



PERFORMANCE OF THE SENATE

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
(July 25, 2016 – May 31, 2017)

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PROLOGUE
BY
ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO
SENATE SECRETARY

We are honored to present the *Performance of the Philippine Senate* for the First Regular Session of the 17th Congress.

This booklet is the testament of hardworking senators and how they painstakingly made sure that legislative milestones coming out of the halls of the Senate will ultimately benefit the Filipino people.

You will find in this booklet the laws signed by the President of the Philippines, the proposed bills, resolutions and other measures filed by the senators. We also included the profiles of our beloved senators.

We start another history as we welcome the Second Regular Session of the 17th Congress. I am reminded of what Senate President Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III said on May 31, 2017 in his speech during the *sine die* adjournment of the First Regular Session of the 17th Congress: “So, with our success comes bigger challenges.” With the dedication and determination of our beloved senators, we are assured of yet again another challenging and fruitful year for the betterment of our beloved Philippines.

Mabuhay tayong lahat!!!



SENATE: THE PRIDE OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

by
SENATE PRESIDENT
AQUILINO "KOKO"
PIMENTEL III

(The following is an extract from the speech of Senate President Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III delivered at the sine die adjournment of the First Regular Session, 17th Congress)

The First Regular Session of the Senate of the 17th Congress was quite eventful. We celebrated our 100th anniversary during this session. We also were able to tackle Martial Law related measures. But throughout our session, we were guided in our efforts by the 11-point agenda that the Senate majority agreed on. Underlying this 11-point agenda is the general expression of support for President Duterte's agenda for Change.

Budget For Change

The session resulted in four of our bills signed into law. The most important of these is Republic Act No. 10924, the Budget for Change. In this budget, we shared the nation's blessings with our countrymen in the form of free tuition in state universities and colleges, free irrigation to farmers, free health insurance coverage for all, and well distributed strategic infrastructure works, among others. Through this effort, we have made a bold step towards achieving my mantra for a new government – "the poorest first, the poor second".

But the budget is just the first step. We funded these programs for just one year. The reforms needed by our people should be permanent and institutionalized. Conscious of this need, along with our need for other structural reforms, we coordinated with the

House of Representatives in coming up with the list of 40 priority bills to help the President fulfill the promise of Change.

Measures For Reforms

Seven of those bills have passed both Houses of Congress and now await the signature of the President. These are the Philippine Passport Act, the Free Internet Access in Public Places Act, the Anti-Hospital Deposit Law, the Amendments to the Revised Penal Code, the Affordable Higher Education for All Act, Amendments to the Anti-Money Laundering Act, and Extending the Validity Period of Driver's Licenses.

In addition, we have passed on Third and Final Reading a total of 32 bills, one of which is the Mental Health Act, currently pending in the House of Representatives. While the session may have been eventful, it has also been productive.

Your senators have filed a total of 1,487 bills and 399 resolutions, of which 53 were adopted. These resolutions included the accession of the Senate to treaties such as the Articles of Agreement of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, the RP-Japan Agreement on Social Security, and the landmark Paris Agreement.

For the Senate's achievements this session, full credit must be given to the senators' staff, the officials, and employees of the Senate Secretariat. Without the full and complete support and efforts of the entire Senate family, there would not have been any achievement to report. It is because of their efforts that the Senate now stands proud, knowing it has done its job well.

Highest Satisfaction Rating

This is not a self-serving assessment. A survey released in May reported that the Senate, your Senate, this Senate, received the highest satisfaction rating among the top four institutions in our country. The Senate was compared to the Cabinet, the Supreme Court, and the House of Representatives. This is what is possible with the unity of the Senate family. There may be a political division

between the majority and minority senators, but all senators, their staff, and the officials and employees of the Secretariat stand united in serving the people.

With our success comes bigger challenges. While we may have achieved much in the First Regular Session, our work is not yet done. Forty-six bills remain pending on Second Reading, while 1,245 bills remain pending in our committees.

I have no doubt that we can accomplish all these tasks that await us. Expect the Senate to return in the Second Regular Session refreshed, reenergized, and better equipped to work on Charter Change and the long-awaited shift to Federalism.

We are all committed to build a Senate that is independent, responsible, and responsive. A Senate that is a pillar of democracy and the pride of the Filipino people.

In closing, I urge our colleagues to continue working hand and hand to help build a Philippine society which is JUST and FAIR, which SAVES and SHARES, which is SCIENTIFIC and OBJECTIVE, which is PEACEFUL and DEMOCRATIC, which is EDUCATED and HEALTHY, and which is, most of all, HAPPY and FREE, with overflowing LOVE OF GOD AND COUNTRY.

Maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat!

SURVEY OF SENATE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS

SURVEY OF SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

(July 25, 2016 – May 31, 2017)

REPUBLIC ACTS

R.A. No. 10923 – An Act Postponing The October 2016 Barangay And Sangguniang Kabataan Elections, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 9164, As Amended By Republic Act No. 9340 And Republic Act No. 10656, Prescribing Additional Rules Governing The Conduct Of Barangay And Sangguniang Kabataan Elections And For Other Purposes (S. No. 1112/H. No. 3504) [October 15, 2016]

The law postponed the October 31, 2016 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections and rescheduled it on the 4th Monday of October 2017. Subsequent synchronized Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan elections shall be held on the 2nd Monday of May 2020 and every three (3) years thereafter.

All incumbent barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials shall remain in office until their successors have been duly elected.

R.A. No. 10924 – An Act Appropriating Funds For The Operation Of The Government Of The Republic Of The Philippines From January One To December Thirty-One, Two Thousand And Seventeen, And For Other Purposes (H. No. 3408) [December 22, 2016]

This Act provides for the 2017 national budget in the amount of P 3.35 trillion, with the following five (5) agencies having the highest allocations:

Department of Education	P 544.1 Billion
Department of Public Works and Highways	P 454.7 Billion

Department of Interior and Local Government P 148 Billion
Department of National Defense P137.2 Billion
Department of Social Work and Development P 454.7 Billion

The 2017 Budget is the first budget enactment under the term of President Rodrigo R. Duterte, which he envisioned to be pro-people, pro-investment, pro-growth and pro-development.

With human capital investment as top priority, 40.3% of the national budget went to Social services. Growth enhancing infrastructure projects is targeted to be 5.3% of the GDP, compared to only 2.9% since 2010. This is expected to be enhanced with infrastructure projects under public private partnership (PPP) arrangement.

The national budget also gives priority to countryside development that is envisioned to fuel national development through increase of agricultural and rural enterprises productivity and rural tourism.

R.A. No. 10925 – An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Republic Broadcasting System, Inc., Presently Known as GMA Network, Inc., Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 7252, Entitled “An Act Granting the Republic Broadcasting System, Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Install, Operate and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in the Philippines” (H. No. 4631) [April 21, 2017]

This law extends for another twenty-five (25) years the franchise of Republic Broadcasting System, Inc. or GMA Network, Inc. to operate and maintain for commercial purposes, radio and television broadcasting stations in the Philippines, including digital television or any new technologies in television and radio system.

R.A. No. 10926 – An Act Extending for Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Smart Communications, Inc. (Formerly Smart Information Technologies, Inc.) Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 7294, Entitled “An Act Granting Smart Information Technologies, Inc. (SMART) a Franchise to Establish, Maintain,

Lease and Operate Integrated Telecommunications/Computer/Electronic Services, and Stations Throughout the Philippines for Public Domestic and International Telecommunications”, and for Other Purposes (H. No. 4637) [April 21, 2017]

This law extends for another twenty-five (25) years the franchise of SMART COMMUNICATION, INC. to operate and carry on the business of providing telecommunications, including electronic telecommunications or electronic communication services throughout the Philippines and other countries.

FOR APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT

S. No. 14 – Adjusting The Amount Involved, Value Of Property Or Damage On Which A Penalty Is Based, And The Fines Under Act No. 3815, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The Revised Penal Code

The measure aims to restore the proportionality of the crime to the punishment by adjusting the amounts stipulated in the various provisions of the Revised Penal Code to their present values. The revisions of the amount of penalties are guided, among others, by the latest amendment to the subsidiary penalty provision of the Code and the minimum wage rate prevailing upon the law’s passage and that applicable today as its equivalent.

The measure also seeks to adjust the value of fines. Its passage, for example, would mean that the P200.00 fine under the present law will be increased to P40,000.00 as in the case of felonious acts falling under the category of other light threats. Further, the P200.00 to P6,000.00 fine for libel by means of writings or similar means is now increased to P40,000.00 to P1,200,000.00.

S. No. 1277 – Establishing the Free Internet Access Program in Public Spaces in the Country

The Free Internet Access in Public Places Act mandates the government, including local government units, to provide free

internet access in all national and local government offices, public basic education institutions, state universities and colleges, public transport terminals, public hospitals, and public libraries.

The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall be the lead agency for this program.

S. No. 1304 – Providing for a Full Tuition Subsidy for Students Enrolled in State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)

The proposed “Free Higher Education For All Act” seeks to make higher education accessible to financially disadvantaged but deserving students through tuition subsidies and financial assistance to state universities and colleges (SUCs).

All Filipino citizens currently enrolled in SUCs and other covered institutions, as well as those who will enroll in the future in courses in pursuance of a bachelor’s degree, certificate degree, or any comparable undergraduate degree in any SUC can qualify for the tuition subsidy provided that they meet the admission requirements of the SUC.

S. No. 1353 – Strengthening The Anti-Hospital Deposit Law By Increasing The Penalties For The Refusal Of Hospitals And Medical Clinics To Administer Appropriate Initial Medical Treatment And Support In Emergency Or Serious Cases, Amending For The Purpose Batas Pambansa Bilang 702, Otherwise Known As An Act Prohibiting The Demand Of Deposits Or Advance Payments For The Confinement Or Treatment Of Patients In Hospitals And Medical Clinics In Certain Cases, As Amended By Republic Act No. 8344

The bill amends the Anti-Hospital Deposit Law and imposes stricter penalties to erring hospitals that demand any deposit or other form of advance payment as a prerequisite for admission or medical treatment of an emergency patient. It also increases the fines for hospitals which refuse to administer basic emergency care, from P500,000.00 to P1,000,000.00.

S. No. 1365 – Extending The Validity Of Philippine Passports, Amending For The Purpose Section 10 Of Republic Act No. 8239, Otherwise Known As The “Philippine Passport Act Of 1996”

This measure seeks to extend the validity of the regular Philippine passport to ten (10) years from the current five (5) years. The issuing authority may limit the period of validity to less than ten (10) years when required in the interest of economic or political stability of the country. The bill also provides that passports issued to individuals under eighteen (18) years old shall be valid for five (5) years only.

S. No. 1449 – Rationalizing and Strengthening the Policy Regarding Driver’s License by Extending the Validity Period of Driver’s Licenses, and Penalizing Acts in Violation of Its Issuance and Application, Amending for The Purposes Section 23 of Republic Act No. 4136, As amended by Batas Pambansa Blg. 398 and Executive Order No. 1011, Otherwise Known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code

The measure extends the validity of driver’s licenses, with exception of student’s licenses, from three (3) years to five (5) years, reckoned from the birthdate of the licensee, unless revoked or suspended.

Any holder of a professional or nonprofessional driver’s license who has not violated any traffic laws, rules and regulations during the five year period shall be entitled to a renewal of such license for ten (10) years subject to the restrictions as may be imposed by the LTO.

S. No. 1468 – Designating Casinos As Covered Persons Under Republic Act No. 9160, Otherwise Known As The Anti-Money Laundering Act Of 2001, As Amended

This measure amends the Anti-Money Laundering Act by including casinos as covered persons. This includes internet and ship-based casinos and single cash transactions in one banking day involving more than five million pesos (P5,000,000.00) or its equivalent in any currency

**APPROVED ON THIRD READING BY THE SENATE/
PENDING IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

S. No. 209 – Declaring the Twenty-Fifth Day of August of Every Year as the National Tech-Voc Day

The measure seeks to declare every twenty-fifth of the month of August as National Tech-Voc Day to give importance on the role of middle-level manpower and uplift the dignity of plumbers, carpenters, welders, household workers, drivers, seamen, cooks, dressmakers, among others.

S. No. 462 – Regulating The Practice Of Speech Language Pathology In The Philippines

This bill promotes the development of speech language pathology. It defines the term, “speech language pathology”, the scope of the practice and creates the Professional Regulatory Board of Speech Language Pathology, which shall supervise and regulate the registration, licensure and practice of the profession in the Philippines.

The measure allows the practice of foreigners in the country provided the same privilege is granted to Filipino speech language pathologists in the recipient’s country.

S. No. 812 – Institutionalizing The Grant Of A Teaching Supplies Allowance For Public School Teachers

This measure institutionalizes the grant of P5,000.00 teaching supplies allowance to public school teachers engaged in actual classroom teaching. The teaching supplies refer to chalks, erasers, pens, papers, pastes and other classroom materials.

S. No. 1239 – Granting The Chief Of The Philippine National Police (PNP) And The Director And The Deputy Director Of The Criminal Investigation And Detection Group (CIDG) The Authority To Administer Oath And To Issue *Subpoena Duces Tecum*, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 6975, As Amended,

Otherwise Known As The Department Of The Interior And Local Government (DILG) Act Of 1990

This bill grants the Director and Deputy Director of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group of the Philippine National Police (PNP) the authority to administer oath upon cases under their investigation and to issue subpoena and subpoena *duces tecum* in relation thereto.

S. No. 1255 – Expanding The Coverage Of Exemptions From Revealing The Source Of Published News Or Information Obtained In Confidence By Including Journalists From Broadcast, News Agencies And Internet Publications, Amending For The Purpose Section 1 Of Republic Act 53, As Amended By R.A.1477

The measure includes in the exemptions provided by the law on revealing the source of published news or information obtained in confidence, contributors, opinion writers and media practitioners, among others, that are involved in the writing, editing, production, and dissemination of news for mass circulation, of any print, broadcast, wire service organization, or electronic mass media, including internet and cable TV and its variants.

S. No. 1269 – Providing For The Registration, Licensure And Practice Of Food Technology In The Philippines

This bill recognizes the practice of food technology as a profession and aims to produce highly capable and globally competitive Filipino food technologists. It creates a Board of Food Technology with powers and functions under the administrative supervision of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

To keep abreast with the latest innovations, the bill mandates the institution of a Continuing Professional Development Program (CPD) for food technologies. Moreover, under its reciprocity clause, the bill allows the practice of foreigners in the Philippines provided the same privilege is granted to Filipino food technologists in the recipient’s country. Finally, it integrates the profession into one national accredited professional organization.

S. No. 1281 – Instituting the Farmers and Fisherfolk Enterprise Development Program of the Department of Agriculture

The measure creates the Farmers and Fisherfolk Enterprise Development Program. The program includes the agricultural and fisheries production, including processing of fisheries and agri-based products and farm inputs as well as working capital for agriculture and fisheries graduates to enable them to engage in agriculture and fisheries related economic activities.

In order to promote and support the enterprise development, the bill seeks to mandate national and local government agencies to directly purchase agricultural and fishery products from accredited farmers and fisherfolk cooperatives and enterprise.

S. No. 1305 – Increasing The Maternity Leave Period To One Hundred Twenty (120) Days For Female Workers In The Government Service And The Private Sector With An Option To Extend For An Additional Thirty (30) Days Without Pay, Providing A Parental Leave Period For Adoptive Parents, And Granting An Additional Thirty (30) Days For Solo Mothers.

This bill provides for 120 days maternity leave for female workers in the private and public sector, as well as in the informal economy, with the option to extend for 30 days without pay. The bill also gives additional 30 days (or a total of 150 days) for solo mothers, as identified under the Solo Parents Act, and 30 days for adoptive parents upon receipt of the pre-adoptive placement authority issued by the DSWD.

It also provides for sharing of leave credits to the father of the child, or in the absence of the same, an alternative caregiver, for a maximum of 30 days. Furthermore, it grants maternity protections for female national athletes who get pregnant.

S. No. 1354 – Establishing A National Mental Health Policy For The Purpose Of Enhancing The Delivery Of Integrated Mental Health Services, Promoting And Protecting Persons Utilizing Psychiatric, Neurologic And Psychosocial Health Services

The measure establishes the Philippine Council for Mental Health under the Department of Health (DoH), which shall formulate and implement a National Mental Health Care Delivery System. The bill further provides for the capacity building, reorientation, and training of mental health professionals and health workers.

S. No. 1355 – Adopting Innovation As Vital Component Of The Country’s Development Policies To Drive Inclusive Development, Promote The Growth And National Competitiveness Of Micro, Small And Medium Enterprises.

The Philippine Innovation Act seeks to develop the country’s innovation goals, priorities and long-term national strategy. It carries the much needed innovation vision to inspire the commitment and cooperation of the government, industry, educational, academic, research and scientific institutions and the rest of the community, towards building an innovation economy that would change the economic narrative of our country.

It establishes a National Innovation Council (NIC), which will provide a system where numerous agencies are charged with carrying their respective parts of the innovation mandate. The NIC shall develop a National Innovation Agenda and Strategy Document (NIASD).

S. No. 1363 – Institutionalizing Telecommuting in the Workplace.

The measure institutionalizes telecommuting in the workplace and defines telecommuting as “the partial or total substitution of computers or telecommunication technologies, or both, for the commute to work by employees.”

Under the program, employers are allowed to offer telecommuting program to its employees upon such terms and conditions as they may mutually agree.

S. No. 1431 – Instituting A Philippine Labor Force Competencies Competitiveness Program, Establishing Free Access To Technical And Vocational Training Programs.

The measure establishes a Philippine Labor Force Competencies Competitiveness Program that shall be funded through the Tulong-Trabaho Fund. The Tulong-Trabaho Fund will provide qualified recipients with access to Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs through the full payment of the selected programs' training fees, as well as the possibility of providing additional financial assistance such as transportation allowance and laboratory fees, as needed.

The TESDA Board shall promulgate the policies and guidelines to implement the Program. The measure also mandates the TESDA Board to periodically evaluate schools and training centers that receive funding from the Fund. The recipient shall ensure that at least eighty percent (80%) of the beneficiaries are able to pass the Philippine TVET Competency Assessment and Certification System.

S. No. 1444 – Declaring Protected Areas and Providing for Their Management, Amending for this Purpose Republic Act No. 7586, Otherwise Known as the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992.

The amendments to the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act shall declare various protected areas that require immediate security and conservation, in order to complete the land classification process under the law.

Under the NIPAS Act, integration of additional areas into the system should undergo a careful inclusion procedure, which commences with the conduct of suitability assessments, publication and public hearings, then leads to the issuance of a Presidential proclamation and culminates in the final declaration and classification of the land by Congress as a national park. As of March 2017, 113 have been declared through Presidential proclamations and only 13 have been legislated by Congress. The Expanded NIPAS bill will facilitate 92 more protected areas by legislation.

S. No. 1454 – Removing The Restrictions In The Registration Of Land Titles Under Sections 118, 119 and 121, And Other Restriction

Against Encumbrance Or Alienation On Free Patents Issued Under Section 44 Of Commonwealth Act No. 141 Or The Public Land Act, As Amended.

The measure provides that agricultural public lands alienated in favor of qualified public land applicants under the law shall not be subject to restrictions with regard to encumbrances, conveyance, transfers or disposition.

APPROVED ON SECOND READING

S. No. 1397 – Penalizing And Preventing The Use Of Motorcycles Or Scooters In The Commission Of Crimes Through The Use Of Bigger Plate Numbers And Identification Marks, Regulation Of Backriders.

The measure penalizes the use of motorcycle or scooter in the commission of a crime or to ensure a quick escape from the scene of the crime. It provides that when a victim dies as a result of the illegal use of these vehicles, the offender shall be punished by *reclusion perpetua*. However, if the victim suffers serious physical injury, or there was shooting, which did not result in death, the penalty shall be *reclusion temporal* unless a higher penalty is imposed due to the commission of some other crime, in which case, the higher penalty shall be applied.

The penalty of life imprisonment shall be imposed if the victim dies and the vehicle used in the commission of a crime was stolen, or the licensed plate used is mismatched from the vehicle registration.

Lastly, the measure requires the Land Transportation Office (LTO) to issue bigger plate number sizes for every vehicle which must be placed both in the front and rear part of the vehicle.

S. No. 1465 – Providing Free Irrigation Service To Small Farmers, Revoking For The Purpose The Corporate Status Of The National Irrigation Administration

The bill exempts small farmers, or those farmers whose combined farmholdings does not exceed five (5) hectares, from paying irrigation service fees (ISFs) for water derived from national irrigation system and communal irrigation system under the National Irrigation Administration and other government agencies, including those that have been turned over to irrigators associations.

Further, it provides that all unpaid ISFs and the corresponding penalties of small farmers to NIA as well as all loans, past due accounts and the corresponding interests and penalties of IAs to NIA shall be condoned and written off from the books of NIA.

PENDING SECOND READING (Special Order)

Period of Amendments

S. No. 1233 – Creating The Coconut Farmers And Industry Trust Fund, Providing For Its Management And Utilization

The proposed “Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Act” creates a trust fund to be known as the “Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund”. It also creates a Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan to set directions and policies for the development and rehabilitation of the coconut industry.

Under the bill, a Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Committee attached to the Office of the President will be created, which shall determine the Coconut Levy Assets that need to be privatized and which should be retained by the National Government, to support the coconut farmers and the development of the coconut industry.

S. No. 1279 – Creating A National School Feeding Program To Combat Hunger And Undernutrition For All Public Basic Education Students.

The Pagkaing Pinoy Para Sa Batang Pinoy Act seeks to institutionalize an effective feeding program, sustained by local gardens, farmers and fishermen, and powered by community engagement and volunteerism. School children in the kindergarten and elementary levels will enjoy free access to nutritious food with the Department of Education (DepEd) ensuring that students from kindergarten to Grade 6 are provided with proper meals.

This bill also includes a Gulayan sa Paaralan program to promote gardening in schools and households which will help augment the food needs of the program and instill a sense of appreciation for food production within the community.

