAKANG PAGSASAMA NG
PAGTUTURO NG KULINARYA AT

PAGKAING PINOY SA MGA ASIG-
NATURANG ARALING PANLIPUNAN,
HEKASI AT "HOME ECONOMICS"
O GAWAING PANTAHANAN AT SA
MGA PROGRAMANG TURISMO NG
BANSA

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1110, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A CENTER FOR
BREAST CANCER CONTROL AND
PREVENTION

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1111, entitled

AN ACT PROFESSIONALIZING LOCAL
PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT
MANDATING ELECTED LOCAL
CHIEF EXECUTIVES TO TAKE A
TWO WEEK INTENSIVE LEADER-
SHIP AND GOVERNANCE COURSE
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Local Government;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1112, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES
FOR CHILD PROSTITUTION, SEXUAL
ABUSE AND CHILD TRAFFICKING,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTIONS 5, 6, 7 AND 8 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610, AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE SPECIAL PROTECTION
OF CHILDREN AGAINST CHILD
ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND
DISCRIMINATION ACT, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations

Senate Bill No. 1113, 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 Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1114, 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 Villar

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1115, 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 Villar

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1116, 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 PHILIPPINE KOMIKS AS INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS IN PHILIPPINE EDUCATION

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1117, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE MUSIC INDUSTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1118, entitled

AN ACT TO INTEGRATE A COMPUTER EDUCATION PROGRAM INTO THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1119, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING TAX INCENTIVES TO BROADCAST AND PRINT MEDIA DEVOTING AIR TIME AND SPACE TO EDUCATION, AS WELL AS, TO SPONSORS SUPPORTING SUCH PROGRAMS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1120, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE BAMBOO AND RATTAN CENTER (PBRC) TO CONSERVE, PROPAGATE AND PROMOTE BAMBOO AND RATTAN SPECIES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1121, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FORENSIC SCIENCE INSTITUTE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1122, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING SMOKING TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN A MOTOR VEHICLE WHEN A MINOR IS PRESENT AND PROVIDING GRADUATED PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1123, entitled

CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS AND PREVENTION CAMPAIGN ACT

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1124, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTER-AGENCY INITIATIVE TO ENHANCE SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1125, entitled

AN ACT PUNISHING THE ACT OF UNDERAGE TATTOOING AND BODY PIERCING

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 1126, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING STANDARDS IN THE OPERATION OF TATTOO STUDIOS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1127, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DAY FOR HEARTS: CONGENITAL DEFECT AWARENESS DAY

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1128, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1129, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING COMPULSORY EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN OF COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1130, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF IDENTITY THEFT, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 1131, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FOR WOMEN, CHILDREN AND OTHER OPPRESSED SECTOR, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE AN OMNIBUS FRAMEWORK TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM OF PROSTITUTION, SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ITS VICTIMS, HIGHER PENALTIES FOR PERPETRATORS AND PROMOTERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1132, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN ADDITIONAL SEPARATION BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE

SYSTEM (GSIS) WHO OPT TO RESIGN OR RETIRE BEFORE THE MATURITY OF THEIR INSURANCE POLICY THROUGH REFUND OF INSURANCE PREMIUMS PAID INCLUSIVE OF GOVERNMENT SHARE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "GSIS ACT OF 1997" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Civil Service and Government Reorganization

Senate Bill No. 1133, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE MANDATE OF THE PHILIPPINE TEXTILE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PTRI) FOR THE PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 24 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 128 DATED JANUARY 30, 1987, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; Science and Technology; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1134, entitled

AN ACT ORDAINING A NEW SANITARY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING LAW OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

Senate Bill No. 1135, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING FARMER ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE

for H.A.

RICE IMPORTATIONS, PROVIDING
FUND ASSISTANCE AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Agriculture and Food

Senate Bill No. 1136, entitled

AN ACT MERGING THE BONDED
EXPORT MARKETING BOARD OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
INDUSTRY WITH THE BOARD OF
INVESTMENTS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1137, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE MISSING
PERSONS COUNCIL, PRESCRIBING
ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND
DUTIES AND PROVIDING FUNDS
THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; Public Order and Illegal Drugs; and
Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1138, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA
CARTA OF AGRICULTURAL
OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization; Agriculture and
Food; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1139, entitled

AN ACT ENSURING THE EDUCA-
TIONAL BENEFITS OF THE MINOR

CHILDREN OF FIREFIGHTERS WHO
ARE KILLED IN THE LINE OF
DUTY OR OF OCCUPATION-
RELATED ILLNESS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1140, entitled

