



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Senate
Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 21
Monday, September 16, 2013

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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CALL TO ORDER

At 3:03 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Vicente C. Sotto III led the prayer, to wit:

Panginoon, pinupuri Ka namin at pinasasalamatan, dahil tunay nga po na Ikaw ang nag-iisa at natatanging Ama, na Siyang makapangyarihan sa lahat.

Maraming salamat po sa biyayang buhay, karunungan, at pagmamahal.

Panginoon, kami po ay mapagkumbabang humihingi ng kapatawaran sa aming mga pagkukulang sa Inyo at sa aming kapwa.

Itinataas namin sa Iyo ang aming mga sarili, ang aming mga pamilya, at ang aming bansa na sama-samang nananalangin sa Iyong banal na puso. Panginoon, kami po ay taos-pusong nagsusumamo at nananalangin na maghari nawa ang kapayapaan sa bansa at matigil na ang mga kaguluhan.

Idinudulog din po namin sa Inyo ang mga kinakaharap naming mga pagsubok. Nawa'y manaig ang katotohanan at mapalaya ang bansa sa anumang uri ng opresyon, pang-aabuso at kasakiman.

Hilumin mo din po, Panginoon, ang poot at galit sa bawat puso nang sa ganoon ay manaig ang pagmamahalan at kapayapaan sa aming bansa.

Ang lahat ng ito ay dinadalangin namin sa pangalan ng Iyong bugtong na Anak na si Hesus, nabubuhay at naghahari kasama ang Espiritu Santo.

Siya Nawa.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Police Commission Choir led the singing of the national anthem and thereafter rendered the song, entitled “Bahay.”

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Oscar G. Yabes, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, S.	Legarda, L.
Aquino, P. B. IV B.	Marcos, Jr., F. R.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Osmeña III, S. R.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Cayetano, P. S.	Poe, G.
Drilon, F. M.	Recto, R. G.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Estrada, J.	Sotto III, V. C.
Honasan, G. B.	Trillanes IV, A. F.
Lapid, M. L. M.	Villar, C. A.

With 20 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senator Guingona was on official mission.

Senators Defensor Santiago and Enrile were on sick leave.

Senator Escudero was absent.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR POE

Senator Poe thanked the Napolcom Choir for showing the other side of the image of the police force. She recognized their efforts of bridging relations among different communities through their choral group.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 20 (September 11, 2013) and considered it approved.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1584, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WORKERS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 1585, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE FINANCIAL REGULATION OF WATER UTILITIES, CREATING THE WATER REGULATORY COMMISSION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 1586, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL DENTISTS TO GIVE FREE DENTAL SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 4419, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE DENTAL ACT OF 1965", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1587, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION IN THE HUMANITIES IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1588, entitled

AN ACT REVISING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AND STUDENT YOUTH, AND FOR THE OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1589, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLES 116 AND 164 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394

OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 1590, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING AND REGULATING THE OPERATION OF CABLE TELEVISION IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Public Services; Public Information and Mass Media; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 1591, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 285 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, PROVIDING FOR GOVERNMENT UNITS RE-ALLOCATION OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1592, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE INSPECTION FUNCTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6727, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE WAGE RATIONALIZATION ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 1593, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING BUSINESS ONE-STOP SHOP (BOSS) CENTERS FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN ALL REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL CENTERS IN THE COUNTRY

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Economic Affairs; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1594, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF A SOLDIER KILLED WHILE PERFORMING DUTIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1595, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH HOME VISITING PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 1596, entitled

AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1638, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ESTABLISHING A NEW SYSTEM OF RETIREMENT AND SEPARATION FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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To the Committee on National Defense and Security

Senate Bill No. 1597, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSAL AND/OR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN MILITARY CAMPS AND RESERVATIONS, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE MILITARY REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 1598, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE TEACHING OF DISASTER AWARENESS AND DISASTER MITIGATION AS PART OF THE CURRICULUM OF ALL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; National Defense and Security; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1599, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY, STABILIZE PRICES OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND ENHANCE FOOD SECURITY THROUGH THE EFFECTIVE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, RATIONALIZING AND RESTRUCTURING FOR THE PURPOSE, ALL EXISTING GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, MARKETING AND OTHER SUPPORT PROGRAMS, APPROPRIATING

FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1600, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 42 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1981, EXEMPTING AFFECTED MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY AS MAY HEREIN BE QUALIFIED FROM THE CONTINUOUS SERVICE REQUIREMENT

Introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, transmitting to the Senate copies of the following certified and authenticated BSP issuances, in compliance with Section 15(a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (The New Central Bank Act):