S. No. 1280 – Amending Batas Pambansa Blg. 68 Or The Corporation Code Of The Philippines.

The bill codifies the best international corporate practices and addresses the archaic provisions in the Corporation Code. The proposed amendments may be divided into four (4) main clusters: (i) Policies that would enhance the ease of doing business in the Philippines; (ii) Rules that prioritize corporate and stockholder protection; (iii) Provisions that instill corporate and civic responsibility; and (iv) Amendments that will strengthen the country’s policy and regulatory corporate framework.

Also, the proposed measure will allow corporations to perpetually exist, unless its certificate of incorporation provides otherwise. Further, a corporate term for a specific period may be extended or shortened by amending the articles of incorporation. Furthermore, a corporation whose term has expired, may at any time, apply for a revival of its corporate existence unless, provided otherwise.

Moreover, it will permit a single person to form a “one person corporation”, or a corporation with a single stockholder, which is a natural person, trust or an estate. Likewise, under this measure, stockholder voting may be made through remote communication and/or *in absentia* when provided under its by-laws.

S. No. 1311 – An Act Amending Republic Act No. 9485 Otherwise Known As The Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007, Creating for the Purpose The Business Anti-Red Tape And Competitiveness Bureau, And For Other Purposes.

The amendments further improve and strengthen the efficient turnaround of delivery of government services, covering both business and non-business related transactions through adoption of simplified requirements and procedures that will reduce red tape and expedite transactions and procedures in the government.

The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall establish and operate a cloud-native central business portal or similar technology which shall serve as a central system to receive applications and capture application data involving business-related transactions.

The bill also implements the automatic approval and/or extension of permits and licenses in cases of inaction or failure of government agencies to approve or disapprove within the prescribed period.

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS

Res. No. 33 – Resolution Concurring In The Ratification Of The Articles Of Agreement Of The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (PSR-241) [December 5, 2016] - FINA

Through this resolution, the Senate concurs in the ratification of the Articles of Agreement of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) signed on 31 December 2015 in China. The Agreement which was ratified by President Benigno S. Aquino III and President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on 4 February 2016 and 19 October 2016, respectively, accelerates and strengthens the economic and social development, as well as the regional cooperation and partnership in Asia. It seeks to contribute to regional resilience against potential crises and other external shocks in the context of globalization. Moreover, the Agreement realizes that the long term need for financing infrastructure development in Asia will be met more

adequately by a partnership among existing multilateral development banks and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Finally, an AIIB membership for the Philippines would mean additional source of financing to support and implement its infrastructures projects for the country.

Res. No. 38 – Resolution Concurring in the Ratification of the Agreement Between Japan and the Republic of the Philippines on Social Security (PSR-283) [February 13, 2017] - FINA

Through this resolution, the Senate concurs in the ratification of the Agreement between the Republic of the Philippines and Japan on Social Security. It was signed on 19 November 2015 in Manila and was ratified on 12 January 2017 by the President of the Philippines. The Agreement seeks to reduce or eliminate the territorial or nationality-based access restrictions to social security benefits of the citizens of the contracting parties and guarantees the application of basic social security principle such as: *Equality of Treatment*, which entitles a covered person in one State, his family members and survivors, to social security benefits under the same conditions as national of the other State; *Export of Benefits*, which allows a covered person to continue receiving his or her social security pension whether he or she decides to reside in the Philippines or in Japan; and *Totalization of Periods of Coverage*, which allows the tacking of creditable periods of covered persons under the social security schemes of the Philippines and Japan, to determine eligibility to benefits.

Moreover, the Agreement on the part of the Philippines shall be implemented in relation to Republic Act No. 8282 (Social Security Act of 1997), Republic Act No. 8291 (Government Service Insurance System Act of 1997) and Republic Act No. 7699 (Portability Law of 1994) and, on the part of Japan, the Japanese National Pension and Employees Pension Insurance. Finally, in the hearing conducted by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on 6 February 2017, the following agencies endorsed for concurrence of the Senate the ratification of the Agreement:

1. Department of Foreign Affairs;
2. Department of Justice;

3. Department of Labor and Employment;
4. Social Security System Commission;
5. Government Service Insurance System;
6. Philippine Overseas Employment Administration; and
7. Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.

15. Department of Transportation
16. Department of Budget and Management
17. Department of Interior and Local Government
18. Climate Change Commission
19. National Economic and Development Authority
20. Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
21. Philippine Commission on Women
22. Metro Manila Development Authority
23. Landbank of the Philippines
24. National Youth Commission

Res. No. 42 –Resolution Concurring in the Accession to the Paris Agreement (PSR-320) [March 14, 2017] - FINA

Through this resolution, the Senate concurs in the Philippines’ accession to the Paris Agreement signed on 22 April 2016, in New York. It aims to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursues efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The Agreement also states that developed countries shall continue their obligations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to which the Philippines had acceded in August 1994, to provide financial assistance to developing countries with respect to both climate change mitigation and adaptation. The President of the Philippines ratified the Agreement on 28 February 2017 and has submitted it to the Senate for concurrence. The following government agencies and instrumentalities endorsed for concurrence of the Senate the ratification of the Agreement:

1. Department of Foreign Affairs
2. Department of Environment and Natural Resources
3. Department of Energy
4. Department of Science and Technology
5. Department of Justice
6. Department of National Defense
7. Department of Health
8. Department of Education
9. Department of Agriculture
10. Department of Social Welfare and Development
11. Department of Agrarian Reform
12. Department of Finance
13. Department Labor and Employment
14. Department of Public Works and Highways

PERFORMANCE
OF THE SENATE

**PERFORMANCE OF THE SENATE
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**
First Regular Session
(July 25, 2016 – May 31, 2017)

SIGNED INTO LAW (4)

1. R.A. No. 10923 An Act Postponing The October 2016 Barangay And Sangguniang Kabataan Elections, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 9164, As Amended By Republic Act No. 9340 And Republic Act No. 10656, Prescribing Additional Rules Governing The Conduct Of Barangay And Sangguniang Kabataan Elections And For Other Purposes (S. No. 1112/H. No. 3504) [October 15, 2016]

2. R.A. No. 10924 An Act Appropriating Funds For The Operation Of The Government Of The Republic Of The Philippines From January One To December Thirty-One, Two Thousand And Seventeen, And For Other Purposes (H. No. 3408) [December 22, 2016]

3. R.A. No. 10925 An Act Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Republic Broadcasting System, Inc., Presently Known As GMA Network, Inc., Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7252,

Entitled “An Act Granting The Republic Broadcasting System, Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Operate And Maintain Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations In The Philippines” (H. No. 4631) [April 21, 2017]

4. R.A. No. 10926

An Act Extending for Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Smart Communications, Inc. (Formerly Smart Information Technologies, Inc.) Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7294, Entitled “An Act Granting Smart Information Technologies, Inc. (SMART) A Franchise To Establish, Maintain, Lease And Operate Integrated Telecommunications/Computer/Electronic Services, And Stations Throughout the Philippines For Public Domestic And International Telecommunications, And For Other Purposes” (H. No. 4637) [April 21, 2017]

2. S. No. 1277

Establishing The Free Internet Access Program In Public Spaces In The Country

3. S. No. 1304

Providing For A Full Tuition Subsidy For Students Enrolled In State Universities And Colleges (SUCs)

4. S. No. 1353

Strengthening The Anti-Hospital Deposit Law By Increasing The Penalties For The Refusal Of Hospitals And Medical Clinics To Administer Appropriate Initial Medical Treatment And Support In Emergency Or Serious Cases, Amending For The Purpose Batas Pambansa Bilang 702, Otherwise Known As An Act Prohibiting The Demand Of Deposits Or Advance Payments For The Confinement Or Treatment Of Patients In Hospitals And Medical Clinics In Certain Cases, As Amended By Republic Act No. 8344

5. S. No. 1365

Extending The Validity Of Philippine Passports, Amending For The Purpose Section 10 Of Republic Act No. 8239, Otherwise Known As The “Philippine Passport Act Of 1996”

6. S. No. 1449

Extending The Validity Period Of Driver’s Licenses, Amending For That Purpose Section 23 Of Republic Act No. 4136, As Amended By Batas Pambansa

FOR APPROVAL OF THE PRESIDENT (11)

1. S. No. 14

Adjusting The Amount Involved, Value Of Property Or Damage On Which A Penalty Is Based, And The Fines Under Act No. 3815, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The Revised Penal Code

Blg. 398 And Executive Order No. 1011, Otherwise Known As The Land Transportation And Traffic Code

7. S. No. 1468 Designating Casinos As Covered Persons Under Republic Act No. 9160, Otherwise Known As The Anti-Money Laundering Act Of 2001, As Amended
8. H. No. 937 Dividing Barangay North Bay Boulevard South (NBBS) In The City Of Navotas Into Three (3) Distinct And Independent Barangays To Be Known As Barangay NBBS Proper, Barangay NBBS Kaunlaran And Barangay NBBS Dagat-Dagatan
9. H. No. 938 Dividing Barangay Tangos In The City Of Navotas Into Two (2) Distinct And Independent Barangays To Be Known As Barangays Tangos North and Tangos South
10. H. No. 4402 Dividing Barangay Tanza In The City Of Navotas Into Two (2) Distinct And Independent Barangays To Be Known As Barangay Tanza 1 And Barangay Tanza 2
11. H. No. 4682 Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Comawas In The City Of Bislig, Province Of Surigao Del Sur

**APPROVED ON THIRD READING BY THE SENATE/
PENDING IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (28)**

1. S. No. 209 Declaring The Twenty-Fifth Day Of August Of Every Year As The National Tech-Voc Day
2. S. No. 462 Regulating The Practice Of Speech Language Pathology In The Philippines
3. S. No. 812 Institutionalizing The Grant Of A Teaching Supplies Allowance For Public School Teachers
4. S. No. 1239 Granting The Chief Of The Philippine National Police (PNP) And The Director And The Deputy Director Of The Criminal Investigation And Detection Group (CIDG) The Authority To Administer Oath And To Issue *Subpoena Duces Tecum*, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 6975, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The Department Of The Interior And Local Government (DILG) Act Of 1990
5. S. No. 1255 Expanding The Coverage Of Exemptions From Revealing The Source Of Published News Or Information Obtained In Confidence By Including Journalists From Broadcast, News Agencies And Internet Publications, Amending For The Purpose Section 1 Of Republic

6. S. No. 1269 Providing For The Registration, Licensure And Practice Of Food Technology In The Philippines
7. S. No. 1281 Instituting The Farmers And Fisherfolk Enterprise Development Program Of The Department Of Agriculture
8. S. No. 1305 Increasing The Maternity Leave Period To One Hundred Twenty (120) Days For Female Workers In The Government Service And The Private Sector With An Option To Extend For An Additional Thirty (30) Days Without Pay, Providing A Parental Leave Period For Adoptive Parents, And Granting An Additional Thirty (30) Days For Solo Mothers
9. S. No. 1354 Establishing A National Mental Health Policy For The Purpose Of Enhancing The Delivery Of Integrated Mental Health Services, Promoting And Protecting Persons Utilizing Psychiatric, Neurologic And Psychosocial Health Services
10. S. No. 1355 Adopting Innovation As Vital Component Of The Country's Development Policies To Drive Inclusive Development, Promote The Growth And National

11. S. No. 1363 Institutionalizing Telecommuting In The Workplace
12. S. No. 1431 Instituting A Philippine Labor Force Competencies Competitiveness Program, Establishing Free Access To Technical And Vocational Training Programs
13. S. No. 1444 Declaring Protected Areas And Providing For Their Management, Amending For This Purpose Republic Act No. 7586, Otherwise Known As The National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act Of 1992
14. S. No. 1454 Removing The Restrictions In The Registration Of Land Titles Under Sections 118, 119 And 121, And Other Restriction Against Encumbrance Or Alienation On Free Patents Issued Under Section 44 Of Commonwealth Act No. 141 Or The Public Land Act, As Amended
15. H. No. 4848 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The City Of Bislig, Province Of Surigao Del Sur
16. H. No. 4850 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The

Municipality Of Lopez, Province
Of Quezon

17. H. No. 4851 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Atimonan, Province Of Quezon
18. H. No. 4852 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Gumaca, Province Of Quezon
19. H. No. 4853 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Barobo, Province Of Sargao Del Sur
20. H. No. 4854 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Tagkawayan, Province Of Quezon
21. H. No. 4855 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Quezon, Province Of Quezon
22. H. No. 4856 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Hinatuan, Province Of Surigao Del Sur
23. H. No. 4857 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Perez, Province Of Quezon
24. H. No. 4858 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The

Municipality Of Calauag,
Province Of Quezon

25. H. No. 4859 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Plaridel, Province Of Quezon
26. H. No. 4860 Establishing A Multi-Species Hatchery In The Municipality Of Guinayangan, Province Of Quezon
27. H. No. 4861 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The Municipality Of Alabat, Province Of Quezon
28. H. No. 4862 Establishing A Multi-Species Marine Hatchery In The City Of Ligao, Province Of Albay

APPROVED ON SECOND READING (2)

1. S. No. 1397 Penalizing And Preventing The Use Of Motorcycles Or Scooters In The Commission Of Crimes Through The Use Of Bigger Plate Numbers And Identification Marks, Regulation Of Backriders
2. S. No. 1465 Providing Free Irrigation Service To Small Farmers, Revoking For The Purpose The Corporate Status Of The National Irrigation Administration

PENDING SECOND READING (67)

A. Period of Amendments (4)

1. S. No. 1233 Creating The Coconut Farmers And Industry Trust Fund, Providing For Its Management And Utilization
2. S. No. 1279 Creating A National School Feeding Program To Combat Hunger And Undernutrition For All Public Basic Education Students
3. S. No. 1280 Amending Batas Pambansa Blg. 68 Or The Corporation Code Of The Philippines
4. S. No. 1311 Expanding Republic Act No. 9485 Otherwise Known As The Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007, Creating For The Purpose The Business Anti-Red Tape And Competitiveness Bureau

B. Period of Interpellations (63)

1. S. No. 108 Declaring April 27 Of Every Year As A Special Working Public Holiday Throughout The Country To Commemorate The Victory Of Lapu-Lapu And His Men Over The Spaniards Led By Ferdinand Magellan In The Historic Battle Of Mactan On April 27, 1521, To Be Known As Lapu-Lapu Day Or Adlaw Ni Lapu-Lapu

2. S. No. 286 Providing For A Cost Of Living Allowance (COLA) For All Officials And Employees In The Government Sector
3. S. No. 452 Regulating The Practice Of Criminology Profession In The Philippines, And Appropriating Funds Therefor, Repealing For The Purpose Republic Act 6506, Otherwise Known As “An Act Creating The Board Of Examiners For Criminologists In The Philippines”
4. S. No. 453 Granting Survivorship Benefits To The Surviving Legitimate Spouse Of A Deceased Retired Member Of The Office Of Solicitor General
5. S. No. 454 Regulating The Registration, Licensure, And Practice Of Occupational Therapy
6. S. No. 575 Provide Time Off With Pay For Employees Who Donate Organ, Bone Marrow, Blood, Or Blood Platelets
7. S. No. 747 Declaring July 25 Of Every Year As The National Campus Press Freedom Day
8. S. No. 756 Declaring The Seventeenth Of November Of Every Year As National Student Leader’s Day
9. S. No. 785 Providing A System Of Extending No-Collateral, Low-Interest

	Loans To Graduates Of Any Courses Offered By The Technical Education And Skills Authority Or Duly Accredited Learning Institutions With Approved Overseas Job Contracts		Prescribed Years Of Service In The National Government Agencies And The Local Government Units
10. S. No. 807	Increasing To Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000) The Monthly Personnel Economic Relief Allowance (PERA) Granted To Government Employees	14. S. No. 1208	Implementing The People's Right To Information And The Constitutional Policies Of Full Public Disclosure And Honesty In The Public Service
11. S. No. 909	Increasing The Penalties For Other Illegal Gambling Activities, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 9287, Entitled An Act Increasing The Penalties For Illegal Numbers Games, Amending Certain Provisions Of Presidential Decree No. 1602	15. S. No. 1210	Expanding The Scope And Coverage Of Republic Act No. 4200, Otherwise Known As An Act To Prohibit And Penalize Wire Tapping And Other Related Violations Of The Privacy Of Communication
12. S. No. 1108	Identifying Other Persons Criminally Liable For Election Offenses And Increasing The Penalties For Election-Related Offenses, Amending Sections 263 And 264 Of Batas Pambansa Bilang 881, As Amended Of The Omnibus Election Code Of The Philippines, And Section 46 Of Republic Act No. 8189 Or The Voter's Registration Act Of 1996	16. S. No. 1252	Strengthening Republic Act No. 8353, Otherwise Known As The Anti-Rape Act Of 1997
13. S. No. 1184	Providing For Security Of Tenure For All Casual And Contractual Employees Of The Government Who Have Rendered The	17. S. No. 1256	Further Amend Republic Act No. 9160, Otherwise Known As The Anti-Money Laundering Act Of 2001, As Amended
		18. S. No. 1268	Providing For An Increase In The Salary Of, And Additional Incentives For Government Physicians
		19. S. No. 1271	Prohibiting Discrimination On The Basis Of Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity Or Expression (SOGIE)
		20. S. No. 1278	Establishing Job Placement Offices In Public High Schools To

Provide Career Services To The Youth

21. S. No. 1284 Compelling the Government to Address the Transportation And Congestion Crisis Through The Grant of Emergency Powers to the President
22. S. No. 1297 Amending Republic Act Number 7653, Otherwise Known As “The New Central Bank Act”
23. S. No. 1306 Creating The Philippine Boxing Commission To Strengthen The Boxing Industry And Promote The Safety And Welfare Of Filipino Boxers
24. S. No. 1317 Strengthening Compliance With Occupational Safety And Health Standards
25. S. No. 1390 Strengthening The Philippine Comprehensive Policy On Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) And Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Prevention, Treatment, Care, And Support, And Establishing The Philippine National Aids Council (PNAC), Repealing For The Purpose Republic Act No. 8504, Otherwise Known As The “Philippine AIDS Prevention And Control Act Of 1998”
26. S. No. 1391 Providing For The Mandatory PhilHealth Coverage For All Persons With Disability (PWDs),

Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7277, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The “Magna Carta For Persons With Disability”

27. S. No. 1392 Providing For A Revised National Apprenticeship Program, Clarifying The Standards For Training And Engagement Of Apprentices And Accreditation Of Apprenticeship Programs, Repealing For The Purpose Chapters I And II Of Title II, Book II Of Presidential Decree No. 442, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The Labor Code Of The Philippines
28. S. No. 1393 Establishing On-Site, In-City, Or Near-City Strategy For Informal Settler Families In Consideration With A People’s Plan And Mandating Local Government Units To Provide Other Basic Services And Livelihood Components In Resettlement Sites, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7279, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The “Urban Development And Housing Act Of 1992”
29. S. No. 1395 Rightsizing The National Government To Improve Public Service Delivery
30. S. No. 1399 Establishing The Police Law Enforcement Courts, Granting These Exclusive Original

	Jurisdiction Over Violations Of Constitutional Rights And PNP Rules Of Engagement Committed By The Police, Amending Batas Pambansa Bilang 129, As Amended, Otherwise Known As “The Judiciary Reorganization Act Of 1980”	37. S. No. 1477	Promoting Positive And Non-Violent Discipline Of Children, Prohibiting All Forms Of Corporal Punishment, Humiliating And Degrading Treatment
31. S. No. 1439	Establishing The Energy Virtual One Stop Shop For The Purpose Of Streamlining The Permitting Process Of Energy Generation Projects	38. S. No. 1478	Institutionalizing The Bamboo Industry Development In The Philippines, Creating The Bamboo Industry Research And Development Center (BIRDC)
32. S. No. 1456	Institutionalizing The Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) And Establishing The PQF-National Coordinating Council	39. S. No. 1483	Mandating The Secretaries Of The Department Of Finance, National Economic And Development Authority, And Department Of Budget And Management, And The Governor Of The Bangko Sentral Ng Pilipinas, To Appear Biannually Before A Joint Session Of Congress To Report On The Status And Directions Of The Fiscal And Monetary Policies Of The State
33. S. No. 1459	Strengthening The Secured Transactions Legal Framework In The Philippines, Which Shall Provide For The Creation, Perfection, Determination Of Priority, Establishment Of A Centralized Notice Registry, And Enforcement Of Security Interests In Personal Property	40. S. Jt. Res. No. 5	Increasing The Monthly Pension Of The Social Security System Pensioners Under The Social Security Act Of 1997
34. S. No. 1460	Creating The Sick Leave Bank For Government Employees	41. S. Jt. Res. No. 6	Declaring January 17 Of Every Year As James Leonard Tagle Gordon Day, A Special Non-Working Holiday In The City Of Olongapo And The Subic Bay Freeport Zone In Recognition Of The Achievements, Contributions And Heroism Of James Leonard Tagle Gordon
35. S. No. 1461	Institutionalizing The Electric Cooperatives Emergency And Resiliency Fund		
36. S. No. 1466	Prohibiting The Imposition Of Expiry Dates On Gift Checks, Certificates Or Cards By Issuers		

42. H. No. 477	Declaring January 23 Of Every Year A Special Working Holiday In The Entire Country To Commemorate The Declaration Of The First Philippine Republic		Three (3) Distinct And Independent Barangays To Be Known As Barangay Kalaw, Barangay Cabaritan And Barangay Quibel
43. H. No. 2924	Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Cristo Rey In The Municipality Of Capas, Province Of Tarlac	48. H. No. 4927	Creating Barangay Upper Pugaan In The Municipality Of Ditsaan-Ramain, Province Of Lanao Del Sur
44. H. No. 4636	Granting The Iloilo Baptist Church, Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations In The Philippines	49. H. No. 4934	Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay San Isidro In The Municipality Of Titay, Province Of Zamboanga Sibugay
45. H. No. 4923	Dividing Barangay Pampanga In The City Of Davao Into Three (3) Distinct And Independent Barangays To Be Known As Barangay Pampanga, Barangay Alfonso Angliongto, Sr., And Barangay V. Hizon	50. H. No. 4935	Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Don Albino T. Taruc In The Municipality Of Socorro, Province Of Surigao Del Norte
46. H. No. 4924	Dividing Barangay Magugpo In The City Of Tagum, Province Of Davao Del Norte Into Five (5) Distinct And Independent Barangays To Be Known As Barangay Magugpo Poblacion, Barangay Magugpo East, Barangay Magugpo West, Barangay Magugpo North And Barangay Magugpo South	51. H. No. 4937	Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Care In The City Of Tarlac, Province Of Tarlac
47. H. No. 4925	Dividing The One-Barangay Municipality Of Dumalneg In The Province Of Ilocos Norte Into	52. H. No. 4938	Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Poblacion 3 In The Municipality Of Villanueva, Province Of Misamis Oriental
		53. H. No. 4940	Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Liwon In The Municipality Of Asipulo, Province Of Ifugao
		54. H. No. 4941	Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Rizal In The City Of Makati

