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Journal

SESSION NO. 36
Wednesday, December 4, 2013

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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CALL TO ORDER

At 3:10 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Gregorio B. Honasan led the prayer, to wit:

Father Almighty, during these challenging times, we humbly ask for Your help and mercy.

Thank You, Father, for the gift of life and our true legacy — our children.

Protect us from fear, worry, sickness and doubt.

In this time of extraordinary trials, help us rise above our limitations that we may truly, truly put others before ourselves.

And most of all, help us to be faithful to You, our nation, and all we hold dear.

Amen.

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:

Aquino, P. B. IV B.	Honasan, G. B.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Lapid, M. L.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Legarda, L.
Cayetano, P. S.	Poe, G.
Drilon, F. M.	Recto, R. G.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Enrile, J. P.	Sotto, V. C.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Villar, C. A.
Estrada, J.	

With 17 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Angara, Defensor Santiago, Osmeña and Pimentel arrived after the roll call.

Senator Guingona was on official mission.

Senators Marcos and Trillanes were absent.

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. 35 (December 3, 2013) and considered it approved.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Cayetano (A), acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests:

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- H.E. Dr. John Momis, President of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, and his wife, Madame Elizabeth Momis;
- Faculty of the Graduate School of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM) led by Dean Elena Cernias; and
- Members of the Vice Mayors League of Batangas.

Senate President Drilon welcomed the guests to the Senate.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1987, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BAKOD CENTRAL VISAYAS COMMISSION FOR THE AID, RECONSTRUCTION, RELIEF, REHABILITATION, HOME REBUILDING FINANCING SUBSIDY, LIVELIHOOD GENERATION AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE REBUILDING, AND HERITAGE STRUCTURES AND TOURISM SITES RESTORATION, FOR THE VICTIMS AND AFFECTED AREAS OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2013 EARTHQUAKE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committee on Finance

Senate Bill No. 1988, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL FRANCHISE GRANTEEES USING WIRES AND CABLES IN THE OPERATION OF THEIR BUSINESS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES TO PLACE THEIR WIRE AND CABLE CONNECTIONS UNDER THE GROUND, AND

PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 1989, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE SITE OPERATORS OF LOCALLY-HOSTED WEBSITES TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH TRAVEL DESTINATIONS MARKETED ON THEIR WEBSITES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Tourism; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1990, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL MERCURY MONITORING PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1991, entitled

AN ACT DIRECTING THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY COMPARING TOTAL HEALTH OUTCOMES, INCLUDING RISK OF AUTISM, IN VACCINATED POPULATION WITH SUCH OUTCOMES IN UNVACCINATED POPULATIONS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1992, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND REORIENT THE MANDATE OF THE

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
IN ORDER TO ENSURE FOOD
SUFFICIENCY AND TO RATIO-
NALIZE ITS FUNCTIONS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Government Corp-
orations and Public Enterprises; and Agri-
culture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 1993, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE USE OF
FRANKING PRIVILEGES BY THE
MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 1994, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
PROTECTION OF WAGES AND
TIPS RECEIVED BY CERTAIN
EMPLOYEES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1995, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A WOMEN'S
DESK IN ALL INSTITUTIONS OF
HIGHER LEARNING

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and
Culture; and Women, Family Relations and
Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 1996, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING BATAS PAMBANSA
BLG. 881, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE OMNIBUS ELEC-
TION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES,

SECTION 97; ON CONDUCTING
FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES FOR
POLITICAL PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Electoral Reforms
and People's Participation**

Senate Bill No. 1997, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN OFFICE
ON WOMEN'S HEALTH WITHIN
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; and Women, Family Relations and
Gender Equality**

RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 398, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER
SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT
AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGIS-
LATION, ON THE REPORTED
DISCOVERY OF CANCER-CAUSING
CADMIUM IN CHEAP FASHION
ACCESSORIES AND JEWELRY
SOLD IN METRO MANILA

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Health and Demo-
graphy**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 399, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER
SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT
AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGIS-
LATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED
TO CREATE INFRASTRUCTURE
THAT WILL SERVE AS EVACUATION
CENTERS CAPABLE OF WITHSTAND-
ING NATURAL CALAMITIES, SUCH
AS MASSIVE TYPHOONS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Public Works

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Proposed Senate Resolution No. 400, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON PROGRAMS AND MEASURES TO PROTECT WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION IN EVACUATION CENTERS DURING TIMES OF NATURAL AND MAN-MADE CALAMITIES

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 401, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RECENT STUDY FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN ANN ARBOR LINKING CHEMICALS KNOWN AS PHTHALATES TO PRETERM BIRTHS

Introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 402, entitled

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE STUDY OF THE "MARSHALL PLAN" IN THE EFFECTIVE, EFFICIENT AND SPEEDY RECONSTRUCTION, REHABILITATION AND REVIVAL OF THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY AND ECONOMY OF YOLANDA-STROCK AREAS

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Economic Affairs

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 403, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE

COMMITTEES ON TRADE AND COMMERCE; ECONOMIC AFFAIRS; AND FOREIGN RELATIONS TO LOOK INTO APPROACHES AND STRATEGIES ON HOW THE PHILIPPINES CAN MAXIMIZE ITS POTENTIAL WITH REGARD TO THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN) ECONOMIC INTEGRATION IN 2015, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION RECENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS AND THE PHILIPPINE BUSINESS SECTOR THAT CAN BE MORE COMPETITIVE WITH THE ECONOMIC BLUEPRINT'S FULL IMPLEMENTATION

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Foreign Relations

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 404, entitled

RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE PUBLIC BE GRANTED FULL ACCESS TO THE BICAMERAL CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND MEETINGS ON THE PRECEPTS AND PROMOTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE"

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 405, entitled

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, GOVERNMENT'S DELAYED RESPONSE TO TYPHOON YOLANDA

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

To the Committee on National Defense and Security

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Proposed Senate Resolution No. 406, entitled

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCE OF THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF ACTOR PAUL WALKER WITH DEEP GRATITUDE ON HIS EFFORTS OF HELPING THE VICTIMS OF TYPHOON YOLANDA

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla, Jr.