AN ACT PUNISHING CELLPHONE
THEFT

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Justice and Human
Rights**

Senate Bill No. 1141, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING REQUIRED
MINIMUM KNOWLEDGE AND
COMPETENCIES (RMKC) FOR
EVERY CURRICULAR SUBJECT IN
EVERY GRADE AND YEAR LEVEL
IN BASIC EDUCATION IN ALL
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1142, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING
THE BUREAU OF ALTERNATIVE
LEARNING SYSTEM (BALS)

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1143, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE
OPEN HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1144, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA OF STUDENTS

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1145, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING RESPECT FOR AND FOSTERING HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SYSTEM OF FORMAL AND INFORMAL EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1146, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLISHERS OF ALL BOOKS TO FURNISH CERTAIN GOVERNMENT LIBRARIES AND STATE UNIVERSITIES PRINTED BOOKS FREE OF CHARGE AND PROVIDING CERTAIN PRIVILEGES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1147, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING A MECHANISM FOR GENERATING QUALITY GRADUATES OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS BASED ON PERFORMANCE IN PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1148, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING ADVANCED SCIENCE AND CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING A SPECIAL FUND THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1149, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POPULARIZATION PROGRAM THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE CENTRUM AS THE NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LEARNING CENTER/MUSEUM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1150, entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING FIRE-SAFE CIGARETTES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Public Order and Illegal Drugs

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

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BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1151, entitled

AN ACT TO ENSURE THE FAIR AND EQUAL TREATMENT OF PRISONERS, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE ARTICLES 39, 94, 97, AND 99 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 1152, entitled

AN ACT COMPELLING INTERMEDIATE GRADE SCHOOLERS, SECONDARY AND COLLEGE STUDENTS TO DO COMMUNITY WORK AS PART OF THEIR CURRICULUM AND AS PREREQUISITE FOR GRADUATION

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1153, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO CHILDREN OF ALL OFFICERS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) IN ANY STATE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY TO BE KNOWN AS "CHILDREN OF POLICE SCHOLARSHIP (COPS) PROGRAM" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1154, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE

STRENGTHENING OF NON-FORMAL EDUCATION BY CREATING ITEMS FOR DISTRICT NON-FORMAL EDUCATION COORDINATORS AND TEACHERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1155, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING FREE SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSES FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED PERSONS WHO WILL ENROLL IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF THE COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1156, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE NATIONAL POLICY ON AND ESTABLISHING THE PROGRAM FRAMEWORK FOR THE PRIMARY LITERACY AND READING APPROACH, PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1157, entitled

AN ACT TO EXPAND AND REVITALIZE THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR GIFTED AND HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1158, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING FREE PUBLIC PREPARATORY EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1159, entitled

AN ACT TO INTEGRATE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION INTO THE PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY CURRICULA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1160, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING PRIVILEGES TO STUDENTS AT ALL LEVELS ON BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1161, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF MUNICIPAL SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTERS FOR DEAF-MUTE AND BLIND CHILDREN APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1162, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY, AND TERTIARY SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY ENRICHMENT, TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1163, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (NISMED) APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1164, entitled

AN ACT TO PRESCRIBE NUTRITION LABELING FOR FOODS

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1165, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON PROSTATE CANCER

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

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Senate Bill No. 1166, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FREE
MEDICINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
FOR THE POOR AND PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1167, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THAT ALL
LIQUOR PRODUCTS TO CARRY A
WARNING LABEL THAT ALCOHOL
INTAKE DURING PREGNANCY IS
HAZARDOUS TO THE LIFE AND
HEALTH OF THE UNBORN CHILD

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1168, entitled

AN ACT TO REGULATE PESTICIDE
CHEMICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1169, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL CIGARETTE
AND CIGAR MANUFACTURERS
AND DISTRIBUTORS TO SCIENTIFICALLY
DETERMINE AND TRUTHFULLY PRINT,
ON EACH BOX OR PACK OF CIGARS OR
CIGARETTES THAT THEY MANUFACTURE,
DISTRIBUTE OR SELL WITHIN THE
COUNTRY, THE LEVELS OF NICOTINE,
TAR AND CARBON MONOXIDE THAT
COULD BE INHALED IN SMOKING A
STICK OF CIGAR OR CIGARETTE,
AND PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR
VIOLATIONS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1170, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PRESCRIPTION
DRUG PRICE MONITORING
COMMISSION

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1171, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS TO
REPORT INFORMATION ABOUT
PATIENT INFECTIONS

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1172, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A NATIONAL
FOLIC ACID EDUCATION PROGRAM
TO PREVENT BIRTH DEFECTS

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1173, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE LABELING
OF IMPORTED MEAT AND MEAT
FOOD PRODUCTS

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1174, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN OVARIAN
CANCER PUBLIC AWARENESS
CAMPAIGN