55. H. No. 4942 Creating A Barangay To Be Known As Barangay Pudo In The Municipality Of Natonin, Mountain Province
56. H. No. 4943 Dividing Barangay Canumay In The City Of Valenzuela Into Two (2) Distinct And Independent Barangays To Be Known As Barangay Canumay West And Barangay Canumay East
57. H. No. 5063 Granting The Pangasinan Gulf Waves Network Corporation A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations Throughout The Philippines
58. H. No. 5064 Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Subic Broadcasting Corporation Under Republic Act No. 7511, Entitled An Act Granting The Subic Broadcasting Corporation A Franchise To Construct, Install, Operate And Maintain Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations In The Philippines
59. H. No. 5175 Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Beta Broadcasting System, Inc., Under Republic Act No. 8026, Entitled An Act Granting The Beta Broadcasting System Corporation A Franchise To

- Construct, Operate And Maintain Radio Broadcasting Stations In The Island Of Luzon
60. H. No. 5176 Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Sarraga Integrated And Management Corporation Under Republic Act No. 7478, Entitled An Act Granting The Sarraga Integrated Management Corporation Of The Philippines A Franchise To Construct, Install, Operate And Maintain For Commercial Purposes Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations In The Philippines
61. H. No. 5177 Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Infocom Communications Network, Inc. (Presently Known As Now Telecom Company, Inc.) Under Republic Act No. 7301, Entitled “An Act Granting Infocom Communications Network, Inc. (ICNI), A Franchise To Construct, Establish, Operate And Maintain Mobile Radio Systems Such As Radio Paging Systems, Cellular Phone Systems, Personal Communication Network (PCN), And Trunked Radio Systems Within And Without The Philippines For A Period Of Twenty-Five (25) Years, And For Other Purposes”, As Amended By Republic Act No. 7940

62. H. No. 5211
Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Gateway U.H.F. Television Broadcasting, Inc., Presently Known as Gateway Television Broadcasting, Inc., And Doing Business Under The Name And Style Of Hope Channel Philippines, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7223, Entitled An Act Granting Gateway U.H.F. Television Broadcasting, Inc., A Franchise To Construct, Install, Operate And Maintain For Commercial Purposes UHF Television Broadcasting Stations In The Philippines

63. 63. H. No. 5212
Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Filipinas Broadcasting Association, Inc., Presently Known As Word Broadcasting Corporation, Under Republic Act No. 7485, Entitled An Act Granting Filipinas Broadcasting Association, Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Operate And Maintain For Commercial Purposes Radio Broadcasting And Television Stations In The Visayas And Mindanao

ADOPTED COMMITTEE REPORT (1)

1. C.R. No. 46
Manifestation And Motion Made By The Majority Leader Vicente C. Sotto III On 07 November

2016, Tasking The Committees On Public Order And Dangerous Drugs And Justice And Human Rights To Investigate And Inquire, In Aid Of Legislation, Into The Killing Of Mayor Rolando Espinosa, Sr. Of Albuera, Leyte

ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS (58)

A. Resolutions Concurring in the Ratification of Treaties and/or International Agreements/Conventions (3)

1. Res. No. 33
Resolution Concurring In The Ratification Of The Articles Of Agreement Of The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (PSR-241) [December 5, 2016]
2. Res. No. 38
Resolution Concurring In The Ratification Of The Agreement Between Japan And The Republic Of The Philippines On Social Security (PSR-283) [February 13, 2017]
3. Res. No. 42
Resolution Concurring In The Accession To The Paris Agreement (PSR-320) [March 14, 2017]

B. Simple Resolutions (50)

1. Res. No. 1
Resolution Informing President Rodrigo Roa Duterte That The Senate Has Been Organized With The Election Of Its Officers And That This Body Has Entered Upon The Exercise Of Its

- Functions For The First Regular Session Of The Seventeenth Congress Of The Philippines (PSR-17) [July 25, 2016]
2. Res. No. 2 Resolution Informing The House Of Representatives That The Senate Has Been Organized With The Election Of Its Officers And That This Body Has Entered Upon The Exercise Of Its Functions For The First Regular Session Of The Seventeenth Congress Of The Philippines (PSR-18) [July 25, 2016]
3. Res. No. 3 Resolution Amending Section 13 (35) Rule X Of The Senate Rules By Dividing Into Two Separate Standing Committees The Committee On Games, Amusement And Sports (PSR-68) [August 1, 2016]
4. Res. No. 4 Resolution Recognizing And Commending Treat Conrad Huey For His Invaluable Contribution To Philippine Sports As The First Filipino Who Qualified For The Semifinal Round Of A Grand Slam Tennis Tournament (PSR-56) [August 3, 2016]
5. Res. No. 5 Resolution Congratulating And Commending Filipino Surfer Philmar Alipayo For Winning In The West Sumbawa Open Pro Finals 2016 Surfing Tournament Held Last 20th Of July 2016 In West Sumbawa, Indonesia (PSR-61) [August 3, 2016]
6. Res. No. 6 Resolution Commending And Congratulating Mighty Sports Philippines Team For Topping The 38th Jones Cup In An Eight-Game Sweep Held From July 23-31, 2016, In Taipei, Taiwan (PSR-71) [August 3, 2016]
7. Res. No. 7 Resolution Recognizing, Commending And Extending Well-Wishes To The Twelve (12) Athletes Representing The Philippines In Various Events At The 2016 Summer Olympic Games In Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, From August 5 To 21, 2016 (PSR-75) [August 3, 2016]
8. Res. No. 8 Resolution Recognizing And Commending Marestella Torres-Sunang For Winning Gold In The Women's Long Jump Event In The Kazakhstan Open Held Last July 4, 2016, And Breaking The Philippine Record In Long Jump (PSR-62) [August 10, 2016]
9. Res. No. 9 Resolution Repealing Section 8 Of Resolution No. 5, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The Senate Rules Of Procedure Governing Inquiries In Aid Of Legislation (PSR-98) [August 15, 2016]
10. Res. No. 10 Resolution Commending And Congratulating Hidilyn Diaz For

11. Res. No. 11 Winning The Silver Medal In The Women's 53-kg Category In Weightlifting In The Rio 2016 Olympics (PSR-83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 93 & 107) [August 17, 2016]
12. Res. No. 12 Resolution Expressing The Sense Of The Senate To Condemn In The Strongest Possible Terms The Bombing At the Night Market In Roxas Avenue, Davao City That Claimed Fifteen (15) Innocent Lives And Wounded More Than Sixty (60) People On 2 September 2016 (PSR-125) [September 5, 2016]
13. Res. No. 13 Resolution Honoring And Commending The Outstanding Teachers Of 2016 Awarded By The Metrobank Foundation, Inc. (PSR-82, 108, 116 & 120) [September 6, 2016]
14. Res. No. 14 Resolution Congratulating And Commending The Awardees Of The 2016 Metrobank Foundation - Rotary Club Of New Manila East Search For The Country's Outstanding Police Officers in Service (COPS) (PSR-101, 106 & 121) [September 6, 2016]
15. Res. No. 15 Resolution Honoring And Commending The Outstanding Philippine Soldiers (TOPS) Of 2016 Awarded By The Metrobank Foundation,

16. Res. No. 16 Resolution Expressing Solidarity Of The Senate Of The Philippines With Our Muslim Brethren In The Commemoration And Observance Of The Eid Al-Adha (PSR-131) [September 7, 2016]
17. Res. No. 17 Resolution Congratulating And Commending The Philippine Team For Garnering Four Medals And Two Honourable Mentions In The 57th International Mathematical Olympiad Held Last July 6-16, 2016, In Hong Kong (PSR-132) [September 13, 2016]
18. Res. No. 18 Resolution Commending And Congratulating Josephine Medina For Winning A Bronze Medal For The Philippines In The 2016 Rio Paralympics (PSR-135 & 138) [September 13, 2016]
19. Res. No. 19 Resolution Commending And Congratulating The Philippine National Dragon Boat Team For Its Exemplary Performance At The ICF Dragon Boat World Championship In Moscow, Russia (PSR-137) [September 13, 2016]
20. Res. No. 20 Resolution Congratulating, Commending And Honoring The UPeepz For Bringing Glory And

20. Res. No. 20 Honor To The Philippines By Becoming The World Champions In The 2016 World Hiphop Dance Championship (PSR-105, 110 & 127) [September 21, 2016]
20. Res. No. 20 Resolution Congratulating And Commending Filipino Boxer Johnriel Casimero For Successfully Defending His IBF Flyweight Title With A Tenth-Round Technical Knockout Over British Boxer Charlie Edwards At The O2 Arena In London, England (PSR-139, 147 & 162) [September 21, 2016]
21. Res. No. 21 Resolution Regulating The Use, Integration Into The Records Of The Senate And Proper Archival Of Films, Video Clips, Multimedia Or Other Similar Devices Used By Any Senator To Whom The Floor Has Been Assigned By The Chair In Plenary Session (PSR-165) [September 28, 2016]
22. Res. No. 22 Resolution Expressing The Profound Sympathy And Sincere Condolences Of The Senate Of The Philippines On The Death Of The Honorable Miriam Defensor Santiago, Former Senator (1995-2001 And 2004-2016), Former Judge Of The International Criminal Court, Former Secretary Of Agrarian Reform, Former Commissioner Of Immigration And Deportation, Former

23. Res. No. 23 Presiding Judge Of The Quezon City Regional Trial Court, Law Expert, And Author (PSR-179, 181 & 182) [October 3, 2016]
23. Res. No. 23 Resolution Expressing The Sense Of The Senate That The Proposal To Show The Alleged “Sex Video” Attributed To Sen. Leila De Lima Is Illegal, Violative Of Inter-Parliamentary Courtesy And Decency, And An Affront To Women’s Dignity (PSR-184) [October 4, 2016]
24. Res. No. 24 Resolution Commending And Congratulating Donnie Nietes, Mark Magsayo And Arthur Villanueva For Winning In The Pinoy Pride 38 Held On September 25, 2016 At The Stubhub Center In Carson, California, USA (PSR-166 & 176) [October 4, 2016]
25. Res. No. 25 Resolution Commending And Congratulating Perlas Pilipinas For Winning Gold In The 2016 SEABA Women’s Championship In Malacca City In Malaysia (PSR-167, 172 & 177) [October 4, 2016]
26. Res. No. 26 Resolution Congratulating And Commending The University Of The Philippines Madrigal Singers For Winning The Grand Prize And Multiple Awards In Various Categories Of The 64th

	International Polyphonic Competition Guido D'Arezzo Held Last August 24-28, 2016, in Arezzo, Italy (PSR-170) [October 4, 2016]	31. Res. No. 31	Resolution Recognizing And Congratulating Jesus Is Lord Church For Celebrating its 38 th Founding Anniversary On October 28, 2016 (PSR-207 & 208) [October 19, 2016]
27. Res. No. 27	Resolution Extolling The Heroism And Virtues Of World War II Martyr Wenceslao Q. Vinzons On Occasion Of His 106 th Birth Anniversary (PSR-185) [October 4, 2016]	32. Res. No. 32	Resolution Commending And Congratulating Senator Emmanuel "Manny" Pacquiao For Defeating Jessie Vargas In His Comeback Boxing Match Held In Las Vegas, Nevada And For Being Declared As The New World Boxing Organization (WBO) Welterweight Champion (PSR-217, 219, 220, 225, 227 & 228) [November 8, 2016]
28. Res. No. 28	Resolution Recognizing And Commending Jeslyn Santos For Being Crowned As The Miss United Continents 2016 (PSR-175) [October 10, 2016]		
29. Res. No. 29	Resolution Authorizing All Regular Standing Committees, Oversight Committees And Special Committees Of The Senate To Conduct Hearings, Investigations On Issues Of National Interest, Meetings And Consultations During The Recess Of The 17 th Congress (PSR-205) [October 18, 2016]	33. Res. No. 34	Resolution Recognizing The Achievements And Contributions To The Judiciary And To The Filipino People Of Supreme Court Associate Justice Jose P. Perez On The Occasion Of His Retirement From The Judiciary (PSR-254) [December 13, 2016]
30. Res. No. 30	Resolution Congratulating And Commending The Honorable Juan Miguel F. Zubiri For Being Conferred With The Presidential Award From The University Of The Philippines Los Baños Alumni Association (UPLBAA) (PSR-194) [October 19, 2016]	34. Res. No. 35	Resolution Recognizing The Achievements And Contributions To The Judiciary And To The Filipino People Of Supreme Court Associate Justice Arturo D. Brion On The Occasion Of His Retirement From The Judiciary (PSR-255) [December 13, 2016]
		35. Res. No. 36	Resolution Expressing The Sense Of The Senate To Urge The

- Social Security System (SSS) To Increase The Monthly Pension Of All SSS Pensioners By One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) Effective Immediately (UNR-1) [December 14, 2016]
36. Res. No. 37 Resolution Honoring And Commending The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) 2016 Awardees (PSR-252 & 263) [January 24, 2017]
37. Res. No. 39 Resolution Expressing The Profound Sympathy And Sincere Condolences Of The Senate Of The Philippines On The Death Of Hon. Simeon A. Datumanong, Former Representative Of The 2nd District Of Maguindanao (PSR-307) [March 1, 2017]
38. Res. No. 40 Resolution Expressing The Full Support Of The Senate Of The Philippines In The Celebration Of The First National Homeschool Day (PSR-308) [March 1, 2017]
39. Res. No. 41 Resolution Expressing The Profound Sympathy And Sincere Condolences Of The Senate Of The Philippines On The Death Of Dr. Dreyfuss Perlas, A Humanitarian Doctor (PSR-321) [March 8, 2017]
40. Res. No. 43 Resolution Authorizing All Regular Standing Committees, Oversight Committees And

- Special Committees Of The Senate To Conduct Hearings, Meetings And Consultations During Every Recess Of The Senate To Have Continuity In The Process Of Passing Pending Proposed Legislation And To Conduct Investigations On Issues Of National Interests To Aid In Crafting Relevant Legislation (PSR-330) [March 15, 2017]
41. Res. No. 44 Resolution Expressing The Profound Sympathy And Sincere Condolences Of The Senate On The Death Of The Honorable Leticia Ramos-Shahani, Former Senator (1987-1998) And Senate President Pro Tempore (1993-1996) (PSR-335) [May 3, 2017]
42. Res. No. 45 Resolution Creating A Select Oversight Committee On Intelligence And Confidential Funds, Programs and Activities (PSR-361) [May 8, 2017]
43. Res. No. 46 Resolution Commending And Congratulating Karen Mae Calam For Being The Topnotcher In The 2016 Philippine Bar Examination (PSR-362) [May 9, 2017]
44. Res. No. 47 Resolution Expressing The Full Support Of The Senate Of The Philippines To The International Red Cross And The Red Crescent Movement In Prohibiting And Eliminating Nuclear Weapons At

- The Global Level (PSR-349)
[May 10, 2017]
45. Res. No. 48 Review Of Existing National And Local Holidays (UNR-2)
46. Res. No. 49 Resolution Expressing The Sense Of The Senate, Supporting The Proclamation No. 216 Dated May 23, 2017, Entitled “Declaring A State Of Martial Law And Suspending The Privilege Of The Writ Of Habeas Corpus In The Whole Of Mindanao” And Finding No Cause To Revoke The Same (PSR-388) [May 30, 2017]
47. Res. No. 50 Resolution Expressing The Profound Sympathy And Sincere Condolences Of The Senate Of The Philippines On The Death Of Former Senator Eva Estrada Kalaw (PSR-397 & 399) [May 31, 2017]
48. Res. No. 51 Resolution Congratulating And Commending Indira Lacerna-Widmann For Bringing Honor To The Country By Being Among This Year’s Recipients Of The Prestigious Whitley Award Presented By Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal At The Royal Geographical Society in London, England On 18 May 2017 (PSR-387) [May 31, 2017]
49. Res. No. 52 Resolution Declaring As Read And Approved The Journal Of

- The 89th Session Of The Senate (PSR-394) [May 31, 2017]
50. Res. No. 53 Resolution Authorizing The Production And Distribution Of Fifty (50) Printed And One Hundred (100) Digital Copies Each Of The Journal And The Record Of The Senate For The First Regular Session Of The Seventeenth Congress Of The Philippines (PSR-395) [May 31, 2017]

C. Concurrent Resolutions (5)

1. Ct. Res. No. 1 Concurrent Resolution Providing For The Senate And The House Of Representatives To Hold A Joint Session To Hear The Message Of The President Of The Republic Of The Philippines (HCR-3) [July 25, 2016]
2. Ct. Res. No. 2 Concurrent Resolution Creating A Joint Committee Of The Senate And The House Of Representatives To Notify The President Of The Philippines That Congress, Now Convened For Its First Regular Session Of The Seventeenth Congress Of The Philippines, Is Ready To Hear His State Of The Nation Address In A Joint Session Of Both Houses (SCR-1) [July 25, 2016]
3. Ct. Res. No. 3 Concurrent Resolution Providing For The Legislative Calendar Of

The First Regular Session Of The Seventeenth Congress Of The Philippines (SCR-2) [August 3, 2016]

4. Ct. Res. No. 4

Concurrent Resolution Granting Consent To Senator Franklin M. Drilon To Accept The Grand Cordon Of The Order Of The Rising Sun To Be Conferred Upon Him By The Government Of Japan (SCR-4) [September 28, 2016]

5. Ct. Res. No. 5

Concurrent Resolution Providing For The Adjournment Of The First Regular Session Of The Seventeenth Congress Of The Philippines Not Later Than Twelve O'clock, Midnight, Today, May 31, 2017 (SCR-5) [May 31, 2017]

**ADDITIONAL LAWS IN THE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**
(Signed into Law During the *Sine Die*
Adjournment of the Senate)

1. R.A. No. 10870 An Act Regulating the Philippine Credit Card Industry (H. No. 5417) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
2. R.A. No. 10871 An Act Requiring Basic Education Students to Undergo Age-Appropriate Basic Life Support Training (S. No. 3204/H. No. 6204) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
3. R.A. No. 10872 An Act Separating The Cagasat National High School - Magsaysay Annex In Barangay Magsaysay, Municipality Of Cordon, Province Of Isabela From The Cagasat National High School, Converting It Into An Independent National High School To Be Known As Cordon National High School And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 2817) [[Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the

Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

4. R.A. No. 10873

An Act Separating The Conner Central National High School - Talifugo Annex In Barangay Talifugo, Municipality Of Conner, Province Of Apayao From The Conner Central National High School, Converting It Into An Independent National High School To Be Known As Talifugo National High School And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 3219) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

5. R.A. No. 10874

An Act Separating the Pio Da Lim Memorial School of Arts and Trades-Tanglagan Annex in Barangay Tanglagan, Municipality of Calanasan, Province of Apayao From the Pio Da Lim Memorial School of Arts and Trades, Converting It Into An Independent National Technical-Vocational High School to Be Known As Tanglagan National Agricultural and Trade High School and Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 3220) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of

the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

6. R.A. No. 10875

An Act Establishing A National Science And Technology High School In Barangay San Jose. City Of Antipolo, Province Of Rizal To Be Known As Antipolo City National Science And Technology High School And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 4366) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

7. R.A. No. 10876

An Act Separating The Kalinga National High School - Ambato Tinglayan Annex In Barangay Ambato-Legleg, Municipality Of Tinglayan, Province Of Kalinga From The Kalinga National High School, Converting It Into An Independent National High School To Be Known As Tinglayan National High School And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 5406) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

8. R.A. No. 10877

An Act Separating The Gov. Alfredo Abueg Sr. National Technology And Vocational

Memorial High School - Aribungos Extension In Barangay Aribungos, Municipalmr Of Brooke's Point, Province Of Palawan From The Gov. Alfredo Abueg Sr. National Technology And Vocational Memorial High School, Converting It Into An Independent National High School To Be Known As Inil U. Taha National High School And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 5446) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

9. R.A. No. 10878 An Act Strengthening And Institutionalizing Direct Credit Support Of The Land Bank Of The Philippines To Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries, Small Farmers And Fisherfolk, Further Amending Republic Act No. 3844, Otherwise Known As The "Agricultural Land Reform Code", As Amended (H. No. 3785) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

10. R.A. No. 10879 An Act Establishing The Southwestern Tagalog Region To Be Known As The Mimaropa Region (H. No. 5511) [Lapsed

Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

11. R.A. No. 10880 An Act Creating An Additional Branch Of The Regional Trial Court With Seat At Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro In The Fourth Judicial Region, Further Amending For The Purpose Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, Otherwise Known As "The Judiciary Reorganization Act Of 1980", As Amended, And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 3145) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

12. R.A. No. 10881 An Act Amending Investment Restrictions In Specific Laws Governing Adjustment Companies, Lending Companies, Financing Companies And Investment Houses Cited In The Foreign Investment Negative List And For Other Purposes (S. No. 3023/H. No. 6395) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

13. R.A. No. 10882 An Act Exempting Surviving Children Of Military Personnel

Who Are Mentally Incapacitated From Termination Of Benefits Upon Reaching The Age Of Twenty-One (21), Amending For The Purpose Section 25 Of Presidential Decree Numbered Sixteen Hundred And Thirty-Eight, Otherwise Known As The AFP Military Personnel Retirement And Separation Decree Of 1979, As Amended (H. No. 772) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

14. R.A. No. 10883

An Act Providing For A New Anti-Carnapping Law Of The Philippines (S. No. 2794/H. No. 4544) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