To the Committee on Rules

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 3 December 2013, the House of Representatives passed House Bill No. 3423, entitled

AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FOURTEEN BILLION SIX HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P14,600,000,000.00) AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2013 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

To the Committees on Finance

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

With the permission of the Body, the Chair suspended the session.

It was 3:22 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:25 p.m., the session was resumed.

SENATE CONFEREES

Upon nomination by Senator Escudero, there being no objection, the Chair designated Senators

Escudero, Recto and Sotto as members of the Senate panel in the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Joint Resolution No. 7 (extending the validity of appropriations under the Calamity Fund as well as other funds).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 3:26 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:27 p.m., the session was resumed.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

Preliminarily, Senator Defensor Santiago acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the students and guests from the following institutions: Adamson University, Lyceum of the Philippines, Fatima University, UP Diliman, UP Manila, Far Eastern University, Centro Escolar University, San Beda Law Student Council, University of Sto. Tomas, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, UP Law, De La Salle University, La Verdad Christian College, West Visayas State University, Bulacan State University; barangay officials from Barangay 306, Quiapo, Manila; and employees from Convergys Call Center.

Availing herself of the privilege hour, Senator Defensor Santiago delivered the following speech:

NAVIGATING THE CRIMES OF THE PLUNDER MASTERMIND

Mastermind of Plunder

It comes rarely in the life of the nation that a people, under the travails of developing country status, aided by providence, find it in themselves to rise above the morass of political corruption, and to build the architecture for a fresh and shining territory where people live free of the forces of darkness.

Today, the time has come. At last we stand at the very heart of the epic pork barrel corruption in the Congress, specially the Senate. Why are the proportions of corruption so epic in scale? How did the criminals manage to steal

some P10 billion of the people's money in just ten years? Who is the mastermind?

Guided by faith in a just God and in the rule of law, dozens of whistleblowers have testified in writing and provided supporting documents to prove that the very heart of darkness is the leadership of the Senate itself. Through NBI investigation has led the Department of Justice to file formal charges of plunder against the first batch of suspects, led by no less than the former Senate President at that time, Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, the untouchable. The Ombudsman is conducting preliminary investigation, and has assured the public that justice will not be denied; the resolution will be issued by the end of this month.

Notably, the Ombudsman has admitted receiving a memorandum of over 200 pages pinpointing Enrile as the mastermind of plunder. That official memorandum validates the charge I aired in the latest hearing of the Blue Ribbon Committee, where I first made that very same accusation, based on the lawyer's thought process of enlightened skepticism. If he smarted against the accusation, Enrile could have requested an additional hearing where he could be personally present and interpellate Janet Napoles, who appears to be his BFF, or Best Friend Forever. But he chooses to stay away and keep silent, because he is immobilized by fear and humiliation.

Instead of presenting evidence to the public of his hypocritical protestations of innocence, Enrile once again chose to steer public attention to what he hopes will be a diversion: the lies and black propaganda hurled against me during the 1992 presidential campaign. This man, contrary to logic and common sense, hopes to evade criminal prosecution and public outrage over his plunder, by resurrecting campaign dirt against me which are over 21 years old! Dream on, old man, also known as *Tanda*, who, two months away, will turn 90 years old.

And he is trying to portray me in the blackest terms. He pointedly ignored the fact that I am a laureate of the Asian Nobel Prize, the 1988 Magsaysay Award for government service. According to the official citation, the Award "recognizes her bold and moral leadership in cleaning up a graft-ridden government agency." Media has noted that I am reportedly "the most awarded Filipino public official," because I won such awards as TOYM, TOWNS, and U.P.'s most outstanding law alumnus. Enrile never reached these levels of professional recognition; instead, he spends his time on his tablet while the Senate is in session. Please feel free to

compare my resumé to his, since my biography appears in Wikipedia.

This was not only bringing parliamentary debate to the lowest level. It is a violation of every canon of civility and decency in public discourse. Parliamentary rules strictly forbid arguments *ad hominem*, but my attacker delivered an entire speech by appealing to personal prejudices rather than to reason; and by attacking my character rather than my assertion that he is the mastermind of the plunder. In fact, my attacker is guilty of violating the Senate Rules, Rule 34, Section 94: "No Senator, under any circumstances, shall use offensive or improper language against another Senator or against any public institution." Under Rule 34, he has committed the offense of "unparliamentary acts and language," and I shall charge him with disorderly behaviour with the Ethics or the Rules Committee, punishable by suspension for 60 days.

Enrile's Total Lack of Credibility

My attacker is the icon of shameless lying. Under President Ferdinand Marcos, he claimed that as defense secretary he was ambushed, thus laying the ground for the imposition of martial law. Under President Corazon Aquino, he retracted and admitted that his ambush was faked and staged. Then under President Benigno Aquino III, he retracted again and he now claims in his memoirs that the ambush was genuine after all. He eats his own words for breakfast. In the law of evidence, he has absolutely no credibility. *Falsus in uno, falsus in omnibus*. False in one thing, false in all things.

The Supreme Court has ruled: "For evidence to be believed, it must not only proceed from the mouth of a credible witness, but must be credible in itself, such as the common experience and observation of mankind can approve as probable under the circumstances." *People v. Loriega*, 326 SCRA 675 (2000).

Enrile's bungled attempt at revisionist history and his blatant disinformation have been widely condemned by all sectors of society, particularly in social media. The man is an incorrigible liar and criminal, as brought out by the litany of his crimes against the Filipino people. Accordingly, I respectfully urge the Justice Secretary to order an immediate and exhaustive investigation into the following crimes under the Penal Code committed by Enrile:

1. *Command responsibility for death and disappearance during martial law.*

In 2012, the Communist Party of the Philippines sent an email to media, with the

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following condemnation of Enrile as delusional in his notorious memoirs: "Enrile was Marcos' hatchet man and the one who signed countless warrants that led to the capture and detention of thousands of former leaders, workers, students, activists in the Church, and other critics and opponents of martial law. Enrile's hands are forever stained with the blood of close to 4,000 – 4,000 people died — 'salvaged' during Marcos' reign of terror. Enrile exposed himself as a liar." (*Inquirer Visayas*, 10 October 2012).