Circular Letter Nos. CL-2013-029 and 030 dated 17 and 28 May 2013; CL-2013-031, 032, 033, 034, 035 and 036 dated 3, 13, 19, 20, 21 and 28 June 2013; CL-2013-037, 038, 039, 040 and 041, dated 15, 16, 21, 25 and 28 July 2013; CL-2013-042, 043, 044, 045, 046 dated 5, 8, 13, 15 and 25 August 2013;

Circular Nos. 797 dated 22 May 2013; 798, 799, 800, 801, and 802 dated 18, 21 and 27 June 2013; 793, 803 and 804 dated 5 and 15 July 2013; 805 and 809 dated 8 and 23 August 2013;

and Memorandum Nos. M-2013-020, 021, 022, 023 and 024 dated 9, 17, 23, 28 and 30 May 2013; M-2013-025, 026, 027 and 028 dated 11, 13, 14 and 19 June 2013; M-2013-030, 031, 032, 033, 034 and 035

dated 1, 4, 10, 11 and 30 July 2013; M-2013-036, 037 and 038 dated 1, 12 and 22 August 2013.

To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 1186 ON THIRD READING

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body considered, on Third Reading, Senate Bill No. 1186, printed copies of which were distributed to the senators on September 11, 2013.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, Secretary Yabes read only the title of the bill, to wit:

AN ACT TO POSTPONE THE SANG-GUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS ON OCTOBER 28, 2013, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 1 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.9340, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Secretary Yabes called the roll for nominal voting.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor

Angara	Legarda
Aquino	Marcos
Binay	Osmeña
Cayetano (A)	Pimentel
Cayetano (P)	Poe
Ejercito	Recto
Estrada	Revilla
Honasan	Trillanes
Lapid	Villar

Against

None

Abstention

Sotto

With 18 senators voting in favor, none against, and one abstention, the Chair declared Senate Bill No. 1186 approved on Third Reading.

EXPLANATION OF VOTE

Senator Sotto explained that he registered on abstention because while he supports the postponement of the SK election, he was not in favor of Section 2 (holdover) of the bill. He hoped that said issue would be taken up during the bicameral conference committee as promised by the Chairman of the Committee on Local Government.

The Chair manifested into the record that Senator Sotto's request to be named as a member of the bicameral conference committee would be favorably considered at the proper time.

COAUTHOR

Senator Cayetano (A) manifested that Senator Villar is a coauthor of Senate Bill No. 1186.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Cayetano (A) acknowledged the presence of the Business Economics students from the Far Eastern University, headed by Professor Carmen Lapuz, as well as the guests from Okinawa Christian University, headed by Professor Makoto Arakaki and Professor David Uvlog.

Senate President Drilon welcomed the guests to the Senate.

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 256

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 256, entitled

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND PARLIAMENTS AROUND THE WORLD IN COMMEMORATING THE SIXTH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2013 WITH THE THEME, "STRENGTHENING VOICES FOR DEMOCRACY."

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Atty. Edwin B. Bellen, Deputy Secretary for Legislation, read the text of the resolution, to wit:

WHEREAS, in 2007, the United Nations declared September 15 of each year as the International Day of Democracy, and invited all member states to commemorate the day with activities that celebrate and exalt democracy in their respective countries;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which the Philippines is a member of, unifies parliaments worldwide in celebrating the International Day of Democracy and has adopted for this year's commemoration the theme, "*Strengthening Voices for Democracy*", which highlights the ability of Parliament to echo the voices of its people by enacting appropriate legislation that effectively address the ever-changing needs of citizens;

WHEREAS, despite recent democratic developments in some of the most oppressive parts of the world, the Global Democracy Index indicates that world democracy is in a standstill, with only 15 percent of the countries in the world enjoying a full democracy while about a third remain under authoritarian regimes;

WHEREAS, the Philippines, the first democratic nation in Asia, continues to be an inspiration worldwide for its constant effort to pursue the ideals of democracy;

WHEREAS, as President Benigno Simeon Aquino III remains steadfast in pursuing reforms that aim to empower the Filipino people, as well as in restoring faith in government and its institutions, Filipinos recently expressed a record-high satisfaction with the way democracy works in the country;

WHEREAS, sustaining this momentum entails a conscious and continuous effort on all branches of government to remain true to its mandate by being transparent, responsive and accessible to all citizens without prejudice to gender, ethnicity or faith;

WHEREAS, with traditional and new media, which includes social media providing parliaments with an almost comprehensive and real time avenue for obtaining and responding to public sentiment, Members of the Senate have become active in using these channels to promote greater transparency and facilitate genuine democratic dialogue;