15. R.A. No. 10884

An Act Strengthening The Balanced Housing Development Program, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7279, As Amended, Otherwise Known As The Urban Development And Housing Act Of 1992 (S. No. 2947/H. No. 4116) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

16. R.A. No. 10885

An Act Granting The Making Network, Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Radio And/Or Television Broadcasting Stations Throughout The Philippines (H. No. 6313) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

17. R.A. No. 10886

An Act Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Kalayaan Broadcasting System, Incorporated Under Republic Act No. 7303, As Amended By Republic Act No. 8105, Entitled "An Act Granting The Kalayaan Broadcasting System, Incorporated, A Franchise To Construct, Install, Operate And Maintain Radio Broadcasting Stations In The Island Of Mindanao And For Other Purposes" (H. No. 6193) Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

18. R.A. No. 10887

An Act Amending The Franchise Granted To Byers Communications, Inc. Under Republic Act No. 8107, Expanding Its Scope Into National

Coverage, And Renewing Its Term For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years (H. No. 6168) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

19. R.A. No. 10888

An Act Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Zoe Broadcasting, Inc., Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7297, Entitled “An Act Granting The Zoe Broadcasting Network, Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Operate And Maintain Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations Throughout The Philippines, And For Other Purposes”, As Amended By Republic Act No. 7968 (H. No. 6053) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

20. R.A. No. 10889

An Act Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Corona International, Inc. Under Republic Act No. 7398 (H. No. 6038) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

21. R.A. No. 10890

An Act Granting The Mactan Electric Company, Inc. (MECO) A Franchise To Construct Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain A Distribution System For The Conveyance Of Electric Power To The End Users In The City Of Lapu-Lapu And The Municipality Of Cordova Province Of Cebu (H. No. 5571) [Lapsed Into Law on July 17, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

22. R.A. No. 10891

An Act Granting The First Bay Power Corp. (FBPC) A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain A Distribution System For The Conveyance Of Electric Power To The End Users In The Municipality Of Bauan, Province Of Batangas (H. No. 2185) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

23. R.A. No. 10892

An Act Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Ibaan Electric Corporation (Formerly Ibaan Electric And Engineering Corporation) To Construct, Operate, And Maintain An Electric Light, Heat, And Power

System In The Municipality Of Ibaan, Province Of Batangas Under Republic Act No. 7578 (H. No. 5570) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

24. R.A. No. 10893

An Act Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Masbate Community Broadcasting Co., Inc. Under Republic Act No. 7510, Entitled “An Act Granting The Masbate Community Broadcasting Co., Inc., A Franchise To Construct, Install, Operate And Maintain Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations In The Islands Of Masbate And Romblon And The Whole Of The Visayas, And For Other Purposes” (H. No. 5583) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

25. R.A. No. 10894

An Act Extending To Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To The Philippine Telegraph And Telephone Corporation (PT&T) To Establish, Install, Maintain And Operate Wire And/Or Wireless Telecommunications Systems,

Lines, Circuits And Stations Throughout The Philippines For Public Domestic And International Communications Under Republic Act No. 4161, As Amended (H. No. 5601) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

26. R.A. No. 10895

An Act Granting The Avocado Broadband Telecoms, Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Telecommunications Systems Throughout The Philippines (H. No. 5844) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

27. R.A. No. 10896

An Act Renewing For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To People’s Broadcasting Service, Inc. Under Republic Act No. 7477. As Amended By Republic Act No. 9213 (H. No. 5859) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

28. R.A. No. 10897

An Act Granting The AMA Telecommunications, Inc. A

Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Telecommunications Systems In The Philippines (H. No. 6003) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

29. R.A. No. 10898

An Act Granting The Infinivan, Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Telecommunications Systems Throughout The Philippines (H. No. 6005) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

30. R.A. No. 10899

An Act Granting Veritas Media Arts Inc. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Radio And Television Broadcasting Stations In The Province Of Bohol And The Visayas (H. No. 6011) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

31. R.A. No. 10900

An Act Extending For Another Twenty-Five (25) Years The Franchise Granted To Bell Telecommunication Philippines,

Inc., Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7692, Entitled “An Act Granting To Bell Telecommunication Philippines, Inc., A Franchise To Install, Operate And Maintain Telecommunications Systems Throughout The Philippines And For Other Purposes (H. No. 6012) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

32. R.A. No. 10901

An Act Granting The Pilipinas Asian Pearl Airways. Inc. A Franchise To Establish, Operate And Maintain Domestic And International Air Transport Services (6021) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

33. R.A. No. 10902

An Act Granting The Metro Connections And Telecom Corp. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Telecommunications Systems Throughout The Philippines (H. No. 6312) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

34. R.A. No. 10903 An Act Granting The Megamania Telecom Corp. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Telecommunications Systems Throughout The Philippines (H. No. 6314) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
35. R.A. No. 10904 An Act Granting The Pilipinas Radio Waves Corp. A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain Radio And/Or Television Broadcasting Stations Throughout The Philippines (H. No. 6315) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
36. R.A. No. 10905 An Act Requiring All Franchise Holders Or Operators Of Television Stations And Producers Of Television Programs To Broadcast Or Present Their Programs With Closed Captions Option, And For Other Purposes (S. No. 2239/H. No. 925) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

37. R.A. No. 10906 An Act Providing Stronger Measures Against Unlawful Practices, Businesses, And Schemes Of Matching And Offering Filipinos To Foreign Nationals For Purposes Of Marriage Or Common Law Partnership, Repealing For The Purpose Republic Act No. 6955, Also Referred To As The “Anti-Mail Order Bride Law” (S. No. 3209/H. No. 5572) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
38. R.A. No. 10907 An Act Declaring Tourism Development Areas In The Province Of Camiguin, Organizing The Camiguin Tourism Council And Mandating Support For Tourism Development In The Province Of Camiguin (H. No. 5576) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
39. R.A. No. 10908 An Act Mandating The Integration Of Filipino-Muslim And Indigenous Peoples History, Culture And Identity In The Study Of Philippine History In Both Basic And Higher Education (S. No. 3205/H. No. 4832) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without

- the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
40. R.A. No. 10909 An Act Prohibiting Business Establishments From Giving Insufficient Or No Change To Consumers And Providing Penalties Therefor (S. No. 1618/H. No. 4730) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
41. R.A. No. 10910 An Act Increasing The Prescriptive Period For Violations Of Republic Act No. 3019, Otherwise Known As The ‘Anti-Graft And Corrupt Practices Act’, From Fifteen (15) Years To Twenty (20) Years, Amending Section Ii Thereof (S. No. 2422/H. No. 4146) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
42. R.A. No. 10911 An Act Prohibiting Discrimination Against Any Individual In Employment On Account Of Age And Providing Penalties Therefor (S. No. 29/H. No. 6418) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI,

- Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
43. R.A. No. 10912 An Act Mandating And Strengthening The Continuing Professional Development Program For All Regulated Professions, Creating The Continuing Professional Development Council, And Appropriating Funds Therefor, And For Other Related Purposes (S. No. 2581/H. No. 6423) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
44. R.A. No. 10913 An Act Defining And Penalizing Distracted Driving (S. No. 3211/H. No. 4531) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
45. R.A. No. 10914 An Act Granting Philippine Citizenship To Hans-Peter Smit (H. No. 5560) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]
46. R.A. No. 10915 An Act Strengthening, Modernizing And Aligning The Practice Of Agricultural

Engineering In The Country Into The Internationally Recognized Practice Of Agricultural And Biosystems Engineering, And For Other Purposes (S. No. 2434/H. No. 6421) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

47. R.A. No. 10916

An Act Requiring The Mandatory Installation Of Speed Limiter In Public Utility And Certain Types Of Vehicles (S. No. 2999/H. No. 5911) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

48. R.A. No. 10917

An Act Amending Certain Provisions Of Republic Act No. 9547, Otherwise Known As An Act Strengthening And Expanding The Coverage Of The Special Program For Employment Of Students. Amending For The Purpose Provisions Of Republic Act No. 7323, Otherwise Known As The Special Program For Employment Of Students (S. No. 3090/H. No. 6414) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

49. R.A. No. 10918

An Act Regulating And Modernizing The Practice Of Pharmacy In The Philippines, Repealing For The Purpose Republic Act Numbered Five Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-One (R.A. No. 5921), Otherwise Known As The Pharmacy Law (S. No. 2436/H. No. 5616) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

50. R.A. No. 10919

An Act Establishing The University Of Science And Technology Of Southern Philippines (USTSP), Providing For The Purpose The Amalgamation Of The Mindanao University Of Science And Technology (MUST) And The Misamis Oriental State College Of Agriculture And Technology (MOSCAT), And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 6144) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

51. R.A. No. 10920

An Act Separating The Conner Central National High School - Cupis Annex II In Barangay Cupis, Municipality Of Conner, Province Of Apayao From The Conner Central National High

School, Converting It Into An Independent National Technical-Vocational High School To Be Known As Cupis National High School And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 3222) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

52. R.A. No. 10921

An Act Separating The Conner Central National High School - Ili Annex IV In Barangay Ili, Municipality Of Conner. Province Of Apayao From The Conner Central National High School, Converting It Into An Independent National High School To Be Known As Ili National High School And Appropriating Funds Therefor (H. No. 3223) [Lapsed Into Law on July 21, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

53. R.A. No. 10922

An Act Declaring The Second Week Of November Of Every Year As Economic And Financial Literacy Week (S. No. 2779/H. No. 5452) [Lapsed Into Law on July 22, 2016 Without the Signature of the President In Accordance With Article VI, Section 27 (1) of the Constitution.]

CUMULATIVE STATISTICAL DATA

CUMULATIVE STATISTICAL DATA
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
 July 25, 2016 to May 31, 2017
(As of May 31, 2017)

SENATE BILLS	
I. Senate Bills Filed	1,478
II. Senate Bills Acted Upon by the Senate	245
1. Passed by both Houses	8
1.1 Enacted into Law (1)	
1.2 Conference Committee Report approved by both Houses (6)	
1.3 Senate version Adopted by the House of Representatives as an amendment to the House version (1)	
2. Pending in the House of Representatives	14
3. Approved on Second Reading	2
4. Pending Second Reading	46
4.1 Special Orders(43)	
4.2 Ordinary Business (3)	
5. Consolidated/ Substituted in the Committee Report	174
6. Sent to the Archives	0
7. Withdrawn by Author/s	1
III. Senate Bills Pending in the Committees for Public Hearing	1,242

SENATE RESOLUTIONS	
I. Senate Resolutions Filed	399
II. Senate Resolutions Adopted	53
1. Simple Resolutions	48
2. Resolutions on Treaty Concurred by the Senate	3
3. Unnumbered Resolutions Adopted	2*
III. Senate Resolutions Acted Upon by the Senate	52
1. Approved on Second Reading	0
2. Pending Second Reading	4
3. Consolidated in Adopted Resolutions	33
4. Consolidated/ Substituted in Committee Report	11
5. Considered but not Adopted	1
6. Withdrawn by Author/s	2
7. Sent to the Archives	1
IV. Senate Resolutions Pending in the Committees for Public Hearing	296

****Note: Unnumbered Resolution Adopted is not counted as part of the Senate Resolutions Filed***

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS	
I. Senate Concurrent Resolutions Filed	5
II. Senate Concurrent Resolutions Adopted	4
III. Senate Concurrent Resolutions Pending in the Committee	1

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS	
I. Senate Joint Resolutions Filed	7
II. Senate Joint Resolutions Acted upon by the Senate – Special Order (2)	2
III. Senate Joint Resolutions Pending in the Committee	5

RESOLUTION OF BOTH HOUSES (RBH) — SENATE	
I. Total Number of RBH Filed	2
II. Total Number of RBH Withdrawn (Authorship)	1
III. Total Number of RBH Pending in the Committee	1

HOUSE BILLS	
I. House Bills sent to the Senate for Concurrence	208
II. House Bills Acted Upon by the Senate	53
A. Passed by both Houses	29
1. Enacted into Law (4)	
2. House of Representatives concurred with Senate Amendments to the House version (4)	
3. House of Representatives Adopted Senate version as an amendment to the House version (1)	
4. Conference Committee Report approved by both Houses (6)	
5. Approved on Third Reading by the Senate (without amendment), Seny back tothe House of Representatives (14)	
B. Pending Second Reading	22
a. Special Order (22)	
b. Ordinary Business (0)	
C. Consolidated/ Substituted in the Committee Report	0
III. House Bills Pending in the Committees for the Public Hearing	136
IV. House Bills Pending First Reading	21

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS	
I. House Concurrent Resolutions Filed	3
II. House Concurrent Resolutions Adopted	1
III. House Concurrent Resolutions Sent to the Archives	1
IV. House Concurrent Resolutions Pending in the Committees for Public Hearing	1

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS	
I. House Joint Resolutions Filed	1
II. House Joint Resolutions Approved by the President of the Philippines	0
III. House Joint Resolutions Consolidated with Approved SJR	1
IV. House Concurrent Resolutions Pending in the Committees	1

HOUSE RESOLUTIONS	
I. House Resolutions Received by the Senate/ Sent to the Archives	2

RESOLUTIONS of BOTH HOUSES — HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
I. Total Number of RBH Filed	0

COMMITTEE REPORTS	
I. Total Number of Committee Reports	130
1.1 Committee Report Approved (1)	
1.2 Committee Report Pending Second Reading, Special Order (1)	

THE
SENATE COMMITTEES

AN EVENTFUL CENTENNIAL SENATE SESSION

As proven by the activities of its different committees, the Centennial Senate showed its readiness to back up its goals with action and its desire to be an agent for change and truly improve the lives of Filipinos. No less than the general public recognized the efforts of the Senate as its received the highest satisfaction rating among the top four institutions in the country in a survey released in May of this year.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

In keeping with the Senate's mandate to come up with relevant laws, the committees and oversight committees conducted a total of 400 public hearings/bicameral conferences/technical working group/consultations (393 by the committees and seven (7) by the oversight Committees) for the First Regular Session of the 17th Congress from July 25, 2016 up to June 13, 2017. The hearings, meetings, conferences, and consultations dealt with and looked into issues of national importance.

THE STANDING COMMITTEES

All in all, the standing committees and their subcommittees conducted a total of 393 public hearings/meetings/bicameral conferences/technical working groups/ consultations.

Among the most active were the following:

The Committee on Finance including its subcommittees which had 46 hearings/meetings/conferences/consultations;

The Committee on Local Government which conducted a total of 28 public hearings/technical working groups/briefings/ consultative meetings;

The Committee on Energy which had a total of 22 public hearings/technical working group meetings/organizational meeting;

The Committee on Education, Arts and Culture which had 20 public hearings/technical working groups/bicameral conferences/organizational meeting/briefing;

The Committee Public Services which had 20 public hearings/technical working groups/bicameral conference;

The Committee on Labor and Employment which had 19 public hearings/technical working group meetings/organizational meeting;

The Committee on Justice and Human Rights which undertook 16 public hearings/technical working groups/organizational meeting/ executive session/ consultative meetings;

The Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs which had 14 public hearings/technical working group meeting/organizational meeting/executive session;

The Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations (Blue Ribbon) which conducted 14 public hearings/technical working group meeting/executive session;

The Committee on Agriculture and Food including its Subcommittee on S. No. 144 which conducted 14 public hearings/technical working groups/organizational meeting;

The Committee on Ways and Means which had 14 public hearings/technical working group meeting/organizational meeting/consultative meeting;

The Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization and its sub-committee which had 13 public hearings/technical working groups/organizational meeting;

The Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship which conducted 12 public hearings/technical working groups/organizational meeting/consultative meeting;

The Committees on Climate Change; Health and Demography; and Urban Planning which all had nine (9) public hearings/technical working groups/bicameral conference/organizational meeting/consultative meeting;

The Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes which conducted eight (8) public hearings/technical working group meetings/bicameral conference/ briefing;

The Committees on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation; Foreign Relations (including the Subcommittee on the Paris Agreement); and Science and Technology; and Sports which all had seven (7) public hearings/technical working group meetings/organizational meetings; and

The Committees on Government Corporation and Public Enterprises; Public Works; and Women, Children, Family Relations and gender Equality all had six (6) public hearings/ technical working group meetings/ organizational meetings.

The Committee on Economic Affairs which conducted 14 public hearing/ technical working groups.

The undertakings of all the other committees are reflected in the attached report.

THE SPECIAL / OVERSIGHT COMMITTEES

Five (5) oversight committees conducted a total of seven (7) public hearings/technical working groups/ meetings.

The most active was the Joint Congressional Power Commission which conducted two (2) public hearing/ organizational meeting;

The Joint Oversight Committee on Quality Affordable Medicines had two (2) public hearings;

The Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Public Expenditures conducted one organizational meeting;

The Select Oversight Committee on Intelligence and Confidential Funds had one executive session; and

The Joint Oversight Committee on the National Health Insurance conducted one public hearing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS FILED

The committees filed 122 committee reports. Among the latest reports filed are:

Committee Report Number 118 on SBN 1143: DOH Hospital Capacity Rationalization Act;

Committee Report Number 117 on SBN 1483 and SBN 837: “Fiscal and Monetary Report Act of 2017”;

Committee Report Number 116 on Senate Bill Numbers 1478, 652, 665 and 716: “Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Act of 2017”; and

Committee Report Number 115 on Senate Bill Numbers 1136, 1170, 1189 and 1348: “Positive Discipline of Children Act of 2017”

In addition to these, the Senate adopted resolutions on various treaties, conventions and agreements, among which are:

Resolution Number 33 (PSR No. 241) on the “Articles of Agreement of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Act “;

Resolution No. 38 (PSR no.283) on the “Agreement between Japan and the Republic of the Philippines on Social Security” which was signed on 19 November 2015 in Manila; and

Resolution No. 42 (PSR No. 1335) on the “Paris Agreement”

OUR SENATORS



SENATE PRESIDENT AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

Senate President Aquilino "Koko" de la Llana Pimentel III is the son of former Senate President Aquilino "Nene" Quilising Pimentel Jr., of Mindanao and Ilocos Norte, and Lourdes de la Llana Pimentel, of Zambales.

In the Philippine Senate's one hundred years history, this is the first time that a son has followed the footsteps of his father as Senate President.

Born on January 20, 1964 in Cagayan de Oro City, in Northern Mindanao, Koko, as he is called by his closest friends, finished his elementary, high school, and college education with a degree in Bachelor of Science, Major in Mathematics at the Ateneo de Manila University, and went on to earn his Law degree from the University of the Philippines College of Law.

Pimentel first came to national prominence when he placed number one in the 1990 Bar exam with a score of 89.85%. After being accepted into the Bar, he worked in his father's law firm before accepting an appointment at the National Youth Commission (NYC), serving as the commissioner representing Mindanao.

Koko Pimentel became a senator in August 2011 after he won his election protest. He was reelected as senator in the 2013 Elections.

Because his father exposed him early to life as a public servant, it came as no surprise therefore for Pimentel to become attracted to public service. He lawyered for the oppressed and powerless while at the same time became actively engaged in charitable work through the Jaycees and the Rotary.

Pimentel joined the Partido Demokratiko Pilipino Lakas ng Bayan (PDP Laban), the party established by his father, Senator Nene

Pimentel, in the early 1980s. He served as the party's general legal counsel, then later on as its secretary general. At present, Pimentel runs the PDP Laban as party president together with President Rodrigo Duterte as party chairman and House Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez as party secretary general.

Like his father before him, Pimentel is also an untiring advocate for the adoption of a Federal System of Government in the Philippines. As president of PDP Laban, it is Pimentel's mission to bring the message of federalism to the Filipino people.

Pimentel simply wants to make his contribution and do what he has to do in making this world and our country, the Philippines, a better place to live in, with a constantly improving quality of life, not only for the present generation but also for the future generations of Filipinos.

Pimentel is one with the Filipino people in their clamor for change. Guided by the mantra "The Poorest First, the Poor Second!", Koko calls on all Filipinos to "*Always use your KOKOte!*" to discover out of the box solutions to our country's gravest problems like inter-generational poverty.

As a Filipino, a senator, and party leader, Pimentel is guided by his vision of a Philippine society which is just and fair, which saves and shares, which is scientific and objective, which is peaceful and democratic, which is educated and healthy, and which is, most of all, happy and free, with overflowing love of God and country.



SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE RALPH G. RECTO

His independence makes him an exemplary public official. He can never be boxed into a myopic position to the disdain of his critics. He is not one to shun the rough waters of public opinion when he tackles unpopular measures. He faces criticisms head on, but in ways that disarm the adversary. Whoever

initially opposes him is soon converted into an ally.

Family and Personal Life

Senator Ralph Recto's political lineage is traced to the late Senator Claro Mayo Recto, nationalist and statesman, and a descendant of the patriotic Mayo and Recto clans of Luzon. Recto is the second child of three of lawyer Rafael Recto, an Assemblyman during the Regular Batasang Pambansa, and Carmen Gonzalez-Recto whose family hails from Pangasinan.

He is married to the representative of the 6th District of Batangas, Vilma Santos-Recto, father to Ryan Christian and stepfather to Luis Philippe Manzano.

Education

Recto has completed the coursework and is a candidate for both master's degrees in Public Administration from the University of the Philippines and in Strategic Business Economics from the University of Asia and the Pacific. He also took up a Leadership Course at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. He acquired a bachelor's degree in Business Management at the De La Salle

University-Manila. His elementary years were spent at the Ateneo de Manila University and La Salle Greenhills while his high school diploma was from La Salle Greenhills.

He was conferred a degree of Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa* by the Lipa City Public College in 2010 and by the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology in 2009.

At the National Economic and Development Authority

After the elections of 2007, Recto joined the board of the Union Bank of the Philippines as an independent director. On July 23, 2008, he was named director-general of the National Economic and Development Authority.

As NEDA chief, Recto helped craft and monitor the government's Economic Resiliency Plan (ERP) which served as the Philippines' pump-priming program. The ERP implementation involved the frontloading of government spending during the first half of 2009 and increased spending for social services and infrastructure. Moreover, he proposed a new economic plan for the next year initially dubbed as REAP (Reloading Economic Acceleration Plan) to protect the gains made from the ERP and prepare the country for the anticipated economic rebound. He also set in place a more institutionalized monitoring of global and local events as they affect the Philippine economy.