During martial law, Enrile was the almighty defense secretary, when I was appointed the youngest RTC judge in the mecca of judges, Metro Manila, serving in Quezon City. In 1985, when gasoline prices went up, some 50 students from UP and Ateneo joined a street demonstration in Cubao to protest the martial law regime. Most of them were seniors scheduled to take their final exams and to graduate from college. Enrile ordered the military to arrest the students, on the basis of a martial law presidential decree that defined the crime of illegal assembly as any gathering opposed to the administration, and that imposed the death penalty.

I was assigned to the case. I suspended trial in all other cases and continuously heard the illegal assembly case morning, afternoon, and evening. The issue was: Does martial law automatically cancel the right to bail? My decisive answer was "no," and I ordered the release of the students. However, the military defied my release order and, in fact, filed a second charge of inciting to sedition. The accused appealed, and the Supreme Court in effect upheld me. This was the 1990 case of *Brocka, Cervantes, et al. v. Enrile, Ramos, et al.*, 192 SCRA 183 (1990).

From the very beginning, Enrile has always resented that Supreme Court decision and held it against me, for refusing to kowtow to him even during the dark days of martial law, when he swaggered around town as if he owned it. The Supreme Court slapped him down, ruling "that the criminal proceedings had become a case of persecution, having been undertaken by state officials in bad faith." The Court pointed a finger at Enrile, and criticized "respondent's bad faith and malicious intent." The Court warned Enrile that he did not have a license to run roughshod over a citizen's basic constitutional rights, such as due process, or manipulate the law to suit dictatorial tendencies." This was and remains Enrile's arrogant, tyrannical attitude to young people: persecution in bad faith, malice, and dictatorial. He has never changed. (*Brocka v. Enrile*, at p. 189)

2. *Mastermind of the biggest plunder case in Philippine history.*

In June 2013, the Department of Budget and Management released statistics showing that in a five-year period for 2005 to 2013, Enrile was the biggest recipient of pork barrel, amounting to a total of P1.189 billion. According to whistleblowers, Enrile gave the syndicates of dummy NGOs run by Janet Napoles, access to his pork barrel in no less than 22 instances. *Beinte dos ka beses ginawa nya*. In all, Enrile reportedly gave P641.65 million from his pork barrel funds to dummy corporations founded by Napoles. Merlina Suñas, a whistleblower, testified that Napoles personally talked to the senator concerned, or the chief of staff. Suñas also testified that in 2012, her dummy foundation received P5 million in pork barrel funds from Enrile.

The Commission on Audit issued a PDAF report that in 2011, Enrile was one of four government officials who gave some P206 million in pork barrel funds through the Department of Agriculture to a questionable NGO from 2009-2010. The *Inquirer* story said: "Enrile withheld further comment, until he had checked his records." Until now, Enrile has clung to his right to remain silent, causing a group of netizens to start a movement called *Kumibo Ka Naman, Enrile*, or for short, KKNE.

In the midst of all the damning evidence against him, Enrile has kept silent as a cowering mouse. He could very well have delivered a privilege speech proving his innocence. Instead, his speech was directed at me, rehashing black propaganda invented against me during the 1992 presidential campaign. *Iyon na lamang ba ang magagawa niya?* You will remember I led in the counting for the first five days, but was cheated of the presidency. I filed an electoral protest, but it was dismissed by the Supreme Court on the technicality that I have already been elected senator. So that issue has never been settled. He is silent on the evidence, but voluble on malice. His speech amounted to verbal violence against a woman lying in her sickbed, while he preened in the Senate, demonstrating his skill as the drama king of corrupt politics.

3. *King of a smuggling empire.*

In 1995, then Representative Enrile, a native of Gonzaga, Cagayan, authored R.A. No. 7922, creating the Cagayan Economic Zone Authority or CEZA. Section 6, paragraph (f) gives to CEZA the right "to operate... tourism-related activities, including games, amusements, recreational and sports facilities such as horse-racing, dog racing, gambling casinos, golf courses, and others, under priorities and standards set by CEZA."

The free port occupies 441,000 hectares, an area almost three times the size of Quezon City. Enrile claimed that the port would become the hub in Southeast Asia of interactive gaming – his term for gambling on the internet – shipping, and ecotourism. The Port Irene CEO is Enrile's relative Jose Mari Ponce. According to Enrile himself, his "representative" in the port is his son-in-law, James Kocher, an American who, according to former U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney, "runs an auto import operation in the port, and is suspected of involvement in smuggling." (Released by Wikileaks on U.S. embassy Cable 08 Manila 1417 sent by Kenney to the U.S. Department of State on 13 June 2008.) Enrile, according to the cable, presided at a Senate hearing and indulged himself by repeatedly and fiercely shouting at representatives of the Joint Foreign Chambers of Commerce, because the foreign businessmen had complained about smuggling in Port Irene.

On 12 December 2002, President Gloria Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 156, imposing a partial ban on the importation of used cars. In the 2006 case of *Executive Secretary v. Southwing*, in effect the Supreme Court upheld the validity of the ban. And in the 2013 case of *Executive Secretary v. Forerunner*, the Supreme Court again upheld the validity of the law.

During all this time, in open defiance of the Supreme Court rulings banning importation of used cars, CEZA continued its importations. In 2012, car traders imported some 5,400 vehicles contained in 18 shipments. In February 2013, a Japanese cargo ship set off for Port Irene, with a shipment of Hummers, Porches, BMWs, Mercedes Benzes, a Ferrari, a Lamborghini, and other used luxury cars. The government refused to issue clearance for registration of the shipments, and CEZA was forced to re-export 600 used cars.

Presumably, because of all the illegal shenanigans in Port Irene, just last month, Sen. Sergio Osmeña, chair of Subcommittee B of the Finance Committee, recommended a cut from the CEZA budget of P800 million. On Enrile's appeal, Osmeña agreed to restore this amount of nearly P1 billion, subject to certain conditions. That is how much of the taxpayers' money go to finance Enrile's smuggling empire. *Bakit tayo magbabayad sa pamamagitan ng ating buwis para kumita itong smuggler na ito?*

4. *Anticipated king of gambling empire.*

CEZA operates online gaming outside the jurisdiction of Pagcor. The Cagayan ecozone is the only ecozone in the country that is allowed

by the Enrile law to host and issue online gambling licenses to offshore companies. *Matinik. Magisa lamang siya sa buong Pilipinas na may-roong ganoon.* Such foreigners are not required to live in our country, or to incorporate as Philippine company. They only need an interactive gaming licensee and to register as a CEZA enterprise. Jesus Disini, president of the Internet and Society Program of the U.P. College of Law, has already warned that CEZA should exercise due diligence in giving out licenses, which may be exploited by unscrupulous entities. He said that CEZA might unwittingly give these companies the legitimacy to operate legally.