WHEREAS, given the rapid spread of on-line information together with the rise of a dynamic *netizen* culture that has figured

prominently in recent political developments, Philippine Congress should fully utilize this communication platform to strengthen the people's ability to influence the policy-making process and encourage increased political participation, particularly among the youth;

WHEREAS, the International Day of Democracy is an auspicious opportunity for the Philippine Senate to lead the nation, in solidarity with other world parliaments, to reaffirm its commitment to the promotion of a genuine democracy by remaining faithful in serving the interests of the Filipino people;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to express its sense in joining the community of nations and parliaments around the world in commemorating the Sixth International Day of Democracy on September 15, 2013.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (P), the session was suspended.

It was 3:26 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:29 p.m., the session was resumed.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR CAYETANO (P)

Senator Cayetano (P) presented to the Body for its adoption Proposed Senate Resolution No. 256 expressing the sense of the Senate to join in the celebration of the 6th International Day of Democracy.

The full text of her sponsorship speech follows:

The encyclopedia of Ancient Greece states that the term "democracy" originates from the Greek word "*demokratia*" or rule of the people which was coined from "*demos*," meaning people, and "*kratos*," meaning power or rule in the 5th century to denote the political systems then existing in Greek city-states, notably Athens. It is interesting to note that the term is an antonym to "*aristocratie*," or rule of an elite.

According to the transcript of a lecture at the Hilla University for Humanistic Studies on January 24, 2004, found at the Stanford University website, there are four basic elements of democracy. These are:

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1. A political system for choosing and replacing the government through free and fair elections;
2. The active participation of the people, as citizens, in politics and civic life;
3. The protection of the human rights of all citizens; and
4. A rule of law in which the laws and procedures apply equally to all citizens.

Yesterday, September 15, the democratic world celebrated the 6th International Day of Democracy. Since its inception in 2007, parliaments worldwide reaffirm their commitment to this universal value from where their mandate as a representative institution emanates.

This year's celebration focuses on "Strengthening Voices for Democracy" – a call highlighting public opinion as the centerpiece of genuine democratic governance.

We are very fortunate for being given the opportunity to represent Filipinos at a time when barriers to interaction are almost nonexistent. Technology, the internet and the prominence of social media are eroding time and geographical boundaries which once limited and delayed our ability to listen and reach out to the varied voices of our people.

Today, these communication channels have empowered more Filipinos of different ages and socio-economic backgrounds to speak up and make themselves heard.

The emergence of an active netizen culture in the Philippines is proof that the power of new media cannot be underestimated. We have seen how netizens contributed to discussions and weighed in on political matters that they felt strongly about.

Is this something public servants should fear? Most definitely not. On the contrary, we must welcome and constantly encourage our citizens to freely express their opinions in order to bring them closer to the government. Strong public participation in the political processes makes for a stronger democratic society.

As parliamentarians, we should maximize the benefits of these technological advancements to engage Filipinos in meaningful dialogue and to increase their access to information that would further enrich public understanding of cultural, political and economic issues.

Now, more than ever, we are called as one body to work on restoring our people's faith in

this institution. We must respond to the clamor for good governance, transparency and accountability which has grown stronger. These voices cannot be simply tuned out.

In strengthening the different voices for democracy, we are deeply humbled into recognizing that the work we do in these halls transcends our work as legislators because the good we do for our people is a legacy that we could leave behind.

As we commemorate this year's International Day of Democracy, we are reminded that the very heart of our existence in this august Chamber is to remain of faithful service to the interest of the Filipino people. I am positive that this sentiment is not solely confined in the Philippine Senate but is shared by many parliamentarians all over the world which echo the same voices of democracy.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 256

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 256 was adopted by the Body.

ALL SENATORS AS COAUTHORS

Senator Cayetano (A) manifested that all senators are coauthors of Senate Resolution No. 256.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Cayetano (A) acknowledged the presence in the gallery of Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) Chairman Eugenio H. Villareal, and members Jacqueline Suzanne M. Aquino-Gavino, Atty. Noel R. del Prado, Mario A. Hernando, Atty. Jose Antonio K. Veloso and Anna Lissa S. Martinez.

Senate President Drilon welcomed the guests to the Senate.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), the session was suspended.

It was 3:35 p.m.

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RESUMPTION OF SESSION


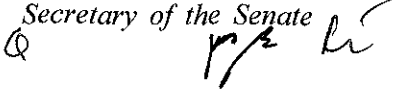
At 3:37 p.m., the session was resumed.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

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

It was 3:37 p.m.


OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate


Approved on September 17, 2013