Recto advocated various development issues such as a transparent oil pricing scheme to protect consumers as well as a greater transparency in government project implementation. He also backed innovations in the green industry and technology in the Philippines and signed a climate change program with the United Nations and the Spanish Government. In addition, Recto pushed for deeper engagements with China and other growth regions such as the Middle East.

During his term as NEDA Director-General, Recto instituted the adoption of value engineering in infrastructure projects to help cut

costs, minimize delays and strengthen the ICC process. He introduced an employment odometer for all government projects/initiatives to estimate the number of jobs that can be created.

Recto also advocated the enhancement of the performance review of the Philippine government's Official Development Assistance (ODA) portfolio to help improve the country's absorptive capacity, speed up the implementation of development programs and projects, and manage development results.

At the House of Representatives

He holds the distinction of being the youngest elected member of the House of Representatives during the 9th Congress. He also holds an unprecedented record in the congressional election history of Batangas for winning in all precincts, barangays, municipalities, together with Lipa City in the 1995 and 1998 elections. He garnered 98% of the votes cast in those two elections in the 4th District of Batangas.

During his three terms (from 1992 to 2001) as member of the House of Representatives, his legislative measures enacted into law mostly dealt with economic reforms and poverty alleviation, among which are the Social Reform and Poverty Alleviation Act, the Philippine Economic Zone Law, Amendment to the Special Economic Zone Law, the Retail Trade Liberalization Law, Regional Headquarters Law, and the Comprehensive Tax Reform Law.

At the Philippine Senate

Recto holds the distinction of being the youngest senator of the 12th Congress at the age of 37.

In the 16th Congress, Recto was elected President Pro Tempore and chairman of the Committee on Science and Technology and continued to be a member of the Commission on Appointments. In the 12th, 13th and 15th Congresses, Recto was chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means.

HEARTS which is the acronym for Health, Education, Agriculture, Roads, Technology and Social Security is the core of Recto's legislative agenda and advocacy. He believes that reforms in these sectors would have a meaningful impact on the efforts to alleviate the plight of the Filipino people.

His recent legislative accomplishments

include authorship of laws on institutionalization of kindergarten, implementation of K-12, extension of the corporate life of the Philippine National Railways (PNR), increasing the tax-exempt ceiling on 13th month pay, Christmas bonus and other benefits, mandatory PhilHealth coverage for senior citizens, additional benefits for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), PAGASA modernization, extension of the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ACEF), the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) modernization, creation of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, and Centenarians Act.

He has come out in defence of Juan de la Cruz in consumer issues like oil prices, power, transportation fare, license plates, as well as the investigations on NAIA *laglag bala* and taxes on *balikbayan* boxes. On the other hand, he initiated increased budget support for state universities and colleges (SUCs), public hospitals, Philippine Science High School, PAGASA modernization, free WI-Fi in public places, *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program* (4Ps), among others.

A deep sense of equity and fairness defined his balanced handling and scrutiny of legislative measures. In all cases, he assigned great value on the people's needs. With inclusive growth, it is expected that the poor will share the responsibility and fruits of development. When the 17th Congress opened on July 25, 2016, Recto assumed the position of Senate Minority Leader. On February 27, 2017 he was elected Senate President Pro Tempore.



SENATE MAJORITY LEADER VICENTE C. SOTTO III

Always fighting for the welfare and benefit of Filipino families, Senator Vicente C. Sotto III has passed a total of 127 laws as principal author and has never been late or absent during the 15th and 16th Congresses (2010 to 2016), a display of commitment and dedication to the mandate of the people

who voted for him. Now in the 17th Congress, he vows to continue his sworn duties as a public servant.

Sotto is perhaps the only one from the present crop of senators who can seamlessly switch from one career to another—being an accomplished public servant, lawmaker, sportsman, and an artist in his own right.

He started his public service career as vice mayor of Quezon City from 1988 to 1992 and established the Anti-Drug Abuse Council in the city. He was a two-term senator from the 9th to 12th Congresses (1992 to 2004). He also actively led the fight against illegal drugs as chairman of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) from July 2008 to November 2009. He has excelled in all fields—uncompromising and giving his best—as true master of his own fate.

As a senator, he sponsored and authored more than a hundred laws, making him one of the most prolific senators to date. Among these are the Children's Safety on Motorcycles Act, Anti-Drunk and Drugged Driving Act, creation of Family Courts, Teachers and Students Assistance Program, Seat Belt Law, Cyber Crime Law, and the Creation of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) under the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002. Being an actor-musician by profession, Sotto also sponsored laws that benefitted the local music and film industries, such as the creation of the Optical Media Board (OMB) and the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP).

As former chairman of the DDB, Sotto was given the International Award of Honor by the International Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association for his fight against drug trafficking and abuse in the country and in Southeast Asia.

Before entering public service, Sotto was an outstanding athlete who gained recognition for his athletic accomplishments. He won gold medals and was a seven-time member of the Philippine bowling team. He represented the country in the AMF Bowling World Cup in Bogota, Colombia in 1978 and in Sydney, Australia in 1984. He also holds the distinction of being the only Filipino and one of the few athletes in the world who rolled three perfect games in a row in bowling and three holes in one in golf.

Sotto was known ever since as an artist and musician. He was the man behind the successful careers of VST & Co., Pops Fernandez, Rico J. Puno, Sharon Cuneta, and Freddie Aguilar, to name a few. He was also the composer of the song “Magkaisa” which became the official anthem of the 1986 People Power Revolution.

Born in Manila, Philippines in 1948, he graduated from the Executive Program for Leaders in Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University in June 2000.

He is married to Helen Gamboa. They have four children namely: Diorella Maria, Romina Frances, Gian Carlo and Ciara Anna.

Sotto believes that his family is his best treasure and his untarnished record as a public servant is his lasting legacy.



SENATE MINORITY LEADER FRANKLIN M. DRILON

The great Nelson Mandela once said, “*What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived. It is what difference we have made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead.*”

Those famous words aptly describe the life of Senator Franklin M. Drilon as a public servant, a legislator, and a statesman.

With a track record of public service spanning three decades, he has been serving Filipinos since 1986. His first foray into elective office was in 1995 when he finished fourth in the senatorial race. He was reelected as a senator in 2001. He again won the senatorial race in 2010 and topped the senatorial elections with more than 18 million votes in 2016. He is currently completing his fourth term as a senator, served as Senate President Pro Tempore of the 17th Congress, and recently as Minority Leader.

He holds the distinction of being the only senator in the history of Philippine legislature to be elected Senate President four times: from April to November 2000, from July 2001 to June 2004, from July 2004 to June 2006, and from July 2013 to June 2016.

Drilon’s brand of public service is centered on his ability to get things done, thus earning him the moniker “the Big Man of the Senate.”

Indeed, in his 18 years in the Senate, his legislative record speaks for itself. He has authored laws instrumental in fighting corruption and strengthening good governance. Topping the list is the GOCC Governance Act of 2011 (RA 10149), which transformed state-run agencies from being milking cows of unscrupulous individuals into instruments of national progress. Since its enactment, hundreds of billions of pesos in dividends were added to the national coffers.

He also championed the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2001 during the 11th Congress to ensure that the country would not be used as a money-laundering haven while preserving the integrity and confidentiality of bank accounts.

In the field of justice, Drilon brought with him to the Upper Chamber his deep-rooted crusade for “Justice Agad” which he had activated as Secretary of Justice. He also authored and supported various measures that improved the delivery of justice system in the country. He authored the amendments to the Sandiganbayan Act (RA 10660), which added two more divisions and modified the anti-graft court’s jurisdiction by transferring minor cases to the regional trial courts to enable the speedy disposition of corruption cases.

As chairman of the Senate Finance Committee in previous congresses, he ensured the grant of sufficient funding to the justice sector for it to effectively carry out its mandate. He is also the author of RA 9227 that provided additional compensation for justices and employees of the Judiciary.

On the economic front, many of his laws helped in laying the foundation for a healthy and vibrant economy. Among these are the Act to Further Liberalize Foreign Investments (RA 8179), and the Revised Non-Stock Savings and Loan Association Act of 1997 which he authored in the 10th Congress; the General Banking Law of 2000 (RA 8791) and the Anti-Injunction Act (RA 8975) in the 11th Congress; the Securitization Act of 2004 (RA 9267) in the 12th Congress; and the Income Tax Exemption of International Common Carriers Act (RA 10378) in the 15th Congress.

Drilon, an anti-smoking advocate, is widely credited for the passage of the controversial Sin Tax Reform Law (RA 10351) in 2012. The law increases taxes on alcohol and tobacco products in a bid to address the high prevalence of smoking in the country, as well as to generate funds to support government healthcare programs. He also championed the Graphic Health Warning Act (RA 10643) in 2014 and early on, the Expanded Senior Citizens Act (RA 9257) in 2003.

Many of Drilon’s laws have greatly benefited Filipinos working and living abroad. One of these is the Citizenship Retention and Re-acquisition Act of 2003 (RA 9225), which grants natural-born Filipinos who have lost their Filipino citizenship through naturalization in a foreign country, the opportunity to reacquire their Filipino citizenship.

He also fought for the enactment of the Overseas Absentee Voting Act (RA 9189) to allow Filipinos abroad to exercise their right to vote. He also shepherded the passage of various laws that protect Filipino professionals in and out of the country, such as the PRC Modernization Act (RA 8981) and the Marina Law (RA 10635). The Marina Law designates MARINA as the agency in charge of the training and certification of Filipino seafarers and improves the competitiveness of Filipino seafarers to prevent the blacklisting of about 80,000 Filipino seafaring officers in Europe.

Drilon chaired various committees such as the Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations (Blue Ribbon) and the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies in the 11th Congress; Rules and Accounts in the 12th Congress; Finance, Public Order and Illegal Drugs in the 13th Congress; and Finance in the 15th Congress. Presently, he chairs the Senate Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes.

Drilon is known for his brilliance as seen whenever he debates with his colleagues on the Floor and his unwavering persistence in pursuing reforms. He is also known for his unbending principle and moral courage in the face of political adversities—as witnessed by many Filipinos when he championed several milestone reform measures.

In addition, Drilon has been instrumental in the development of Iloilo and the successful rehabilitation of Iloilo River. He led several cleanup drives for the polluted and dying Iloilo River, allocated funds to build the Iloilo River Esplanade, and worked on the construction of the Iloilo Convention Center. Recognizing the importance of the public school system in our country’s progress, he built 1,600 classrooms around the country through the Priority Development

Assistance Fund (PDAF) in partnership with the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI).

Prior to his stint in the Senate, he served in three cabinet positions: labor secretary, justice secretary and executive secretary in the administrations of former President Corazon C. Aquino and Fidel V. Ramos.

Throughout his career in the government, whether in the executive or in the legislative, Drilon has always been a champion for the Filipino people. His strongest attribute as a leader is his ability to get things done. Coupled with integrity and highest morals, this brand of public service brought about enormous achievements that benefited the nation and the people. These benefits will be reaped not only by this generation, but also by the generations yet unborn.



SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

To provide opportunities and empower people are the overarching goals of every measure and policy being pushed by Senator Sonny Angara. A legislator for 12 years he has already more than 60 laws under his belt all aiming to improve the quality of life of all Filipinos.

Elected in 2013 with 16 million votes, Angara is now the Senate's leading voice for genuine tax reform to raise the take-home pay of ordinary workers and to make the country a more attractive investment destination. As chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, he has already worked for the enactment of the following measures: Republic Act 10653 which provides for tax-exempt 13th month pay and other bonuses not exceeding ± 82,000; RA 10863 or the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA) which introduced reforms to customs procedures including tax exemption of OFWs' balikbayan boxes containing not more than P150,000 worth of goods and items; RA 10754 that exempts persons with disabilities (PWDs) from 12 percent value-added tax on transportation, medical and dental services, cost of medicines, hotels and restaurants, among others; and, RA 10708 or the Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act (TIMTA) which promotes transparency and accountability in the grant and administration of tax incentives to registered business entities.

He has long been pushing for the passage of the income tax reform bill that seeks to reduce taxes, put more money in the pockets of the Filipino people, and make the tax system more equitable and progressive. He has likewise been calling on the government to make it easier for small entrepreneurs to form a business and pay taxes by simplifying the process, reducing the steps and requirements, and eliminating red tape.

Angara is also the chairman of the local government committee where he is seeking to empower local government units to become more active partners in nation building. He is the vice chairman of the committees on Labor, Education, Sports, Science and Technology, Finance, and Blue Ribbon.

Angara authored several laws to ensure better jobs and working conditions for Filipinos: RA 10691 which strengthens the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) to help more Filipinos, especially in rural and poorer areas, find a job; RA 10801 which strengthens the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) Act to augment government's support to OFWs and mandate greater representation of OFWs in OWWA so that the needs and sentiments of Filipinos abroad will be better addressed; RA 10706 or the Seafarers Protection Act which protects Filipino seafarers from excessive fees in cases involving illness, accidents or death; RA 10741 which strengthens the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC); and RA 10771 or the Philippine Green Jobs Act which promotes jobs that contribute to the preservation and restoration of the environment and natural resources.

Like his parents, former UP President and Senate President Edgardo Angara and history teacher Gloria Manalang, Angara values education as a tool to fight poverty and ensure social mobility. He is pushing for laws that ensure greater access to quality education and scholarships for poor and deserving students such as the Unified Student Financial Assistance System Act (UNIFAST), the Ladderized Education Act, the Open Learning and Distance Education Act, Youth Entrepreneurship Act, and the law to include Moro and IP history in the school curriculum.

Angara also actively pushes for greater support for Filipino athletes as he sponsored RA 10699 which raised financial incentives and benefits given to winning national athletes, and included athletes with disabilities in the grant of incentives. He is also the sponsor of laws establishing sports academies and training centers in various cities and municipalities in the country to hone the skills and raw talent of young athletes from the provinces and jumpstart grassroots sports development.

He is the author of the Rare Diseases Law, the law requiring cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training to be part of the country's basic education curriculum, and the Farm Tourism Law. He is also one of the authors of the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act that would combat corruption and foster good governance in the country, and the law that created the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) that would ensure universal access and high-speed Internet connectivity at fair costs, and ensure the application of ICT to the different processes and functions of the government for a more efficient, responsive, and transparent government.

Angara represented Aurora province for three terms from 2004 to 2013, where he authored the law that raised teacher and government workers' salaries, the Expanded Senior Citizens Law, the Universal Kindergarten Law, the Universal Healthcare Law, the Magna Carta of Women, the Kasambahay Law, the law that lowered credit costs for entrepreneurs, the Tourism Act, the Cultural Heritage Law, and laws to create universities in far-flung areas.

He was recognized as one of the most productive congressmen during his nine-year stint as a member of the House of Representatives, and is proud of having been a part of Aurora's transformation from a provincial backwater to a growing tourist, agribusiness, and investment destination.

For his achievements, he was awarded one of the country's Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) for government service and legislation in 2010.

Angara took up his elementary and high school studies at Xavier School and finished his undergraduate degree in International Relations at the London School of Economics. He went on to study law at the University of the Philippines College of Law, and earned his Master of Laws degree from the Harvard Law School.

Aside from being a legislator, he has been a regular newspaper columnist, a professor of Law and a member of the UP Board of Regents. He is happily married to wife Tootsy and they have three children.



SEN. PAOLO BENIGNO "BAM" AQUINO IV

A world-renowned social entrepreneur turned senator, Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV dedicated his career to empowering the youth and the poor, helping Filipino families improve their lives through education, employment and livelihood development.

After graduating as class valedictorian and student council president with summa cum laude honors from the Ateneo de Manila University, he became the youngest head of a government agency at age 25 when he was appointed as the chairperson of the National Youth Commission (NYC).

In 2006, he co-founded The Hapinoy Program and Rags2Riches, two multi-awarded social enterprises. In the same year, he was recognized as a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum, then one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) of the Philippines in 2010, one of the Asian Social Entrepreneurs of the Year in 2011, and one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons (TOYP) of the World in 2012.

As the youngest senator in the 16th Congress, one of the first laws Aquino passed was the Go Negosyo Act, that provides support for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME).

Since the enactment of the Go Negosyo Act in 2014, 400 Negosyo Centers have opened in every part of the country and have served over 460,000 Filipino entrepreneurs.

Aquino has passed 17 laws in the 16th Congress, including the landmark Philippine Competition Act that will level the playing field for businesses, particularly for MSMEs and start-ups.

In support of the youth, he passed, among others, the Youth Entrepreneurship Act and the Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act to empower the Filipino youth in financial literacy, entrepreneurship, leadership, and good governance.

Other laws principally sponsored by Aquino include the Foreign Ships Co-Loading Act, the Microfinance NGOs Act, the Credit Surety Act, and the Philippine Lemon Law that will better serve Filipino entrepreneurs and consumers.

Apart from legislation, the neophyte senator has utilized the Senate's investigatory powers to fight corruption, promote good governance, improve infrastructure, and enhance living conditions of Filipinos.

He was instrumental in solving the port congestion issue and continues to champion our quest for cheaper and faster Internet in the Philippines.

Now, as the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, Arts, and Culture, he is actively working with the Department of Education (DepEd) to ensure every Filipino can enjoy the full benefits of the K-12 program.

For the 17th Congress, Aquino is staunchly advocating for policies like the *Abot Alam* Act to promote alternative learning systems for out-of-school youth, and the Free Higher Education for All Act, that will bring tertiary education within reach for the most marginalized sector.

Also chairing the Senate Committee on Science and Technology, he hopes to pass several pieces of legislation such as the Innovative Startup Act, and the Free Internet in Public Schools Act, that will help drive our nation to the next level through innovation, research, and development.

Aquino believes in a politics of hope and trusts that we can build a prosperous nation by bringing out the best in every Filipino.



SENATOR MA. LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

As the Senate of the Philippines celebrates its centennial anniversary, Maria Lourdes Nancy Sombillo Binay remains true and devoted to her promise of being the “Nanay de Pamilya” of the Senate.

At the start of the 17th Congress, she has filed 37 bills and 29 resolutions that champion her advocacies, particularly the concerns of women, children, the elderly, and housing for the poor. During the 16th Congress, she filed 119 bills and 151 resolutions. All in all, she has filed a total of 156 bills and 180 resolutions.

For the 17th Congress, her priority legislations include: the creation of the Department of Culture and the Arts Act (SBN-31), amendments to the The National Revenue Code of 1997 (SB-179), E-VAW Law of 2016 (SBN-180), amendments to the Social Security Law (SBN-181), and the Regularization of Barangay Officials Act of 2016 (SBN-182).

In the past congress, three of her bills became law: An Act Repealing the Crime of Premature Marriage under Article 251 of the Revised Penal Code (RA 10655), Sugarcane Industry Development Act of 2015 (RA 10659), and An Act Expanding the Benefits and Privileges of Persons with Disability (RA 10754).

As chairperson of the Senate Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development, she sponsored the passage of the Centenarians Act of 2016 (R.A. 10868).

Also, during the previous congress, she was among the senators with the best attendance record and the lone lady member of the minority bloc. Presently, she is part of the Senate majority.

Binay has also assumed more responsibilities and functions in the 17th Congress. She was chosen to chair the Senate Committees

on Tourism and Cultural Communities. She is also the co-chairperson of the Joint Oversight Committee on Tourism. Aside from this, she is also one of the vice chairpersons of the Energy Committee and still remains as a member of the Senate Electoral Tribunal.

One of her priority legislations is the provision of support to local government units (LGUs) that would empower them in developing their distinct local allure. She is actively pushing for a regular tourism officer post in every municipality and city. She considers tourism officers as vital point persons in the planning and execution of tourism plans.

In the previous congress, Binay led the Senate Committee on Social Justice, Welfare, and Rural Development which has jurisdiction on all matters relating to the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution on social justice such as housing and other social services.

Aside from her legislative work, Binay is also involved in community affairs and has initiated various projects that cater to children with rare diseases.

Currently, the lady senator actively coordinates with various advocacy groups dedicated to infants with biliary atresia, a life-threatening congenital liver disease. Binay has partnered with the Liver Transplant Operation Babies Philippines (LITRO), a volunteer support group of parents of biliary atresia patients, to help promote awareness of biliary atresia.

From 2014 to 2016, Binay partnered with a US-based volunteer medical organization, LGUs, and provincial hospitals to provide surgical and dental services, specifically cleft lip and palate corrective facial operations, to various provinces in the country. This initiative resulted in more than 200 successful surgeries on children living in Cavite and the Bicol region, particularly in Albay, Sorsogon, Camarines Sur, and Masbate.

Nancy, as she is fondly called, is the eldest daughter of former Vice President Jejomar C. Binay and former Makati City Mayor Dr. Elenita S. Binay.

Prior to her election as senator, Binay grew up constantly exposed to the world of politics and public service.

At 25, she became directly involved in the city government affairs during her mother's term from 1998-2001 when she acted as personal assistant to the city mayor. She also served as her father's personal assistant when he became Vice President in 2010, handling housing concerns.

Her duties included serving as liaison between the Office of the Vice President (OVP) and shelter agencies under the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC). She also worked closely with local government units on housing concerns, including the monitoring and the implementation of programs of the shelter agencies under HUDCC.

The lady senator completed her primary and secondary education at St. Scholastica's College Manila. She obtained her bachelor's degree in Tourism at the University of the Philippines-Diliman in 1997.

Born on May 12, 1973, Nancy is married to Jose Benjamin Raymundo Angeles, a businessman. They have four children, namely, Jose Benjamin Jejomar Angeles, Maria Eliana Faustina Angeles, and twins, Juan Benedicto Adelio Angeles and Juan Benito Alejandro Angeles.

In between performing her roles as wife and mother and her official functions, Binay is also involved with several charitable organizations. She is currently a member of the Board of Trustees of Brighthalls Children's Foundation.



SENATOR
ALAN PETER
“COMPAÑERO” S.
CAYETANO

Talk about a man full of promise—and who delivers.

Interweave into his persona, marks of earnestness, capability, resolve, eloquence, brilliance, charm, vision, courage, and independence of mind, and the name of Senator Alan Peter Cayetano springs up.