Just last month, *Inquirer* columnist Ramon Tulfo reported that police raided and arrested some 700 persons, including some expatriates, in their Makati and Quezon City offices. Allegedly, the firms were operating under license from First Cagayan License and Resort Corporation in CEZA (*Inquirer* 22 Nov. 2013 at A-24).

Last February 2013, the CEZA administrator admitted that he has awarded what he calls a "master license" to First Cagayan to operate internet gaming. The master license allows First Cagayan to issue seven-year licenses to foreign entities to operate online gambling. So far, it appears that it has awarded licenses to seven foreign corporations, but it claims that it can issue as many licenses as it wants. *Galing!* The favored corporations pay annual fees of \$40,000. Admitting that only the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (Pagcor) has been given the mandate to operate legal gambling in the country, CEZA claims that it gives licenses only to foreign-based corporations. *Naghahanap ng lusot. Lahat kailangang sumunod maliban lamang kay Enrile.*

In brief, CEZA promotes online gambling, or what it calls interactive gaming, which has been described as "a lucrative niche market." It has partnered with telecommunications companies to offer "high quality, high speed Internet connectivity." The CEZA administrator has boasted abroad that First Cagayan "offers state-of-the-art Internet data center facilities in Cagayan and also in Manila," and that there is "direct connectivity to the U.S. and Europe." *Aba ang galing! Global gambling lord na siya ngayon.* ("Online gambling hub sprouts north of PH" by Melvin Calinag, *Newsbytes* 25 February 2013).

5. *King of Martial Law Illegal Logging Empire.*

During martial law, the largest logging concession covering 95,770 hectares was awarded to Enrile as owner of San Jose Lumber. His license expired in 2007. His illegal logging

operations were reportedly protected by the "Lost Command" headed by renegade then PC Col. Carlos Ledesma, also known as Commander Proceso. The logging concession shared a border with Barangay Sag-od, Las Navas town in northern Samar. In September 1981, the Lost Command allegedly figured in the massacre of 45 people.

At this juncture, Senator Defensor Santiago gave the students in the gallery permission to stand up for them to have an unobstructed view of her when she reads Item No. 6 of her speech.

6. *Psychopathic Hypersexualized Serial Womanizer*

On 30 January 1998, the *Chicago Tribune* reported on Enrile: "The senator, in his early 70s and rumored to be a multimillionaire... was a defense minister under Marcos, but helped to bring down the dictator. His wife, Cristina, a socialite, walked out on him this month, after charging adultery. The 'other woman' is reported to be Gigi Gonzales-Reyes, chief of staff of his Senate office, and about 30 years his junior." Cristina was reported as saying to the *Chicago Tribune* "that she no longer could tolerate his chasing after other women, including domestic helpers, cooks, and assistants." (Emphasis added). *Walang pinapatawad ito. Kaya ayaw kong tumabi sa kanya eh. Mamaya na-HIV ako.* This is eyewitness testimony that Enrile is psychopathic and urgently needs treatment for his sex addiction. There is a sex addict in the Senate, if you do not know.

In an interview with Enrile on 25 January 2012, the *Inquirer* said that after Gigi earned her law degree in 1988, she joined the Enrile law firm. At that time, Gigi was married to lawyer Rodolfo "Inky" Reyes. Enrile caused Inky to be appointed to the CEZA, located at the northeastern tip of Luzon mainland, about 620 kilometers north of Manila. *Sineduce niya ang babae, at iyong lalaki ay pinapunta niya doon sa malayo. Eh 'di naghiwalay.* The Reyes couple eventually separated.

At one point in his glittering career as Senate President, Enrile had the audacity to throw a birthday party at a five-star Makati hotel for his concubine – nag-birthday party para sa kerida niya – to which he was able to drag President Aquino. Photos of the decadent party were splashed in the front pages of top newspapers. And this libertine pontificates about morality?

To win the so-called Catholic vote, he pretended to be a determined enemy of the reproductive health law. All to naught, because

his son, whom he groomed to take over the family's fabulous financial empire, was convincingly defeated at the last Senate elections, despite reported campaign expenses of P150.797 million – the highest expense of any senatorial candidate.

Gigi, together with Enrile, has been charged with plunder, and has fled abroad. In her absence, the Enrile camp issued a statement that only Gigi, not Enrile, should be accused of plunder. That is his version of tough love.

7. *Enrile, in his 2012 SALN, underdeclared his net worth at only P118 million.*

Despite all his posturing, Enrile's specialty is only tax law. *Akala mo alam niya ang lahat, tax law lang pala ang specialty niya.* Hence, all his properties are either abroad, in the name of others, or in the name of corporations. In 1975, during martial law, he built a residence in exclusive Dasmariñas Village. Two years later, he built a house in Valle Verde, registered in the name of Jaka Investments Corp., his family firm. In 1985, he built a huge beach house in his prime beachfront property in Natipuan, Nasugbu, Batangas. But in his SALN 2012, belying his wanton lifestyle, including corrupt minions and a private army on his payroll, he declared a net worth of only P118 million. His legal expertise is obviously tax evasion.

Ombudsman Resolution this Month will Decide Truth

Enrile and I are engaged in an epic battle to reveal the truth to the Filipino people. On my side, I have university students, social media netizens, Metro Manila and Visayan communities, and the crowds in the major shopping malls who instantly gather and urge me to continue the good fight. On his side, he has the corrupt journalists in his payroll, corrupt military officials who constitute his private army, his minions in the customs bureau and the internal revenue bureau, both of which he used to head and consider to be his fiefdoms, as well as key appointive officials in local government and the diplomatic service, who serve as his sycophantic spies. *Mag-ingat kayo, mga senador, lalo na kapag pumunta kayo sa Hong Kong. Pagbaba ninyo sa eroplano at sinalubong kayo ng protocol officer, isa diyang ay espiya niya, dating military officer, ngayon protocol officer na. Alam ko ang pangalan nun.* I hope that this clash of titans in the Senate will lead to an Armageddon in Philippine politics.