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Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1175, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE WEARING OF GLOVES IN FOOD PREPARATION IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1176, entitled

AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH PATIENT RIGHTS AND TO A HOSPITAL'S DUTY TO PROVIDE CHOICE OF THE SEX OF STAFF PROVIDING INTIMATE CARE TO A MENTAL HEALTH PATIENT

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1177, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG RETAIL PRICE REGISTRY

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1178, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING PARKINSON'S DISEASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ACT

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1179, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING FREE MEDICAL AND HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS TO INDIGENT FILIPINO WOMEN SUFFERING FROM WOMEN'S DISEASES, ILLNESSES AND INJURIES DUE TO VIOLENCE INFLICTED ON WOMEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1180, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF MOBILE UNITS SERVING MEDICAL, DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT SERVICES, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR PATIENTS WHO RECEIVE CARE IN REMOTE OR RURAL AREAS AND FOR PATIENTS WHO NEED SPECIALIZED TYPES OF MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED IN A COST-EFFECTIVE WAY

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Health and Demography


Senate Bill No. 1181, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL MILK FEEDING PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FOR MILKFEEDING FUND THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1182, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPRE-


HENSIVE PROGRAM TO ENSURE
THE SAFETY OF FOOD PRODUCTS
INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMP-
TION

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1183, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE INDUSTRIES,
FACTORIES, COMPANIES, OR ANY
INSTITUTION, FIRM OR ESTABLISH-
MENT USING CHEMICALS AND
THEIR BY-PRODUCTS FOR PRODUC-
TION, TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE
A COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT
INFORMATION PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Environment and
Natural Resources; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 1184, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING PUBLIC
RECREATIONAL PARKS IN MAJOR
URBAN AREAS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Public Works; Local
Government; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1185, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
PRESERVATION, REFORESTATION,
AFFORESTATION AND SUSTAIN-
ABLE DEVELOPMENT OF MAN-
GROVE FORESTS IN THE PHILIP-
PINES, PROVIDING PENALTIES
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committee on Environment and
Natural Resources**

Senate Bill No. 1186, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING FOREST
MANAGEMENT, UTILIZATION,
CONSERVATION AND PRESERV-
ATION CENTERS IN PROVINCES
INHABITED PREDOMINANTLY
BY MEMBERS OF INDIGENOUS
CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND
UPLAND FAMILIES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1187, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A
NATIONAL ECOTOURISM POLICY,
ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK
FOR ITS INSTITUTIONALIZATION,
CREATING A MECHANISM FOR ITS
IMPLEMENTATION AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1188, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE COASTAL
ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM, APPRO-
PRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1189, entitled

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY
OF BEACHES AND COASTAL
RECREATION WATER

Introduced by Senator Villar

**To the Committees on Environment and
Natural Resources; and Health and Demography**

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Senate Bill No. 1190, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND THEIR HABITATS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Agriculture and Food; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1191, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE USE OF RECYCLABLE OR BIODEGRADABLE MATERIALS FOR THE PACKAGING OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Trade and Commerce; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 1192, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR TERMINATION OF SEA DUMPING OF SEWAGE SLUDGE AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 1193, entitled

AN ACT TO PROCLAIM FIRE-FIGHTERS' MEMORIAL DAY

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs

Senate Bill No. 1194, entitled

AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERN-

MENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs) AND STRENGTHEN THEIR ROLE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

Senate Bill No. 1195, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING MEASURES TO ENSURE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Public Works; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 1196, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES TO FORMER OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1197, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A PROGRAM FOR THE CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR COLLEGE TEACHERS, AMENDING FOR SUCH PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7784, STRENGTHENING TEACHER EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES BY ESTABLISHING A CENTER OF EXCELLENCE, CREATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION COUNCIL FOR THE PURPOSE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

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Senate Bill No. 1198, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ABSENTEE VOTING BY THE MEMBERS OF MEDIA WHO ARE AWAY FROM THE PLACES OF THEIR REGISTRATION BY REASON OF OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS ON ELECTION DAY

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1199, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 354 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1200, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING SANITATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS AND FACILITIES FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONVENIENCE OF THE PUBLIC

Introduced by Senator Villar

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

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 139

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 139, entitled

RESOLUTION CREATING A SELECT OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS, PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.

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.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 139

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 139 was adopted by the Body.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

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

Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies

Vice Chair : Guingona

Members :

Arroyo	Revilla
Escudero	Trillanes
Legarda	Villar
Pangilinan	

Committee on Energy

Vice Chair : Guingona

Members :


Arroyo	Marcos
Cayetano (P)	Pangilinan
Defensor Santiago	Recto
Escudero	Revilla
Honasan	Villar
Lapid	Zubiri
Legarda	

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 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 August 25, 2010