Senator Cayetano started his public service career at a young age. Inspired by his father, the late Senator Renato Cayetano, he believes that Filipinos are capable of initiating great changes.

One of his early displays of political idealism was when he became councilor of the University Student Council (USC) in UP Diliman. He then pursued his law degree at the Ateneo de Manila University and graduated as a silver medalist with a Second Honorable Mention. He was later admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1998.

At 21, while studying law, he made history in Philippine politics as the youngest—and number one—councilor in his generation in Taguig City.

From then on, Cayetano has built his entire political career as a sworn enemy of graft and corruption in government. At almost every turn in his political life, he was among the youngest public servants in his sphere in his advocacy.

–At 21, he was the youngest councilor of the country during his time

–At 24, he was the youngest vice mayor of Taguig

–At 27, he was the youngest representative in the 11th Congress

–At 37, he has been the youngest chair of the high profile Senate Blue Ribbon Committee

–At 39, he has been one of the youngest contenders for the Senate Presidency

–At 39, he was the youngest Minority Leader in the history of the Philippine Senate

–At 39, he was awarded as one of the “Top Outstanding Young Men” in 2010

At 46 years of age, Cayetano has achieved so much in the realm of public service and governance. He achieved prominence for his unwavering commitment to principled leadership and advocacy. His brand of leadership is characterized not just by competence and skill, but a leadership style based on strong Christian values that emphasize honesty, hard work, integrity, self-awareness, personal courage, consultation and deliberation, and a sincere sense to serve and empower others. His passion for good governance influenced his choice of advocacy—to fight graft and corruption, institute education reform, and promote entrepreneurship in the countryside.

It is this brand of principled and sometimes militant leadership and advocacy that Senator Alan has been associated with. The Filipinos see it in his fearless and passionate defense of public interest in the different congressional investigations against graft and corruption in government.

In 2007, the senator was chosen to chair the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee. Under his stewardship, the graft-ridden NBN-ZTE deal was probed and scrapped. He also led inquiries into the fertilizer scam and Malacañang’s cash-giving scandal. On his second term at the Senate (2013–present), he actively took part in probes involving recent corruption controversies, including the infamous

pork barrel scandal and the allegations of overpriced programs in Makati City.

Cayetano, armed only with the strength of his convictions and the support of his other colleagues, passionately and intelligently argues for the rule of law and the principles of democracy and good government, educating the public about the great issues of our time.

Being a lawyer, he has acquired superior debating skills with a full grasp of the nature of legislative work. He is deemed hardworking conscientious and focused by his peers.

Even when the probability of losing was great and there was real danger to his person, Cayetano never hesitated to act and stand firm on his convictions and beliefs when circumstances warranted it, and never did he back out of a fight for truth and justice.

He has endeared himself to our people perhaps through his articulate and incisively agile mind in Senate deliberations.

As former chair of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, he pushed for more funding for education and better compensation for public school teachers. Barely nine months after he assumed post, the UP Charter Act of 2008 was passed. In 2014, he made possible the passage of the *Iskolar ng Bayan* Act, thus, allowing the top 10 graduates from all public high schools in the country to enroll in State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) for free.

He also launched a campaign to pass the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill when he chaired the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media in 2009.

During his successful 2013 reelection campaign, Cayetano adopted the PTK (*Presyo, Trabaho, Kita*) program as his platform to reduce prices of goods, create more jobs, and increase people’s income. Under this agenda, he initiated the Anti 5-6 lending program to provide poor Filipinos better access to capital to start or sustain their own businesses. The program has so far provided assistance to over 190 organizations of farmers, fishers, market vendors, PUV drivers, and small-scale workers nationwide.

As the Senate Majority Leader during the previous Congress, Cayetano worked hard to steer the majority bloc into approving measures envisioned to attain inclusive growth. Now, as the chairperson of the Senate Committees on Foreign Relations and Agrarian Reform, he remains committed to helping realize the new administration’s legislative agenda, particularly by spearheading the passage of measures aimed at fulfilling the promises made by President Rodrigo Duterte during the campaign for the May 2016 national elections—a successful war against crime, illegal drugs, and corruption, and a more inclusive growth from which all Filipinos will greatly benefit.

Today, Cayetano is President Duterte’s major ally in pursuing the goal of creating real changes through bold solutions and fast action.



SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA

Senator Leila M. de Lima is one of the staunchest voices in the Philippine human rights and justice fronts.

Having the privilege of working with the country’s top politicians and legal luminaries, De Lima is bringing her 29 years of experience, legal expertise and integrity in the difficult challenge of crafting laws in her first term in the 17th Congress.

Appointed as chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights (2008–2010), De Lima has energized the country’s national human rights institution in addressing cases of human rights violations as she led a team of young lawyers and human rights activists in investigating extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances and all forms of gross human rights violations throughout the country.

As Secretary of the Department of Justice (2010–2015), De Lima carried out the President’s directives in resolving high profile cases, including the prosecution of several prominent figures linked in the misuse of development funds, the murder of media practitioners in Mindanao, and the dangerous raids of the prison cells for maximum security inmates, subsequently exposing and ending their luxurious lifestyle.

It was also under her watch as head of the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking that the Philippines was removed from the US Human Trafficking Watchlist, paving the way for the country’s long-hoped-for upgrade to Tier 1 status.

De Lima has gained honors from the public and private sectors, bestowing her numerous awards and citations, including the prestigious Metrobank Foundation Professorial Chair for Public Service and Governance in 2010 and the Excellent Public Servant Award, Defender of People’s Rights, “Agent of Change” Award

in 2010, and “Filipino of the Year” in 2015 from the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* as one of the “Three Furies,” along with Ombudsman Conchita Carpio-Morales and then Commission on Audit Chairperson Gracia Pulido-Tan.

Prior to her appointment to government posts, she has spent much of her career in private practice. She also worked as a law clerk and secretary for the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (1993–1995), legal staff for Supreme Court Associate Justice Isagani A. Cruz (1986–1989), partner at various prestigious law firms (1989–2008), and law professor in Election Law, Business Organizations, Persons and Family Relations, Transportation Law, and Statutory Construction (1986–1994; 2006–2007).

Like her father, De Lima also made strides as one of the most prominent election lawyers in the country, handling high-profile cases of electoral fraud for national and local candidates.

Elected in 2016, De Lima now sets her eyes on shepherding meaningful policy and structural reforms into laws intended to improve the country’s criminal justice system, promote human rights, strengthen the rule of law, fight graft and corruption, and introduce changes in the Constitution and election laws.

After just four months in office, De Lima has filed a total of 16 bills and seven resolutions. These include the Anti-Children Exploitation Act of 2016, Qualified *Reclusion Perpetua* for Extraordinary Heinous Crimes, and the Prohibition of Black Sand Mining in the Philippines.

Others include: an Act providing for a system of local absentee voting for media practitioners, lawyers, and electoral staff of candidates for national elections; an Act to ordain and institute a new Criminal Code in the Philippines; and strengthening the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) as the National Human Rights Institution.

In line with her advocacy to uphold due process as a right for all, De Lima crafted a bill which seeks to define extrajudicial killing

(EJK) and its penalties. This bill is one of her responses to Senate Resolution No. 9, which she filed, to allow the Senate to investigate the spate of EJKs and summary executions in the country. The resolution sought to strengthen the mechanisms of accountability of law enforcers and to institute corrective legislative measures to ensure full respect for basic human rights, especially the right to life. She also filed a resolution urging the Executive Department to invite the United Nations Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions to look into the spate of killings amid the administration’s campaign against illegal drugs.

These, among others, serve as a testament to De Lima’s unwavering commitment—whether in her past responsibilities or today as a senator of the Republic—to uphold democratic principles and promote the welfare of our people.

Born in Iriga City, Camarines Sur on the 27th of August 1959, De Lima was educated in Catholic institutions where she always graduated top of her class. In 1985, she placed 8th in the Bar examinations, bringing pride to her alma mater, San Beda College, where she earned her law degree and was later conferred with the Most Outstanding Alumna awards in 2010 and 2011.

The eldest daughter of the late Election Commissioner Vicente B. De Lima and Norma E. Magistrado, she has two sons, Israel and Vincent Joshua, and two loving grandchildren, Brandon and Hannah.



SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

Joseph Victor G. Ejercito is a reliable ally of the youth and Filipino masses in the Senate. He authored 24 laws and proposed 146 bills and 49 resolutions—the most number among neophyte senators during the 16th Congress.

Some of his notable legislations include the Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Law, SK Reform Law, Balanced Housing Law, Creation of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), Road Speed Limiter Law, Sugarcane Industry Development Law and Foreign Investment Liberalization Act. He continues to push for the passage of the Freedom of Information Act, Train Protection Act, and PNR Modernization.

Ejercito's chairmanship of the Senate Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Resettlement paved the way for the country's first-ever holding of a National Housing and Urban Development Summit, a nine-month long series of consultations and studies among 111 national agency representatives that sought to address the 5.5-million housing backlog and to make in-city housing possible in the years ahead. The summit likewise produced a Land Inventory (Memo Circular No. 87) for local government units (LGUs) in Metro Manila which identified lands to be allocated to house informal settler families.

Ejercito's leadership of the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs also pushed to develop the Filipinos' financial literacy and to make the country more business and investor-friendly.

In the 17th Congress, Ejercito will continue to advocate for the passage of laws for youth welfare, push for railway as the country's primary mode of public transportation and resolve the transportation crisis, agricultural reform programs, and make housing affordable.

Public Service

Ejercito started his political career in 2001 when he was elected mayor of San Juan. He served as the city mayor for three consecutive terms, from 2001 to 2010. Thereafter, he represented the city in the House of Representatives for one term—from 2010 to 2013. On May 2013, Ejercito was chosen by the people to serve in the Senate.

He is a Commissioned Reserve Officer of the Philippine Marine Corps, with the rank of Major. He is an adopted member of the Philippine Military Academy Class '88 Marinagal.

Ejercito is a recipient of the Ten Outstanding Young Men award for Public Service and Governance in 2007.

Personal Life

Joseph Victor “JV” G. Ejercito was born on December 26, 1969 to former President, now Manila Mayor Joseph Ejercito Estrada, and businesswoman, philanthropist, and current San Juan City Mayor Guia Gomez. He was given the name Victor because he was born shortly after the elder Estrada won his first term as Mayor of the town of San Juan.

He attended Xavier School and completed his degree in Political Science at the De La University.

Senator JV’s life away from the legislative halls of the Senate revolves around his family—his wife, Ma. Hyacinth Lotuaco, and his two sons Jose Emiliano and Julio Jose.

Fast Facts

Political Background

- Senator, 2016 to 2019 (17th Congress)
- Chairman, Senate Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Resettlement

- Vice Chairman, Senate Committee on Public Services
- Vice Chairman, Senate Committee on Public Works
- Vice Chairman, Senate Committee on Tourism
- Vice Chairman, Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

- Senator, 2013 to 2016 (16th Congress)
- Chairman, Senate Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Resettlement
- Chairman, Senate Committee on Economic Affairs

- Mayor, San Juan City, 2001 to 2010 (three terms)
- Representative, Lone District of San Juan – 2010 to 2013 (15th Congress)
- Chairman, House Committee on Metro Manila Development
- Vice Chairman, House Committee on Labor and Employment
- Vice Chairman, House Committee on Local Government

Affiliation

- Junior Chamber International Philippines
- 1998 JCI National President
- JCI Senator

Top Achievements

- Ten Outstanding Young Men for Public Service and Governance in 2007
- Fifteen Most Outstanding Congressmen in the 15th Congress
- Ninth Most Prolific Lawmaker in the 15th Congress
- Spearheaded San Juan City’s economic growth with revenue from P300-Million in 2001 to P1.2-Billion in 2010

- Conversion of San Juan into a highly urbanized city under his term in June 2007
- Most Outstanding National Jaycee President for Asia and Pacific in 1998

Other Milestones

- 1998 – Top Ten Newsmakers of the Year
- 1998 – Hosting National President 53rd Junior Chamber International (JCI) World Congress
- 1998 – Most Outstanding National President for Asia and the Pacific of the JCI
- 1997 – Graduated from the 10th Junior Chamber International (JCI) Academy in Japan
- 1996 – Exemplary Leadership Award by the Metro Area Jaycees
- 1996 – Presidential Award for Leadership Excellence (Outstanding NEW)
- 1995 – Metro Area Jaycee Leadership Excellence Award
- 1995 – Metro East Region Distinguished Service Award
- 1995 – Metro East Region Leadership Award
- Kabataan ng Masang Pilipino (KAMPIL), National Chairman
- Partido ng Masang Pilipino (PMP)–Youth Sector, National Chairman
- Estudyanteng Responsable para sa Aktibong Pamamahala/Batang E.R.A.P., National Chairman
- National Youth Commission (NYC), Honorary Chairman/Adviser
- Mamamayan Ayaw sa Droga (MAD), National Founder
- Junior Chamber of the Philippines Foundation, Inc. President
- Ang Bayang Makulay Foundation, Chairman
- Puwersa ng Masa (San Juan Chapter), Chairman



SENATOR FRANCIS JOSEPH “CHIZ” G. ESCUDERO

Senator Francis Joseph Guevara Escudero, known to many as “Chiz,” was born on October 10, 1969. He is the second among three children of the late Agriculture Minister and former First District Representative of Sorsogon, Salvador Escudero and now Representative Evelina Guevara

Escudero. He is proud to be a product of the public education system from kinder until law school—a full-blooded fighting maroon from the University of the Philippines Diliman.

While in law school, he joined the Alpha Phi Beta Fraternity and was a member of the Alpha Phi Beta Debating Team—the 1991 UP Open Debate Champion. He was also a member of the Order of the Purple Feather or the UP Law Honor Society. He then became the secretary general of the Association of Law Students of the Philippines on his senior year at law school.

Before he became a lawyer, Escudero was a teaching assistant at the Department of Political Science, University of the Philippines. He went on to practice law and even established his own law firm along with other colleagues.

In 1996, he received his Masters in International and Comparative Law at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

While a practicing lawyer, he was also a senior lecturer at the UP College of Law and in 2000, he taught at the Ateneo de Manila University Graduate School.

At the age of 28, Escudero was one of the youngest members of the 11th Congress when he was elected as the representative of the First District of Sorsogon. While in Congress, he pushed for

the cityhood of Sorsogon. A son to both educators, he pressed for the passage of bills promoting education. He was the principal author of the Early Childhood Development Act or Republic Act 8980, which creates a national system for early childhood care and development, and was also the mover of the Governance of Basic Education Act or RA 9115.

Since he landed a seat in the Senate in 2007, wherein he garnered the second highest tally of votes, he has been a dedicated and committed public servant, putting into legislation issues that would benefit the poor. As the chairman of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, one of his first endeavors was for minimum wage earners to gain tax exemption and additional exemptions. This law is now known as RA 9504 or Tax Exemption for Minimum Wage Earners and Increased Tax Exemptions. He also authored to increase the maximum insurance coverage to ± 500,000 for bank deposits and known as RA 9576. While he was in the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights, Escudero pushed for the passage of the Anti-Vagrancy Law (RA 10158), RA 10353 (Anti-Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance Act) and RA 9745 (Anti-Torture Act).

In the 15th Congress, Chiz has a zero backlog in his two committees, Justice and Human Rights and Environment and Natural Resources, having heard and acted upon all the bills filed before both committees. He also filed and passed 28 bills that created a total of 89 courts all over the country.

For most of the 16th Congress, he spearheaded the Finance Committee where he instituted reforms in crafting the national budget. This has been seen in the budget for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, where he sponsored, to date, the most detailed budget proposal in the country's history. He advocated high transparency through line item budgeting, removing the infamous Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) system that authorizes a government agency to incur obligations not exceeding a given amount during the specified period. He was instrumental in making the 2015 National Budget compliant to the decision of the Supreme Court regarding Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) and

Disbursement Acceleration Program (DAP). He also promoted citizen's active participation in the crafting of the people's budget.

In the 17th Congress, Escudero is the chairman of the Senate Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies wherein he is determined to improve the country's monetary system. Under his chairmanship, the committee is geared towards repealing the current Bank Secrecy Law in order to counter terrorism and corruption. Escudero also intends to modernize Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' (BSPs') mandate by amending the BSP Charter, as well as amending the country's existing anti-money laundering measure to give it more teeth.

The senator started out young in the realm of politics, and for that, he earned several awards and recognition as a role model to the youth. In 2005, he was one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) in the Philippines. Also, he was the only Filipino named as Asia News Network's Asia's Idols in 2007. And in 2008, he was recognized by the prestigious World Economic Forum as a Young Global Leader, with his notable accomplishments and contributions to the society and in influencing the youth.

Escudero is now married to actress and painter Love Marie Ongpauco, more popularly known as Heart Evangelista. He has two children; twins Maria Cecilia (Chesi) and Joaquin (Quino), from his previous marriage.



SENATOR WIN GATCHALIAN

Although he is a fresh face in the Senate, he has an impressive 15-year track record in public service.

Under his professional and innovative style of leadership during three consecutive terms as chief executive, Valenzuela City was transformed from a sleepy factory town into a first-class city—recognized by the Galing Pook Award as a Center for Innovations and Excellence in 2012; by the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Incorporated as the Most Business-Friendly Local Government Unit in 2012; by World Bank as Business-Friendly City in the country in 2011; and by the prestigious National University of Singapore for innovations that made business transactions and tax collections faster and more efficient.

His distinct brand of leadership has earned him countless accolades, including The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) Honoree for Public Service from the Junior Chamber International Philippines in 2011 and Manila 40 Under 40 International Development Leaders by the Development Executive Group (DevEx) in 2013.

As the representative of the First District of Valenzuela to the 16th Congress, Gatchalian was one of the foremost advocates of genuine education reform in the legislature. Gatchalian filed several key measures, including bills aiming to eliminate student hunger and malnutrition, empower teachers, and alleviate the growing financial burden on families imposed by the skyrocketing cost of education.

As the incumbent Chairman of the Senate Committee on Energy, he has made it his mission to build a stable, sustainable, and *sulit* or affordable energy supply for the benefit of Filipino households and industrial consumers alike. In line with this, he is working hard to pass key legislations to lessen system loss charges passed on to

consumers, enhance and speed up the exploration and development of indigenous energy resources and strengthen Philippine commitments to environmental preservation and clean energy, among others.



SENATOR RICHARD J. GORDON

Richard “Dick” Gordon has spent most of his entire life serving for the common good and best interest of his countrymen. His journey began with his election as the youngest delegate to the 1971 Constitutional Convention where he pushed for the inclusion of an article on the Duties and Obligations of Citizens to infuse that along with our

rights provided for by the Constitution, we, as citizens, have fundamental obligations to give back.

In the wake of the assassination of his father, he was elected as mayor of Olongapo City, and transformed what was then known as Sin City into a Model City, exemplified by its cleanliness and the discipline of its residents. In the face of a looming economic dislocation as an offshoot of the American withdrawal from Subic, he lobbied for the creation of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) and became its founding chairman leading the way to the miraculous transformation of the abandoned prime real estate into a tourist haven and investment hub that astounded the world. Under his stewardship and with the help of some 8,000 volunteers, Subic was touted as the country’s engine of growth generating over 200,000 jobs alongside with over \$3 billion in investments.

When Gordon was appointed as Tourism Secretary, he placed the Philippines on the world tourism map with his famous WOW Philippines campaign. And even as others in the Southeast Asian region reeled from crisis after crisis—9/11, the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) epidemic and the Bali bombing—he was able to pump-prime what has now been a decade and a half of virtually uninterrupted tourism growth.

As senator, Gordon authored major laws aimed to dramatically transform the political and economic landscape of the country—the Automated Election Law, the Tourism Act, and the creation of

economic zones such as the Poro Point Freeport in La Union, the Freeport Area of Bataan in Mariveles, and Camp John Hay in Baguio, all to jumpstart investment and development. Others dealt with long standing problems such as veterans benefits, the Free Patent Law and the National Disaster Risk Reduction Law. As chairman of the Blue Ribbon Committee, he investigated the 2004 ± 728-million fertilizer fund scam and the assailed ZTE national broadband contract, demanding accountability.

He ran for President in 2010 and again for the Senate in 2013 but as fate would have it, the Comelec failed to fully implement the provisions of the law he pushed and worked hard for in order to prevent cheating particularly on safety guidelines such as a random manual audit, three digital signatures, VVPAT and the very critical source code. This however did not deter him and he pursued the matter until it reached the Supreme Court that issued a very historic and resounding 14-0 vote in his favor. In the recent 2016 national elections, he was overwhelmingly reelected and placed 5th in the senatorial elections.

Currently under the 17th Congress, as Senate chair of the Blue Ribbon, Committees on Justice and Human Rights and Government Owned and Controlled Corporations, Gordon carries on to be a vanguard of public welfare and safety; taking a bite out of crime by pressing for police accountability in the wake of the drug war; advocating for good governance and honest public service; and ensuring that the public get what is due them such as Social Security System (SSS) benefits for Senior Citizens and higher salaries for teachers.

When we think of the Philippine Red Cross, we think as well of its chairman and CEO, who transformed the organization into the foremost humanitarian organization in the country. Whenever any part of the country is hit by all kinds of disasters, the Philippine Red Cross, with Gordon at the helm, is there to provide various forms of assistance. The Philippine Red Cross is recognized as one of the strongest Red Cross societies in the world, leading to Gordon's election to the governing board of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

Gordon's work is well known to many of us. His effectiveness as a leader and a mover of people has been recognized and heralded through the various awards he has received—Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM), the Outstanding Filipino (TOFIL), the University of the Philippines' Most Outstanding Alumnus in Public Service, and three years later, its Most Distinguished Alumnus, the highest award that could be bestowed by the UP Law Alumni Association. More recently, Gordon was also awarded the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency's Lifetime National Volunteer Achievement Award, the sole recipient of the award in 2015. Gordon's achievements in the 48 years that he has been active in the Philippine Red Cross has also been recognized, having been awarded the three highest awards from the Red Cross, namely the Aurora Aragon Quezon Medal, the Silver Humanitarian Service Cross Award and the Gold Humanitarian Service Cross Award. Dick Gordon was also a recipient of the Japanese Red Cross Gold Humanitarian Award. He also received recognition from various foreign media such as *Asiaweek's* Twenty Great Asians of the Future and *Asahi Shimbun's* 50 Young Leaders of Asia, among others.