By the end of December, the Ombudsman will resolve whether to dismiss the plunder case,

or to file a complaint for plunder with the anti-graft court known as *Sandiganbayan*. If the Ombudsman files the case in court, Mr. Enrile will automatically be suspended from the Senate by order of the *Sandiganbayan*. During trial, he will likely remain in detention, because he would have no constitutional right to bail, particularly if the court finds that the evidence is strong. If convicted, he will be jailed for 30 years, and his ill-gotten wealth, expected to be in the billions, will be forfeited in favor of the state.

Because he is over 70 years old, he can plead the mitigating circumstance of age, in order to lower the sentence. Also because of his age, he can apply for executive clemency. But it is not true that his advanced age exempts him from criminal liability. He has to pay for his sins, unless he turns state witness and rats on Sen. Jinggoy Estrada, Sen. Bong Revilla, and his other co-accused in the plunder case.

After his poisonous personal attacks against me, Enrile expects that I shall be cowed into silence by his usual bluff and bluster. That is not going to happen. Now, Enrile should get real.

In Cagayan, it is said that when Enrile was a baby, his mother dropped him on his head. *Nahulog na sanggol, tumama ang ulo sa sahi, kaya ganyan iyang taong yan*. Now he is the poster boy of stem cell treatment that has long gone past its expiry date. *Lumagpas na, kaya bumalik na sa natural*. He looks like a female llama surprised in her bath. *Ang female llama, miniature na camel*. Her body is all twisted, and she has a very mean and violent temper. *Ganoon ang itsura niya*. He reminds me of nothing so much as a dead fish, before it has time to stiffen. If he has the courage, he should switch places with me: He should be funny, and I will be the asshole.

For the most apt description of this damaged creature, I quote:

“For years I’ve regarded his very existence as a monument to all the rancid genes and broken chromosomes that corrupt the possibilities of the Filipino Dream: he was a foul caricature of himself, a man with no soul, no inner convictions, with the integrity of a hyena and the style of a poison toad.”

His Charges are 20 Years Old

The Prince of Darkness, having no means of demolishing innocent, law-abiding, God-fearing people like me, has recycled rumors against me

that were aired, and which I answered, more than 20 years ago, when I ran for president. Maybe he is suffering from age-appropriate dementia again.

Mr. Dementia tries in his clumsy way to raise suspicions about my mental health. I appear frequently on TV, and I am widely exposed in other media. And yet, despite the repeated innuendoes during election campaigns, the Filipinos have elected and reelected me to the Senate. Most recently, I was elected by the U.N. General Assembly to be a judge of the International Criminal Court. I will be the first Filipino there. I was elected No. 1 judge, a tribute to my country, and the result of a demanding schedule of lectures by me, and questions from the audience, at separate gatherings of U.N. delegates grouped in geographical order. By comparison, Enrile, with his eternal philandering and unexplained wealth, desperately needs a shrink, as a mental health measure. His mind is sick, sick, sick. Three times sick. To use the language of Katniss Everdeen in the *Hunger Games: Catching Fire*, *iyang o, three times sick ka. At para lalong sigurado, ito*.

Enrile violated the law when he tried to pressure my husband, then a customs collector, to release a smuggled Toyota car, forfeited for failure to pay correct customs duties and charges. Forfeited *na ha*. At that time, the policy of the bureau of Customs was to forfeit smuggled cars, and to use them as official vehicles for authorized senior staff. That was a policy of the Bureau. My husband was only one of the many staff who earned this privilege by exemplary work, evidenced by annual certificates of commendation issued by the customs commissioner. *Marami sila. Noong panahon na iyon, kapag smuggled ang kotse, fino-forfeit. Ibig sabihin, tapos na ang proceedings, kinukuha na ng gobyerno at pinamimigay sa mga senior staff para maging official vehicle nila at makapagtipid sila*. And yet Enrile zeroed in only on my husband. *Hindi niya in-attack ang policy na iyon, ang inatake niya ang asawa ko, solo. Hindi lang naman siya mag-isang nakatanggap ng Toyota eh, at Toyota pa man din*. Enrile kept threatening to oppose my confirmation as agrarian reform secretary, unless my husband released the smuggled car to the smuggler. *Kaya nag-abogado pala, para sa smuggler*. As a former Customs commissioner, Enrile wanted to bend the law for his illegal clients. In time, my husband and other senior staff returned the smuggled cars to the BOC.

I owned and drove a Mercedes when I was a trial judge. Enrile’s charge that I registered the

smuggled car in my name in Tarlac is inane - the product of his febrile imagination. *Nilalagnat ka kasi palagi eh. Tumigil ka na nga nang kahahabol sa mga babae para gumaling ka.* My husband already owned and drove a Ford Mustang sports car as a senior in law school. This tale of a Toyota is a non-issue. *Bakit kami hahabol ng Toyota, de-Mercedes na ako; asawa ko, estudyante pa lamang sa UP College of Law, naka-Ford Mustang na.*

In his speech, as is his annoying habit, Enrile praised himself by boasting of his alleged martial arts prowess, which he has never displayed. *Magaling daw siya, eksperto daw siya sa martial arts, pero hanggang ngayon hindi naman natin nakikita iyong martial arts niyang pinagmamalaki.* He also boasted of his high grade in the bar exam, with the *non sequitur* that I had a low grade. *Aba'y gusto pala niyang magpasikat, bakit naghahanap pa siya ng taong aapakan niya para sumikat siya?* In U.P., at that time, many of our professors taught us to devote ourselves to the Socratic method, and pay no attention to the bar, which they belittled. So I paid no attention, particularly since what I wanted to do, contrary to my father's wishes at that time, was to avail of a rare scholarship to Moscow, which was a no-zone country insofar as Philippine foreign policy was concerned.

In the United States, the bar exam is considered clerical. Any dean of admission of a top law school ignores any claim by Filipino applicants of achievement in the bar exam, and are surprised when an applicant from the Philippines puts it in his resume. Instead, the criterion of choice is membership in the law journal, which is the acid test of academic excellence in America and Europe.

Enrile demands that I should answer the charges of his attack dog, former Sen. Pinky Lacson. Mr. Dementia has forgotten that the Senate Legal Office this year promptly upheld me in a written opinion. The Senate, as a matter of policy, allows senators to maintain satellite offices in premises owned by the senator. That is official Senate policy that is found in the legal opinion of the Senate legal office after this charge was made against me. The legal opinion revealed that the amount I charge - P70,000 monthly for 403 square meters on the fourth floor of the office building - was never raised from the time I first became a senator. Until now, P70,000 - one of the lowest in the Senate - *ang binabayad ng Senado para sa 400 square meters, and that is an office building. Hindi ko naman bahay iyan, hindi ko naman garahe iyan kamukha ng ginawa ng ibang senador.*

Office building *iyang*, registered and taxes paid as an office and commercial building.

The other charge is that I own the multipurpose hall of the Rizal provincial government. Together with a few other senators, I gave a modest amount of pork barrel to help fund its construction, undertaken by the Rizal provincial government. This charge is asinine. Lacson, like his mastermind, seems to be approaching dementia, too.

Biro mo, pag-aari ko raw ang Rizal Provincial Multipurpose Hall. Ni-register ko raw sa Tarlac — na hindi naman ako taga-Tarlac — ang isang Toyota, na ako ang registered owner ng isang Mercedes. Anong klaseng isipan meron ang mga ito?

Let me tell you about the real Lacson. As PNP chief, he coveted the post of DILG secretary, which at that time was occupied by Ronaldo Puno. In his overwhelming desire to become Interior secretary, Lacson gathered an incriminating file of documents showing that Puno ordered all policemen nationwide to take a drug test - but only with a certain specific laboratory, which turned out to be a small, cheap apartment. *Lahat ng kapulisan sa buong bansa, gusto ng DILG at that time na kumuha ng drug test na babayaran nila. Nang hinanap ng media at ipinakita sa telebisyon, iyon palang laboratory na iyon, hindi man lang pala office building iyan, apartment na luma na.* The cunning and scheming Lacson gave me the file.

I exposed the corrupt scandal, and engaged in a bitter word war with Puno, who hired a lawyer for the sole purpose of character assassination against me. During this time of poisonous hostilities mostly fought in media, Lacson hopped on a plane to Hong Kong, in order to avoid any suspicion of complicity in the exposé. *Binigyan niya ako ng papel para maiskandalo ang boss niya na gusto niyang palitan, at nagtago doon sa Hong Kong habang inaatake ako ng kanyang boss.* What a jerk! He returned after it was all over, and Puno had been damaged. His cowardly retreat from this proxy battle is a standard joke in gatherings of his classmates at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA). *Marami pa akong kuwento tungkol kay Lacson, but this is not the time.*

Why is Enrile so close to Lacson? When a Manila Regional Trial Court issued a warrant of arrest against Lacson, he jumped bail and became a fugitive from justice. *Nagtago iyan. May warrant of arrest against him. Lahat tayo, kapag may warrant of arrest, kailangan mag-surrender ka sa korte at ikukulong ka. Maliban*

lamang kung makapag-piyansa ka. Pero siya, hindi. Natakot kaagad at nagtago. That is a crime in itself. TV repeatedly showed a footage of Lacson leaving the airport. *Paulit-ulit, paulit-ulit. Umalis daw ng bansa si Lacson, may nakakita doon sa airport.* But many believe that Enrile provided safe haven in Cagayan to Lacson. That is why these two men are so close that it can only be called a relationship with feelings.

This early, Pinky Lacson's propaganda team is already touting him as a presidential candidate for 2016. His credential is that he has been given an administrative job in disaster relief efforts in the Visayas. *Iyon ang magiging platform niya para maging presidential candidate siya in 2016.* Malacañang issued the appointment, just to abort the endless stream of his self-serving press releases whenever there was a vacancy in customs, immigration, or even in the non-vacant post of anti-crime czar, already held by the Executive Secretary. His latest caper took his campaign at self-projection to the level of the absurd, when his own press release reported that as a former policeman, *pulis lamang*, he allegedly delivered a lecture on constitutional law, as part of Enrile's effort to shift attention from PDAF to DAP.

Challenge to Public Debate

After this speech, I respectfully decline to yield the floor for interpellation. I rose to answer the personal attack against me, and interpellation will merely serve to waste the time of the Senate. I shall also leave immediately after the speech, with the indulgence of the Senate President and colleagues in the Senate, because I am ill with chronic fatigue syndrome.

In conclusion, as I did in the past, I challenge Enrile to a public televised debate on the plunder charge against him, face to face. *Huwag kang umupa ng attack dog mo. Ikaw ang humarap sa akin – tayong dalawa. Doon sa U.P., dahil pareho tayong U.P. graduate. Sumagot ka!*

A televised debate on a plunder charge against him, including his illegal and immoral use of the Senate President discretionary fund to distribute nearly P2 million as Christmas bonus last year to each senator, except for four senators, whom he considers his political enemies, led by me. It should be held at the U.P. Malcolm Theater in the College of Law, and only students with valid IDs should be allowed to prevent Enrile from renting a partisan crowd.

The first time I challenged Enrile to a debate, he declined and instead called on Lacson

to shower me with near-illiterate insults, including an oxymoron. If this second time Enrile again evades debate, this will be an admission that he is the mastermind of the plunder of some P10 billion of the taxpayers' money; and that he is insulting me on a personal level – personal – not on the level of principles or policies, but on a personal prohibited level. He is insulting me on a personal level, as a diversionary tactic and as a smokescreen for his criminality.

No matter how devilish his power and no matter how fabulous his ill-gotten wealth, I refuse to be coerced by Enrile! Justice should be done, though the heavens fall. I am fortified by my faith. According to the poet:

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the
coming of the Lord,
He is trampling out the vintage where
the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of
His terrible swift sword,
His truth is marching on.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 4:12 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:47 p.m., the session was resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ENRILE

Senator Enrile described Senator Defensor Santiago's performance as amazing, saying that the Senator presented herself as his best evidence to prove the issues he raised in his privilege speech regarding her mental health, her propensity to use *ad hominem*s and make unfounded, baseless attacks, personal assaults against innocent people without any proof or iota of evidence to back her up. And he noted that Senator Defensor Santiago never answered point by point those issues he raised.