Finally, he is a lawyer by profession, but has also been, at various times, a broadcaster, a businessman, a lecturer, and an inspirational speaker. He graduated from the UP College of Law, and holds a bachelor's degree in History and Government from Ateneo de Manila University.

Gordon's achievements in life and career are marked by his resolve to right the wrong, to keep on fighting for justice and equality and to inspire people to lift themselves up and make a difference.



SENATOR GREGORIO B. HONASAN

Senator Gregorio Ballesteros Honasan II was first elected to the Senate in 1995, the first truly independent candidate in Philippine political history to win in national elections. He has been elected senator four times as an independent.

“Gringo” is the eldest child of Col. Romeo Honasan and Alice Ballesteros, an educator from Sorsogon. He dreamt of becoming a priest, then a doctor, but was advised by his father to apply at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) for a free college education. There, his father said, he would be trained as a cadet and find a noble profession as an officer in the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

After a year at the University of the Philippines-Diliman, Honasan entered the PMA in 1967, topping some 10,000 applicants during the entrance exam. He was elected president of his class for four years until he graduated in 1971 as Class Baron or First Captain, the highest leadership award given by the institution. He was also a contender for the Master of the Sword Award, the highest honor for athletics and physical fitness, after setting records in gymnastics and combat sports.

As a lieutenant in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Honasan was immediately deployed to Northern Luzon and Mindanao against various armed groups, including communist rebels, secessionists, criminals, and terrorists. Leading from the front by example, he was wounded several times in combat.

Honasan earned recognition for gallantry in action, and received three of the nation’s second highest military medals: the Distinguished Conduct Star, and three Gold Cross Medals and Wounded Personnel Medals for injuries sustained in combat. The

Philippine Jaycees named him one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) in 1985 for military service, only the second soldier in the country's history to earn the award.

At age 35, he became the youngest officer in the history of the Armed Forces then to be promoted to full colonel. He was also handpicked to serve as aide to the secretary of National Defense, and later, as chief of Security. In 1981, he earned his master's degree from the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) where he graduated with distinction for his thesis.

Honasan played a key role in the 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution that ended the authoritarian rule of President Ferdinand E. Marcos. He rose to prominence as one of the leaders of a group of young, idealistic officers known as the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM), who believed that the President had lost the moral ascendancy to lead the nation. Their withdrawal of support was a decisive element in the triumph of the historic revolt.

Impatient for the promised change, the reformists did not see any redirection of policies after EDSA to address poverty and social injustice, as well as the reforms they sought in the military. Political patronage and the inequitable distribution of resources still prevailed; the Armed Forces remained factionalized, at the expense of the people, and of the welfare and morale of ordinary soldiers.

Following the initiative for change which started in 1986, Honasan led several military revolts against the administration of former President Corazon C. Aquino, and was charged with rebellion. He went underground, was captured by the authorities, and imprisoned alone on a navy ship, but eventually escaped with his Navy Special Warfare (SEAL) Group Guards.

During President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's administration, he was accused of masterminding the Oakwood mutiny of a new generation of reformists. He was accused of coup d' etat, a charge later dismissed by the courts.

His entry into the Philippine Senate marked Honasan's evolution from soldier to statesman. He has since been a consistent advocate

of a responsive government that would address poverty, homelessness, hunger, social injustice, violence, and divisive partisan politics, and uphold national sovereignty and national security.

His landmark contributions to legislation include the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, National Security Policy, Disaster Risk Reduction Management, and Solid Waste Management. He is the main proponent of the Freedom of Information or People's Ownership of Government Information (POGI) bill, and proposed a Mini-Marshall Plan for peace and development in Mindanao.

He has authored and coauthored vital laws passed in the Senate on Strengthening the Dangerous Drugs Act, Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation, Stiffer Penalties for the Illegal Possession of Explosives, and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, among others.

Honasan filed several bills in the present Congress focused on national security, intelligence reform, land use, agrarian reform, public order, and lasting peace through a comprehensive long-term national peace policy.

In the Senate's Centennial Year, Honasan was elected Assistant Majority Leader, member of the Commission on Appointments, and chairman of two major Senate committees—National Defense and Security, and Peace, Unification, and Reconciliation. Other chairmanships he held as a four-term senator for 19 years were for the Committees on Energy, Labor, Environment, Agrarian Reform, Sports, Public Information and Mass Media, Public Order, and Dangerous Drugs.

Despite an unassuming demeanor, Honasan remains a soldier at heart. He is fiercely loyal to his men, his superiors, equals, and subordinates. He attributes his inner strength, perseverance, and resilience to faith in God, country, and family.

“Gringo” has been called a soldier, rebel, revolutionary, reformist, and coup plotter, among other less flattering labels. But he is, in his own words, “just an ordinary soldier thrust into extraordinary circumstances.”

Honasan believes in the ancient definition of a hero: anyone young or old, man or woman, who sacrifices and helps build for the next generation. He is convinced that the Philippines is a nation of heroes, and that his duty is to work with others to make future citizens and leaders smarter, healthier, stronger, happier, and safer, and more competitive with other peace-loving peoples of the world. And after he has served God's purpose in his lifetime, he would like history to remember him less as a personality, and more for the brotherhood that he was part of and what it stood for. Our greatest legacy, he believes, will be our children.



SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

Akbayan Senator Risa Hontiveros is a health and women's rights advocate, a proud activist, and a champion of the basic sectors. She brings the voice of ordinary citizens to the Philippine Senate. Hontiveros has been fighting the good fight from an early age. She organized a student group that campaigned against the Bataan

Nuclear Power Plant (BNPP) while in high school at the St. Scholastica's College in Manila. During her college days, she fought for peace and social justice as a student council leader.

In 2001, Hontiveros received the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) Award for Peace and Advocacy for her work in the peace talks with the National Democratic Front (NDF).

She was also one of the 27 Filipino women among the 1,000 women worldwide who have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.

As Akbayan partylist's representative during the 13th and 14th Congress, then Representative Hontiveros fought for the passage of people-centered legislation like the Cheaper Medicines Law and the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms Law (CARPER).

She also led civil society groups and fellow advocates in working for the passage of the Reproductive Health (RH) Law, a landmark legislation that provides women and families access to reproductive health and modern family planning services.

Hontiveros also served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth). She pushed for expanded benefits and coverage, specifically for indigents and senior citizens.

As chairperson of both the Senate Committee on Health and Demography and the Senate Committee on Women and Gender Equality, Hontiveros pushes for legislative measures to address social injustice and inequality, particularly in the areas of health care and women's rights.

Hontiveros vowed to pass laws to expand the maternity leaves of working women and impose heavier penalties on hospitals that continue to demand a deposit as a prerequisite for the admission or medical treatment of an emergency patient. Also part of her commitment is to push for better benefits to be given to barangay health workers, our front line health care providers in the communities.

She is also pushing for the passage of the Anti-Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity or Expression (SOGIE) bill, which reached the Senate plenary for the first time after nearly two decades of lobbying.

Hontiveros graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Sciences from the Ateneo de Manila University.

Before her career as a lawmaker, she was a community organizer and peace advocate. She was also a successful television journalist and news anchor who has worked for major news networks.

Hontiveros is also a dedicated solo mother to her four children and shares with them her love of music, culture, and the arts.



SENATOR PANFILO "PING" M. LACSON

To address recurring political tumult and rampant criminality, the Philippines continuously strives to bring much-needed reforms to its institutions, including those in legislature and law enforcement. In recent history, one man has defined meaningful transformation to these two areas:

Panfilo "Ping" Morena Lacson.

Born on June 1, 1948, to a family of modest beginnings in a small town in Imus, Cavite, Lacson became a chief law enforcer, and later, a no-nonsense legislator.

The fourth child in a brood of eight, he was raised by his parents' honest toil. His father, a jeepney driver, and his mother, a market vendor, were sticklers for discipline and had high regard for good education. Such education allowed Lacson to take a pre-law degree, Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy, at the Lyceum of the Philippines, so he could pursue his dream of becoming a lawyer and consequently, fulfill his childhood ambition to become an agent of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

But in a twist of fate, he was admitted to the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) and he became a cavalier instead and learned the virtues of courage, integrity and loyalty in the path of becoming a first-class leader of men.

Rising from the ranks to become Chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP) from 1999 to 2001, Lacson was known for his uncompromising and sterling leadership. His vision was to restore the old glory of the policemen by radically transforming the national police. To achieve this, he instilled discipline while raising the morale of our uniformed men by getting rid of what he called ICUs: Inept, Corrupt, Undisciplined cops.

In just 14 months, Ping achieved what no PNP head had ever done: turn around the PNP's trust ratings from a low -13% when he first assumed the top PNP post, to a whopping net +58%. He also got an approval rating of +78%, thus regaining the PNP's glory years by restoring public trust in the police force.

In 2001, Lacson earned a Senate seat, but not before an arduous struggle.

Amid attempts by his political foes to malign his reputation, his resolve has been consistent and unflinching, particularly in his call to scrap the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) or pork barrel as early as 2003, and his refusal to accept his annual ± 200-million PDAF entitlement.

At a time political irregularities marred the country's public institutions, Lacson frequently stood in the august halls of the Senate to blow the lid off anomalous transactions: the \$14-million payoff by Industrias Metalurgicas Pescarmona Sociedad Anonima (IMPISA) to government officials for a \$470-million hydroelectric facility grant; the money laundering scheme by one Jose Pidal; the diversion of ± 728 million in fertilizer funds; "Hello Garci," the conspiracy to rig the 2004 elections; the \$329-million contract between the Philippine government and China's ZTE for a national broadband network; the "chopper scam" where the PNP paid ± 34.63 million for secondhand helicopters sold as brand-new; and, the double appropriations/insertions for the C-5 Road in the 2008 General Appropriations Act, to name a few.

Such legislative inquiries placed a premium on transparency and accountability in public office. Hence, when political machinations tried to block these attempts to graft-proof Philippine legislation, such as Executive Order No. 464, which sought to cripple inquiries by withholding information; and Presidential Proclamation No. 1017 declaring a state of national emergency—he fought back with similar tenacity.

As a member of the 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th Congresses, Lacson authored or co-authored landmark legislations, including the Anti-

Money Laundering Law and amendments thereto; Anti-Human Trafficking Act of 2001; Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007; Revised AFP Modernization Program; Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health; and, Sin Tax or the Excise Tax on Alcohol and Tobacco.

In the 17th Congress, Lacson continues to safeguard public interest through his anti-corruption efforts, in particular, through the national budget, which he considers as the most potent tool to drive the economy's growth, provide equal opportunity for national and local governments, and spur inclusive growth for Filipinos.

As his personal credo goes: "What is right must be kept right; what is wrong must be set right."



SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

For the past three decades, Senator Loren Legarda dedicated her work to serve the Filipino people, primarily by promoting the sustainable and equitable use of our natural resources; advancing programs on building community resilience; advocating for social justice, human rights, peace and cultural diversity; and initiating measures for quality and accessible education, universal healthcare, decent employment and livelihood opportunities.

She is chiefly responsible for the passage of numerous laws, including the following: Clean Air Act; Ecological Solid Waste Management Act; Environmental Awareness Education Act; Renewable Energy Act; Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act; Climate Change Act; People's Survival Fund Law; Barangay Kabuhayan Act; Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act; Magna Carta of Women; Anti-Child Labor Law; Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and its expanded version; Amended Magna Carta for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises; Agri-Agra Reform Credit Act; Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010; Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Act; Food and Drugs Administration Act; Philippine Tropical Fabrics Law; Eid'ul Fitr and Eid'ul Adha Holiday Law; Tourism Act of 2009; Kasambahay Law; Enhanced Basic Education Act; Universal Healthcare Act; Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education; and Department of Information and Communications Technology Act, among many others.

As chair of the Committee on Finance, Legarda ensured that the national budget is socially inclusive, gender responsive, and integrates disaster and climate resilience, environment and heritage conservation, and sustainability in the programs of various government agencies.

She advocates for a safe and healthy world where human beings live harmoniously with nature, seeking the path for green growth and sustainable development for nations, and challenging world leaders to save our home planet and preserve humankind now.

In 2008, she was appointed by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) as its Regional Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation for Asia-Pacific. Seven years later, on the occasion of the 2015 Paris Climate Summit or COP21, Legarda was appointed by the UNISDR as its Global Champion for Resilience.

As the Philippines' foremost advocate of green development, Legarda spearheaded an information and education campaign on climate change. She produced films that seek to explain the science of climate change, its impact on our everyday lives and how Filipinos can avert and adapt to the changing climate. These are "Ulan sa Tag-Araw: Isang Dokyu-drama Ukol sa Pagbabago ng Klima"; children's animation movie "Ligtas Likas"; "Now is the Time"; "Buhos"; "Ligtas," an instructional video on disaster preparedness; and the "Philippine Marine Biodiversity" video documentary.

Legarda is also the visionary behind the film "Taklub," directed by Brillante Mendoza, which earned a special commendation from the Ecumenical Jury at the 68th Cannes International Film Festival. The film features stories of Yolanda survivors and disaster preparedness measures.

When Legarda was the chairperson of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in the 15th Congress, she sponsored the approval of 12 international agreements, deepening the Philippines' bilateral relations with various countries and promoting the welfare of Filipinos in the country and abroad.

Fervently advocating for the protection of the rights of indigenous peoples and initiating efforts to liberate them from various forms of discrimination, Legarda has become the voice of Filipinos who continue to embrace their cultural roots and heritage.

She supports weaving communities and the schools of living traditions (SLTs), and the upkeep and rehabilitation of heritage buildings. She established the Hibla ng Lahing Filipino gallery, the country's first permanent textile gallery, and the Baybayin: Ancient and Traditional Scripts of the Philippines gallery at the National Museum. She has collaborated with state universities and colleges (SUCs) in documenting indigenous knowledge systems and practices and organized regional assemblies and the annual national cultural summit for indigenous peoples that serve as avenues for dialogue with local and national policy-makers as well as international institutions.

Meanwhile, through her vision and leadership, the Philippines is now actively participating in the Venice Biennale, one of the most prestigious cultural institutions in the world. The country returned to the 2015 Art Biennale, 51 years after its first participation in 1964; and participated for the first time in the 2016 Architecture Biennale.

The senator received numerous recognitions for her work. In 2000, the World Economic Forum named her a Global Leader for Tomorrow. She is a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) laureate and a UN Hero of Resilience.

Legarda received the Legion of Honor award from the French government for her invaluable contribution in strengthening the ties between the Philippines and France.

For her outstanding work for the cause of Muslims, Legarda was bestowed the title of Bai a labi (Honorary Muslim Princess) by the Marawi Sultanate league.

In 2013, the University of the Philippines, where she obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism, recognized her as its Distinguished Alumna for Environmental Protection and Climate Change Adaptation.

A UP cum laude and National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP) topnotcher, Legarda is both an awardee of The

Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) and The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS). She is a reserve officer in the Armed Forces of the Philippines with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

She is a recipient of the Benigno Aquino Award for Journalism among over 30 awards when she was a practising journalist for 20 years before entering government service.

She has made history being the only female senator who topped the Senate race twice and the only woman to become Majority Leader of the Senate.

Now on her third term as senator, Legarda chairs the Committees on Finance and Climate Change.

Senator Legarda was born in Malabon and was raised by an Ilocana yaya whom she fondly calls nanay. Her father, Antonio Cabrera Legarda, is from San Pablo City, Laguna and her mother, Bessie Gella Bautista, is from Pandan, Antique. She is a loving and devoted mother to her two sons.



SENATOR EMMANUEL "MANNY" D. PACQUIAO

Senator Emmanuel D. Pacquiao, or "Manny", has the great distinction of being the first and only eight-division world boxing champion to become a Senator. He won ten world titles and was first to win the "lineal championship" in four different weight classes.

He rose from extreme poverty to become one of the greatest athletes of all time. He struggled his way through elementary education which he completed at Saavedra Saway Elementary School in General Santos City. In order to survive through hard times, he started working at a very young age and was used to going to school without sleep and without food.

He values education but extreme poverty forced him to drop out of high school. When he was a teenager, he decided to leave the familiarity of his hometown in order to help his mother Dionisia eke out a living. His love for his mother and his siblings moved him to step into the uncertainties of Manila to look for opportunities for a better life. It was during this time that he discovered his passion for boxing. He trained and honed his skills and later on launched his boxing career.

In 1995, he gained some momentum towards the fulfillment of his dreams. He was only 16 when he stepped into the ring for his first professional bout. The triumph signaled the beginning of his colorful journey out of misery. His indomitable courage and sheer determination propelled him to win over other opponents.

Through all these trials, he reached greater heights. He entered the world of public service in 2010 as the representative of Sarangani. During his term in the House, he supported the passage of several measures such as the expanded incentives for national

athletes. He partnered with numerous advocacy groups and worked on numerous housing projects and conducted medical missions in far-flung areas. Two terms after, he won a seat in the Senate with over 16 million votes.

Pacquiao has always been a prominent figure for reform—fighting against modern-day slavery, supporting the cause of his fellow athletes, pushing for better healthcare services, and building more resilient communities. His heart for the downtrodden drives him to serve with compassion.

Also, he has time and again signified his full support to the administration's campaign against illegal drugs. For this, he proposed Senate Bill No. 185, a measure that seeks to impose death penalty and increase penalties on certain heinous crimes involving dangerous drugs.

In addition to this, he continues to wage war against human trafficking—a fight he has started on his first year as a lawmaker. Early on, he was involved in the passage of a measure that strengthens the Migrant Workers Act, which gave the country's existing law against human trafficking more teeth and relevance.

Sports development is another cause very close to his heart. Being an athlete himself, Pacquiao understands how important it is to cultivate young talents so as to enable them to go toe-to-toe with the best in the international sports arena. Hence, he worked for the expansion of incentives and benefits of athletes and coaches winning in international competitions.

On top of this, Pacquiao pushes for an integrated sports development program. For this, he filed SBN 191 or the Philippine Boxer's Welfare Act of 2016. The said measure will work on the creation of the Philippine Boxing Commission that will be tasked to provide and implement the necessary welfare incentives and benefits long overdue to all professional boxers who have brought honor and prestige to the country.

At the core of his advocacies is the mission to institutionalize a quality free public education for all Filipino students. Furthermore,

he vows to push for the passage of measures that make quality health services accessible to everyone and uplift the lives of our local farmers.

Access to quality health services is also one of his top priorities. Hence, he earnestly pushes for the immediate completion of the construction of a provincial hospital in Sarangani. Consequently, Pacquiao is fighting to knock out the second most common type of cancer in the country—breast cancer. Through a proposed measure and several medical missions, he works on spearheading a sustained information campaign to raise the public's level of awareness on the disease.

But the always energetic Pacquiao was never one to rest on his laurels. Going beyond the bounds of his duties as a lawmaker, Pacquiao leads the campaign for disaster awareness and preparedness in Asia.

Hailed as Safe Steps Ambassador, he partners with a non-profit organization in a program that aims to pave the way for more communities to be resilient in the event of a natural calamity. Banking on his popularity and credibility as a survivor, he assumes the role of being the face of the campaign, giving individuals and households key survival steps to take when disasters strike.

Pacquiao recognizes that everything that he has and all that he has become are all because of God's amazing grace and mercy. His personal encounter with the Lord in 2010 caused him to turn away from his frivolous lifestyle marked with vices. Reading the Holy Bible has eventually become part of his daily habit, knowing that the Lord raised him from nothing into something for a purpose—and that purpose is to bring glory to His name.

On top of all these, he deeply values his family whom he considers as his greatest treasure. No matter how busy he is with his work in the public sector, he intentionally creates quality time with wife Jinkee and children Jimuel, Michael, Princess, Queenie and Israel. His journey, thus far, is a manifestation that with God, all things are possible.



SENATOR FRANCIS "KIKO" PANGILINAN

Sen. Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan started his political career as a student activist in the dying days of Martial Law. He was elected university councilor of the UP Diliman Student Council in 1985, on the eve of the People Power EDSA uprising, and then as its chairperson the following year. He fought against human rights abuses, corruption, and other social ills that were exacerbated by Martial Law. This experience and the belief that progressive ideas and actions have a place in Philippine politics have grounded and guided him since.

While studying to become a lawyer in 1988, he became the youngest elected city councilor of Quezon City. Later, he went to the Harvard University John F. Kennedy School of Government and earned a Master's Degree in Public Administration as an Edward S. Mason Fellow in 1998.

In 2001, he ran for a Senate seat with the battle cry, "Kumilos Kasama si Kiko," believing that committed leaders need equally engaged citizens for genuine and lasting change. Through the years, the programs and legislative measures he supported and pushed have been anchored on reform and change, and have sought to harness people power.

In his first term at the Senate, he headed the Senate Committees on Ethics; Education, Arts and Culture; Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; Justice and Human Rights; and Blue Ribbon. He authored and pushed for the passage of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, which places child offenders in facilities separate from adult suspected criminals. He fought for laws that significantly increased the salaries and benefits of judges and prosecutors. This halved the vacancy rate in judge posts across the country from 32% to 16%, helping to decongest court dockets and partially address the turtle-paced judicial process.

In response to the spate of extrajudicial killings and forced disappearances during the Arroyo administration, Pangilinan proposed the landmark Joint Judicial Executive Legislative Advisory and Consultative Council (JJELACC). This became a forum for the three branches of government to strengthen consultation and coordination in upholding the rule of law. By 2008 and with the convening of JJELACC, the budget for the Judiciary and the country's system of justice was increased by ± 3 billion. He made the same call during the Aquino administration, and again now during the Duterte administration.

Only three years after winning his first national elective post, Pangilinan became Senate Majority Leader in 2004. He was reelected Majority Leader in 2007 after his historic reelection as senator. As the political lines between administration and opposition were unclear, Pangilinan chose to run for reelection on his own. He became the first incumbent to run as an independent and win, even landing in the Top 5 when many branded his move as “political suicide.”