Senator Enrile stated that everything he said was covered by documents, and he cited the record of Senator Defensor Santiago's confirmation hearing during which he asked the Senator regarding her previous consultation with a neuropsychiatrist.

Also, Senator Enrile stated that his record about martial law was open to the scrutiny of anybody,

including historians. He reiterated his statement in his privilege speech that he could walk throughout the country in daytime or nighttime and feel safe because he never oppressed anyone.

As regards the Cagayan Economic Zone Authority, Senator Enrile explained that he has no interest there except to develop the place in order to give jobs to his provincemates. He said that the Senate is open to scrutinize the operations of CEZA and to find out whether indeed there is smuggling or any shenanigan committed by any company operating there. He stated that he was a member of the House of Representatives at the time the law that created CEZA was considered and that it was the late Senator Roco who sponsored it in the Senate.

Senator Enrile said that he felt sad that Senator Defensor Santiago attacked innocent people, including his former chief of staff who, he believed, was innocent of all the charges against her. He lamented that even his maids were attacked, explaining that he treats them, including his security personnel, as his buddies, the same way he treats his staff in the Senate. Sadly, he said, his way of treating them was mistaken for something else.

He also cited Ombudsman Conrado Vasquez' statement – when he intervened in a case involving Bureau of Immigration employees who were suspended by Senator Defensor Santiago for 60 days which was extended thereafter – that what the Senator did was in violation of the due process clause.

Senator Enrile stated that he has still many revelations to make but he would not do so out of respect for Senator Defensor Santiago's absence.

REFERRAL OF SPEECH AND MANIFESTATION TO COMMITTEE

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the privilege speech of Senator Defensor Santiago and the manifestation of Senator Enrile were referred to the Committee on Rules.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 4:54 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:55 p.m., the session was resumed.

SECOND ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Deputy Secretary for Legislation, Atty. Edwin B. Bellen, read Committee Report No. 7, submitted by the Committee on Finance, on House Bill No. 3423, introduced by Representative Belmonte *et al.*, which the Chair assigned to the Calendar for Ordinary Business, entitled

AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF
FOURTEEN BILLION SIX HUNDRED
MILLION PESOS (P14,600,000,000.00)
AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIA-
TIONS FOR FY 2013 AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval with amendments, taking into consideration Senate Bill Nos. 1938, 1917 and 1907.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of House Bill No. 3423 (Committee Report No. 7) from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 7 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3423

Upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, House Bill No. 3423 (Committee Report No. 7), entitled

AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF
FOURTEEN BILLION SIX HUNDRED
MILLION PESOS (P14,600,000,000.00)
AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIA-
TIONS FOR FY 2013 AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES,

taking into consideration Senate Bill Nos. 1938, 1917 and 1907.

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

The Chair recognized Senator Escudero, chairman of the Committee on Finance, for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR ESCUDERO

Senator Escudero said that he was adopting the explanatory notes as contained in Senate Bill No. 1938, introduced by Senate President Drilon; Senate Bill No. 1917, introduced by Senator Trillanes; and Senate Bill No. 1907, introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada, as part of his sponsorship speech of House Bill No. 3423. He said that the measure seeks to appropriate a supplemental budget in the amount of P14.6 billion which will be utilized to augment the existing efforts of the government to rehabilitate and provide relief in the calamity-stricken areas brought about by the recent natural and man-made calamities.

Following are the texts of the explanatory notes:

Senate Bill No. 1938

During the last half of the year, our country has been critically battered by successive natural and man-made disasters. Most notable of these catastrophes are the typhoons *Labuyo*, *Santi* and *Yolanda* which respectively struck various parts of the country in August, October and November 2013; the 7.2 magnitude earthquake which jolted the Visayas Region on 13 October; and the armed conflict that caused unrest in Zamboanga City in September 2013.

The cumulative havoc caused by one violent calamity after another has left our people physically exhausted and psychologically vulnerable. The loss of lives and destruction of properties brought about by these disasters are tragically unprecedented. The damage of this scale requires intensified efforts for rehabilitation, repair and construction of severely damaged infrastructure, buildings and facilities in order to accelerate recovery.

In view of the foregoing, this bill seeks to supplement the General Appropriations Act of 2013 and appropriate the amount of P14.6 billion representing the savings from the unspent Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF)

allocations for 2013 for the rehabilitation, repair and construction works and activities in areas devastated by the specified calamities.

Considering that such savings can no longer be used upon the lapse of the General Appropriations Act of 2013 by 31 December 2013 and that our people urgently need the augmented support of the government for rehabilitation, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

Senate Bill No. 1917

The past few months saw the country reeling from the unimaginable and heartwrenching magnitude and extent of the damage and destruction caused by a series of natural and man-made calamities starting from the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) siege of part of Zamboanga City last September, the 7.2 magnitude earthquake which devastated the provinces of Bohol and parts of Cebu and other Visayan provinces last October 15, 2013; the strongest tropical cyclone on record to make landfall — typhoon *Yolanda* (international codename: Haiyan) which hit the Visayas, Palawan and other provinces on November 8, 2013, among others. Approximately 9.5 million people were affected by the last calamity, super typhoon *Yolanda*, and the estimated death toll of 10,000 is feared to continue to rise as rescue workers struggle to reach isolated areas ravaged by the deadly storm.

The government is, thus, faced with an overriding urgency to respond to the plight of our people and communities who have been badly battered by the onslaught of these recent calamities. This has prompted President Benigno S. Aquino III to declare the country to be under a *State of National Calamity* pursuant to Proclamation No. 682 on November 11, 2013.

While amendments to the 2014 General Appropriations Act (GAA) are being proposed to include significant amounts of funds which the Executive can immediately use to respond to the crises, there is an imperative need to provide more substantial funds and resources and create a legal framework which will support the intermediate and long-term recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts for the communities damaged and devastated by the series of calamities.

This measure seeks to create a National Calamity Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Fund which shall provide substantial financial resources for the intermediate and long-term reconstruction and rehabilitation of public

infrastructure and for the rebuilding of homes and communities in the parts of the country affected by aforementioned and similar calamities. The appropriation for the aforesaid fund shall be sourced from the Malampaya Fund collected through the Department of Energy under Presidential Decree No. 108.