In his second term, he shepherded into law the University of the Philippines Charter, which provides institutional autonomy by protecting students' democratic access, strengthening the university's administration, and upholding academic freedom.

As chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food and the Senate Committee on Social Justice and Rural Development, he was instrumental in convening AF2025 (Agriculture and Fisheries 2025), a multi-stakeholder summit that paved the way for increasing the agriculture budget by 52% in 2012.

His active partnership with agriculture and fisheries stakeholders also led to *Sagip Saka*, an advocacy program that has raised the incomes of participant-farmers by modernizing agriculture processes from pre- to post-production.

In May 2014, he was appointed Presidential Assistant for Food Security and Agricultural Modernization by President Benigno

Aquino III, taking charge of four agencies transferred to the Office of the President: the National Food Authority (NFA), the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA), and the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA).

During his term, he was able to stabilize rice prices by instituting greater transparency and competition in the NFA's rice importation process, thus leveling the playing field and preventing corruption. This cut down the average per metric ton price of rice imports by as much as \$120 per ton thus saving ± 6 billion in a year.

By mobilizing various stakeholders, he was able to help curb the “cocolisap” infestation that affected about 2.7 million coconut trees. A May 2015 report from Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) described as “praiseworthy” the government's quarantine measures and “commendable” its participatory approach that rallied local governments, the scientific community, farmers, and other partners to solve the problem together. He also caused the NEDA approval of ± 30 billion worth of big-ticket irrigation projects, and the doubling of the budget and staff complement of the FPA to meet the increasing regulatory demands of the industry. He helped move forward the coco levy bill by having it passed at the House of Representatives.

He ran again and won a fresh Senate term following his resignation from the Cabinet in October 2015. On 30 June 2016, he started his third Senate term, vowing to uphold “serbisyong tapat at totoo” with a focus on increasing incomes and improving the well-being of farmers and fisher folk, in keeping with a track record that shows measurable results and following the overarching principles of democracy, rule of law, and people-centered politics.



SENATOR GRACE POE

Senator Grace Poe currently holds the record as the elective official who received the highest number of votes in Philippine history, with over 20 million votes garnered in the 2013 senatorial elections.

Senator Poe is a product of Assumption High School, where she excelled in debate competitions and was named team captain of the Assumption Debating Team. She took up AB Development Studies at the University of the Philippines (Manila) for two years, where she served as batch representative to the University Student Council, later transferring to Boston College (Massachusetts) where she eventually earned her AB Political Science degree. She is also a Fellow of the Lee Kuan Yew Policy Center of Singapore.

Prior to joining public service, Poe worked as vice president/treasurer of FPJ Productions where she spearheaded the restoration and preservation of her father's film classics. With over 200 movie titles, the FPJ Film Archive boasts of having one of the largest, oldest, and most well-preserved movie collections in Asia today.

In 2010, Poe served as chairperson of the Movie & Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB). During her stint there, she instituted reforms in the bureau's media ratings system and changed its institutional mindset from that of "censorship" to that of "intelligent media viewing" (*matinong panonood*).

During the 2013 senatorial elections Poe emerged as the surprise topnotcher with an overwhelming mandate of over 20 million votes. In her first three years in the Upper Chamber, she managed to principally author four (4) laws, namely:

- 1) Republic Act 10639 or the "Free Mobile Texts During Disasters Act";

- 2) Republic Act 10640 which streamlines the “Three-Witness Rule” of the Dangerous Drugs Act;
- 3) Republic Act 10883 which provides stiffer penalties for carnapping; and
- 4) Republic Act 10905 or the Closed-Caption law.

She also co-authored the MARINA Act, Go Negosyo Act, Sugarcane Industry Development Act, Expanded Senior Citizens Act, Exemption of the 13th Month Pay from Income Tax, and the National Teacher’s Day Act.

As a neophyte senator, Senator Poe impressed many with her insightful questions, compassionate and masterful handling of the Napoles PDAF Scam, SAF 44/Mamasapano Massacre, MRT Scandal, and PNP-Werfast Scam hearings. Her privilege speeches on “Hello Garci” and child malnutrition have made election fraud and the plight of under-nourished children in the country the focus of media attention. She also fought for an increase in the budget for supplemental feeding programs of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Department of Education (DepEd) under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) during the 16th Congress.

In the current 17th Congress, Senator Poe vows to pursue passage of her pet measures. She has filed a total of 59 bills and 30 resolutions to date which includes, among others, the Freedom of Information (FOI) bill, the “First 1,000 Days” bill, “*Libreng Pananghalian sa Pampublikong Paaralan*” bill, and the “Emergency Powers” bill to solve the country’s traffic and congestion crisis, among others.

Poe constantly strives to live up to the values of honesty and integrity she imbibed from her famous parents, Fernando Poe Jr. and Susan Roces. She remains deeply committed to uphold the rule of law, promote inclusive growth, and uplift the plight of her less-privileged countrymen.



SENATOR ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV

Antonio Fuentes Trillanes IV, or Sonny to his relatives and friends, was born and raised in Caloocan City. He traces his roots to Ligao, Albay in Bicol where his late father, Antonio Sr., grew up. His mother, Estelita, hails from the province of Capiz.

He studied at De La Salle University in Manila where he took up BS ECE from 1987 to 1991.

He formally entered into public service in 1991 as a cadet in the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) where he graduated *cum laude* in 1995.

In 2002, Trillanes took up graduate studies at the University of the Philippines and got his master’s degree in Public Administration major in Public Policy and Program Management. For the duration of his master’s program, he received two University Scholar Awards for obtaining two semestral GPAs of 1.0 to 1.25.

Recently, he finished the National and International Security Program at the Harvard Kennedy School in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

After graduating from PMA, Trillanes went through all shipboard assignments starting from mess & supply officer, and, ultimately as Acting Commanding Officer of a patrol gunboat.

During his five-year sea duty experience, his unit apprehended dozens of smugglers, illegal loggers, poachers, human smugglers and illegal fishermen in numerous maritime law enforcement operations conducted in the waters of Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao, Scarborough, Palawan, Batanes, and the Visayas.

One of the highlights of his military profession was the daring search and rescue operation for the survivors of the ill-fated M/V *Princess of the Orient* at the height of a super typhoon in 1998. For this act of risking their own lives in the fulfillment of their duty, Trillianes and his unit managed to rescue thirty-two (32) survivors.

He was also involved in numerous naval operations in support of ground operations directed against the Abu Sayyaf and other lawless elements.

As procurement officer of the Naval Training and Education Command, Philippine Navy, Trillianes reformed the procurement system, which resulted to the accumulated savings of more than P4 million in favor of the government.

For his meritorious service to his country, Trillianes has been awarded a total of 23 assorted merit medals, campaign ribbons and badges.

Trillianes, thereafter, became widely known for his prominent role in the uprisings directed against the oppressive Arroyo regime which put him in jail for 7½ years. In 2007, he successfully launched a nationwide campaign from his prison cell as he ran and won a seat in the Philippine Senate on a shoestring budget.

Now on his second term, Trillianes vows to serve his country by continuing his advocacies on peace and order, anti-corruption, and poverty alleviation. He is the chairman of the Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation. During the 15th and 16th Congresses, he was the most productive senator as he ranked first in terms of number of national bills passed into law as principal author and principal sponsor. To date, he has a total of 1,340 bills and resolutions filed. Of these, 76 have been passed into law. Foremost of which are the: AFP Modernization Law, Archipelagic Baselines Law, Universal Healthcare Law, Immediate Release of Retirement Benefits of Government Employees, Salary Standardization Law 3 Pag-IBIG Fund Law, Magna Carta for Disabled Persons, Expanded Senior Citizens Act, Anti-Bullying Act and the Increase in Subsistence Allowance for Soldiers and Policemen.



SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA

Senator Joel “TESDAMAN” Villanueva was the representative of the CIBAC party-list during the 12th, 13th, and 14th Congresses. In his first and second terms, he became the “Benjamin of the House” or the youngest member of the House of Representatives. In the 14th Congress, he became the first party-list representative member and Minority Leader of the Commission on Appointments. He is also one of the principal sponsors of the Anti-Red Tape Act of 1997 (RA 9485).

He finished Commerce, Major in Economics, at the University of Sto. Tomas in 1996. He was also that year’s leadership awardee, and later, a UST outstanding alumnus. From 1996 to 1998, he took up special studies in Business Administration at Harvard University, USA. In May 2013, the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) awarded him Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*. He is also a certified “barista,” having completed an advanced food and beverage services course.

For his distinct contributions to the country and remarkable performances as a former chief of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), President Benigno Aquino III conferred on him the “Order of Lakandula” on June 23, 2016. Under Villanueva’s stewardship, TESDA received its nationwide ISO 9001:2008 Certification which made possible the quality training of 10 million Filipinos.

For his role in shaping the development agenda and making an observable development impact, he was awarded “40 Under 40 International Development Leaders” on February 19, 2013 by the US-based Development Executive Group.

For his role as one of today's modern heroes and outstanding *Bulakenyos*, the provincial government of Bulacan awarded him "Gawad Dangal ng Lipi for Public Service" on September 15, 2012.

He is a basketball enthusiast, having played for both the UST Tigers and the Philippine team, which competed in Malaysia and Taiwan. He also heads one of the biggest youth organizations in the country, the Kristiyanong Kabataan Para sa Bayan Movement (KKB).

Villanueva joined the senatorial race on May 9, 2016 and was a topnotcher, placing second with 18,459,222 votes. He advocates *Trabaho, Edukasyon, Serbisyo, Dignidad, Asenso para sa bawat Pilipino*.



SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

Cynthia Aguilar Villar earned her degree in Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of the Philippines (UP), which recognized her as one of its Distinguished Alumni in 2004. She completed her Masters in Business Administration at the New York University (NYU).

She practiced as a financial analyst and college professor until she married former House Speaker and Senate President Manny Villar in 1975. She then helped her husband in various entrepreneurial ventures, eventually making Vista Land the biggest homebuilder in the Philippines. She managed a private development bank from 1989 to 1998.

In 2001, Villar won in a landslide victory as representative of Las Piñas to the House of Representatives, where she completed three terms (until 2010). She was the chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education during the 13th and 14th Congresses. She was President of the Lady Legislators during the 12th, 13th and 14th Congresses, where she initiated laws benefitting women, children and family.

Villar's social and civic concerns are wide and varied. Thus, in 1992, she founded and chaired the Villar Foundation (now Villar Social Institute for Poverty Alleviation and Governance or Villar SIPAG), the programs of which include OFW assistance, environment protection and livelihood projects.

In the 2013 midterm elections, Villar won as Senator of the country. During the 16th Congress (2013 to 2016), Villar was the chairperson of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food as well as the Senate Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises.

Under her chairmanship, the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food passed 17 agriculture-related laws. Among which are Republic Act 10659 or the Sugar Industry Development Law; RA 10654 or the law to prevent, deter, and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing; RA 10848 or the law extending the period of implementation of the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund up to year 2022; RA 10845 or the law declaring large-scale agricultural smuggling as economic sabotage; RA 10816 or the Farm Tourism Development Law; RA 10817 or the Philippine Halal Export Development and Promotion Law; and ten local bills creating multi-species marine hatchery/ nurseries and provincial training centers in 25 local government units located in 14 provinces.

As chair of the Committee on Government-Owned Corporations and Public Enterprises, Villar was instrumental in the passage of RA 10638 or the Act extending to another 50 years the corporate life of the Philippine National Railways (PNR). She also worked for the passage of the bill granting a ₱2,000-across-the-board increase in the pension of 1.9 million Social Security System (SSS) members. She also vigorously opposed the Manila International Airport Administration (MIAA) memorandum directing the payment of terminal fee by exempted overseas Filipino workers (OFWs). She initiated the recall of the memorandum.

Villar also authored and/or co-authored 37 other laws on education, finance, health, and disaster prevention as well as for the youth and employees. Among which are RA 10647 (Ladderized Education Act), RA 10650 (Iskolar ng Bayan Act), RA 10687 (Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education), RA 10650 (Open Distance Learning Act), RA 10679 (Youth Entrepreneurship Act), RA 10653 (Adjusting the 13th month pay and other benefits ceiling), RA 10706 (Seafarers' Protection Act), RA 10801 (Overseas Workers Welfare Administration Act), RA 10692 (PAGASA Modernization Act), RA 10639 (Free Mobile Disaster Alerts Act), RA 10699 (Athletes' Incentives Act), RA 10642 (Philippine Lemon Law), RA 10635 (Maritime Industry Authority), RA 10844 (Department of Information and Communication Act), and RA 10645 (Expanded Senior Citizens Act).

In the 17th Congress, Villar was elected as the chairperson of the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources as well as the Senate Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development. She vows to continue her advocacies on environment protection, disaster preparedness, livelihood generation, job creation and her overall goal of lifting Filipinos from poverty.

A staunch advocate of environment protection, Villar spent nine years of her public life, as a representative from 2001 to 2010, in saving the Las Piñas River, which she continues until now. Over the years, Villar solved interconnected problems such as pollution, garbage and poverty. She was a recipient of the first United Nations Water for Life Best Water Management Practices Award in March 2011 in Zaragoza, Spain.

Villar's untiring efforts to clean up the Las Piñas River have given birth to livelihood projects or also referred to as green social enterprises, which have given employment to more than 500 poor families in Las Piñas. These are the water hyacinth basket-weaving, handloom blanket-weaving, coco net-weaving enterprises, organic fertilizer-making, handmade paper-making, citronella oil-making and a factory producing school chairs from recycled plastic wastes.

The raw materials of the livelihood enterprises are from wastes: water hyacinths for the waterlily basket-weaving enterprise and the handmade paper factory; coconut husks for the coco net-weaving enterprise and the charcoal-making factory; kitchen wastes for the organic composting facility; and plastic wastes for the plastic recycling factory that produces school chairs.

Villar distributes the products of her livelihood projects. The organic fertilizers are given for free to farmers, which help them cut on expenses and increase their income. She gives away recycled school chairs to various public schools in the country. Villar SIPAG also provides skills training to people or groups who want to learn about the livelihood projects.

From Las Piñas, the livelihood projects have been duplicated nationwide. As of latest count, over 1,200 livelihood projects have

been established nationwide. There are 1,600 municipalities and cities in the Philippines and Villar would like to put up one livelihood project in each of these. She wants to be known as the person who established the most number of livelihood projects in the country.

Amidst all her achievements and awards, she successfully raised three well-educated children: Paolo is the CEO of publicly listed Vista Land and Lifescapes Inc.; Mark is the secretary of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH); and Camille is the executive vice president of Starmall and president of AllHome.



SENATOR JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Veteran legislator Senator Juan Miguel “Migz” Zubiri takes pride in being the husband to lovely Audrey; a loving father to Ma. Adriana, Juanmi and Santi; and, a good son to Governor Jose Ma. Zubiri, Jr. of Bukidnon and Victoria Fernandez-Zubiri of Libon, Albay.

In 2008, Zubiri, at age 39, became the youngest Senate Majority Leader since the First Congress in 1946. He was always cited for his outstanding performance as the representative of the 3rd District of Bukidnon from 1998 to 2007. He posted perfect attendance in the plenary sessions for 13 years in the House of Representatives and in the Senate.

As Senate Majority Leader in the 14th Congress, Zubiri helped steer the Senate to achieve its remarkable accomplishment of having 650 bills enacted into laws. Truly, a *Trabahador ng Senado*.

Zubiri authored and sponsored more than 20 major laws, both as a representative and as a senator. A fervent advocate of the environment, he authored and sponsored RA 9513 or the Renewable Energy Act of 2008 and RA 9367 or the Biofuels Act of 2006, earning him the moniker “Mr. Clean Energy.” Both laws created millions of new jobs for farmers, skilled workers and professionals. These laws increased the incomes of millions of Filipino sugar cane and coconut farmers. These convinced Filipino and foreign businesses to expand and set up new industries.

Among the many laws he sponsored, principally authored or coauthored are:

- RA 10072 Philippine Red Cross Act of 2009;
- RA 10068 Organic Agriculture Act of 2010;
- RA 9147 Wildlife Conservation and Protection Act;

RA 10121 Philippine Disaster Risk Management Act;
RA 9165 Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002;
RA 9504 Income Tax Exemption for Minimum Wage Earners;
RA 9679 Home Development Mutual Fund Law of 2009 (Pag-IBIG Fund New Charter);
RA 9904 Magna Carta for Homeowners and Homeowners Associations; and
RA 9645 Declaring July 27 of Every Year as Araw ng Iglesia Ni Cristo and as Special Working Holiday;

He is also considered as the father of the New Cooperative Code being the principal sponsor and author of RA 9520 or the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008.

In the last May 2016 elections, Zubiri returned to the Senate with a resounding victory, with more than 16 million votes and having ranked 6 among the 12 elected senators.

Zubiri looks after the welfare, rights and interests of ordinary citizens. In the 17th Congress, he wants to focus on legislation that will speed up the infrastructure programs of the government through the establishment of the Philippine Infrastructure Masterplan Act (PIMA). This proposal envisions the construction of new mass rail transit (MRT) systems in Mega Manila, Metro Cebu and Metro Davao and other highly-urbanized areas as well as the establishment of the Mindanao Railways and modernization and expansion of the existing PNR routes. He will also push for the establishment of regional specialty hospitals such as heart, lung, kidney, orthopaedic and children's medical centers. He also filed bills on the reduction of personal income tax rates and corporate income tax rates as well as the removal of VAT in the sale of electricity and petroleum products. Topmost in his priorities are measures to fuel robust economic growth. These dovetail with the drafting of a government-wide program on ease of doing business, that will remove bottlenecks in establishing businesses, expanding enterprises and acquiring permits, licenses and other official documents.

He chairs the Committees on Commerce, Trade and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Cooperatives.

Zubiri is a champion of the environment. He seeks to conserve, protect and sustainably use our natural resources; the bills on National Land Use and Sustainable Management of Forest Resources form part of his legislative agenda. In 2011, Zubiri founded the Pilipinas EcoWarriors, a watchdog group that monitored violations of environmental laws and pushed government to act through the use of social media.

He is the vice chairman of the Philippine Red Cross and has been its governor for the past 18 years and an active member of the Red Cross Youth Committee. He is a trained first aider and a certified rescue diver.

He published two books: the *Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008*, and *Bukidnon: The Philippine Frontier*. He holds a Master of Environment and Natural Resources Management (MENRM) degree at the University of the Philippines Open University. He is a graduate of Agri-Business Management at the UP Los Baños and has been conferred four honoris causa doctoral degrees by several private and state universities.



**ATTY. LUTGARDO B.
BARBO**

Senate Secretary

Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo holds the historic distinction of having been twice elected by senators as Senate Secretary during the Senate Presidency of Aquilino “Nene” Q. Pimentel, Jr. as well as, his son and namesake Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III. Secretary Barbo also served as Chief of Staff of both father and son senators. He was the Senate Impeachment Clerk of Court during the impeachment trial of former President Erap Estrada. He is the sole custodian of all Senate records including the factual bases for the martial law declaration of President Rodrigo R. Duterte.

Before his first election as Senate Secretary in 2000, Secretary Barbo was an undefeated three-consecutive term Provincial Governor of Eastern Samar. He was Secretary General and Spokesman of the League of Provinces, Chairman of both Regional Development Council and Regional Peace and Order Council of Region 8.

Secretary Barbo served as President of the Philippine Normal University and Taguig City University. He used to be a Faculty member of the Ateneo School of Government and an occasional lecturer at the UP National College of Public Administration and Governance. As a human rights lawyer during martial law, the Supreme Court through Chief Justice Claudio Teehankee said: “*Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo, counsel for the petitioners, merits the Court’s commendation for his fearless and unrelenting pursuit of truth and justice for the tragic victims.*” (Contado vs. Tan, G.R. No. L-49299, April 15, 1988). He was slapped with an ASSO (arrest, seize and seizure order) and tortured during martial law but prominently mentioned for his “courage and honesty” in the autobiographical books of Sen. Jovito Salonga (*A Journey of Struggle and Hope*, 2001) and Sen. Aquilino “Nene” Pimentel, Jr.

(*Martial Law in the Philippines: My Story*, 2006). Secretary Barbo was one of the original class suit petitioners against the Marcos Estate in Honolulu, Hawaii which they won.

He co-authored a book entitled “Philippine Political Culture of Corruption: A View from Inside the Halls of Power.” (Ateneo de Manila University and UNDP, 2002). Secretary Barbo is a 1997 *Lingkod Bayan* Presidential Awardee, the highest honor bestowed by the Civil Service Commission to government officials and employees for the acclaimed success of his Provincial USOMO (Unilateral Suspension of Offensive Military Operations) against the NDF/PPP/NPA .

OFFICERS OF THE SENATE

AQUILINO “KOKO” PIMENTEL III
President

RALPH G. RECTO
President Pro Tempore

VICENTE C. SOTTO III
Majority Leader

FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Minority Leader

ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO
Secretary

JOSE V. BALAJADIA JR.
Sergeant-at-Arms

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE

SONNY ANGARA	2013-2019
PAOLO BENIGNO “BAM” AQUINO IV	2013-2019
MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY	2013-2019
ALAN PETER “COMPAÑERO” S. CAYETANO*	2013-2019
LEILA M. DE LIMA	2016-2022
FRANKLIN M. DRILON	2016-2022
JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO	2013-2019
FRANCIS JOSEPH “CHIZ” G. ESCUDERO	2013-2019
WIN GATCHALIAN	2016-2022
RICHARD J. GORDON	2016-2022
GREGORIO B. HONASAN II	2013-2019
RISA HONTIVEROS	2016-2022
PANFILO “PING” M. LACSON	2016-2022
LOREN LEGARDA	2013-2019
EMMANUEL “MANNY” D. PACQUIAO	2016-2022
FRANCIS “KIKO” N. PANGILINAN	2016-2022
AQUILINO “KOKO” PIMENTEL III	2013-2019
GRACE POE	2013-2019
RALPH G. RECTO	2016-2022
VICENTE C. SOTTO III	2016-2022
ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV	2013-2019
JOEL VILLANUEVA	2016-2022
CYNTHIA A. VILLAR	2013-2019
JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI	2016-2022

* Appointed Secretary of Foreign Affairs on May 18, 2017