Albeit the Malampaya Fund, which has a current balance of P137.3 billion, was created for the purpose of financing energy resource exploration, development and exploitation programs and projects of government, empirical data show that it has not always been used for the said purpose. This is an opportune time to legislate a new measure to harness and utilize these funds for the benefit of our people, particularly for the purpose of creating a critical resource to help our people and our country recover from the aforementioned series of calamities.

In view of the foregoing, immediate enactment of this measure is earnestly sought.

Senate Bill No. 1907

The Bohol earthquake occurred on October 15, 2013. The magnitude of the earthquake at the epicenter was recorded at 7.2, located at six kilometers Southwest of the municipality of Sagbayan, at a depth of 12 kilometers. It affected the whole Central Visayas region, particularly Bohol and Cebu. The quake was felt in the whole Visayas area and as far as Masbate island in the north and Cotabato provinces in Southern Mindanao.

According to recent official reports by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), 222 were reported dead, eight were missing, and 976 people were injured. In all, nearly 69,000 structures were damaged or destroyed. It was the deadliest earthquake that hit the Philippines in 23 years.

By far, the most casualties and damages occurred in Bohol. According to the bulletin released by the NDRRMC on November 2, 2013, a total of 208 people were confirmed dead, 976 people were confirmed injured and eight confirmed missing. A rough estimate of the damages is expected to be at least at P2.5 billion in terms of public infrastructures in Bohol alone. The town of Loon had the largest number of fatalities.

Also, a total of 1,250,974 people (or nearly 90% of the island's population) were affected by the quake. Over 67,400 residential houses were damaged or destroyed, with the town of Loon, Tubigon, Carmen, and Calape, among the worst affected.

The Church of San Pedro Apostol in Loboc, the Church of Our Lady of Light in Loon and the Santa Cruz Parish Church in Maribojoc, completely collapsed; in Baclayon town, the façade of the Church of Our Lady of Immaculate Concepcion and its bell tower were totally damaged. These churches have been a national heritage and a living testament of the strong faith of Boholanos to God. Other churches, such as in Loay, Dausi, Dimiao and Tubigon were also heavily damaged.

In the municipality of Carmen, a freestanding bell tower and an observation deck in the island's renowned Chocolate Hills were destroyed, with some of the hills damaged by landslides.

Several government buildings and numerous schools in the province were either partially or totally damaged, including the municipal halls of twelve towns. Some 32 bridges, including many along the National Road, and 13 road sections were damaged and impassable, hampering relief efforts. For several weeks, energy services in the province were also cut off.

Cebu was also severely devastated. According to NDRRMC, as of November 2, 2013, 12 people were confirmed dead, 96 people injured, and a total of 404,107 families or more than 1.9 million people were affected by the Bohol quake.

Several structures in Cebu City incurred total and partial damages. A building in Pasil Fish Port collapsed killing five people and injuring seven. The Basilica Minore del Santo Niño's bell tower, also a national heritage, collapsed. The Cebu Provincial Capitol was also badly hit. Several hospitals such as Cebu Doctor's University Hospital and the St. Vincent Hospital incurred damages.

Scientists from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau have been conducting a geo-hazard mapping in Bohol and Cebu since October 25, 2013. Efforts include identification of areas with sinkholes, which could swallow buildings or entire towns during heavy rains and floods according to MGB Director Leo Jasareno. Jasareno's group have inspected a 15-meter suspected sinkhole in Cebu which appeared after a 7.2 magnitude earthquake.

However, in Tagbilaran City, Bohol, close to 200 residents of a village were already advised to evacuate their homes after two large sinkholes were found there. Offices of the DENR-MGB said that the sinkholes in that village (Barangay Poblacion 1) might expand to a bigger depression and cause landslides, which may kill thousands of residents, thus the need to evacuate.

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Not only public infrastructure and heritage were destroyed by the quake but it also threatens public health and sanitation. Majority of the Boholanos were left without adequate safe potable water and sanitary facilities. Serious public health issues may arise such as cases of diarrhea and water-borne diseases. Worst affected were the municipalities closest to the epicenter, such as Sagbayan, San Isidro, Calapen, Tubigon, Clarin and Catigbian. Community health centers and hospitals were rendered uninhabitable, resulting in makeshift wards outside.

Furthermore, the prolonged period of after-shocks forced the population to reside outside in makeshift shelters, afraid to be inside weakened buildings and causing psychological trauma.

Patterned after Republic Act No. 7637, otherwise known as the "Mt. Pinatubo Assistance, Resettlement and Development Fund," this legislative measure seeks to appropriate sufficient amount to allocate Fifteen Billion Pesos (P15,000,000,000) for the aid, relief, rehabilitation, home rebuilding financing subsidy, livelihood and employment services, public infrastructure rebuilding, and heritage structures and tourism sites restoration, for the victims of the Bohol devastating earthquake.

There is no other purpose of this bill other than to recover from the impact of the quake so that life may return to normalcy at the earliest possible time and the development and growth in Central Visayas region may be accelerated.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 4:58 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:59 p.m., the session was resumed.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR CAYETANO (A)

Senator Cayetano (A) asked if the Committee has a ballpark figure of how much would be needed for the relief and rehabilitation of the areas hit by *Typhoon Yolanda*, Senator Escudero replied that the closest estimate of the damage would range

between P150 billion to P200 billion, and that based on the government's ongoing relief efforts, it would cost about P4.5 billion or approximately P380 per pack to cover 850,000 displaced families. However, he conceded that the number would taper off as the weeks and months go by.

On whether the actual cost of the damages caused by *Typhoon Yolanda* does not include the loss of income and economic opportunities such as wages, taxes and businesses, Senator Escudero replied in the affirmative, adding that these were yet to be factored in.

As regards the opinion of Senator Recto that the different appropriations in the 2014 budget would never be enough to address the relief and rehabilitation efforts of the government, Senator Escudero said that the Body is simply appropriating funds based on what is available at present.

To Senator (A) Cayetano's concern that there would be complications if the budget is itemized because the Body is not only appropriating funds for the devastation wrought by *Typhoon Yolanda* but also for other areas hit by natural and man-made calamities, all of which would be competing for a share of the rehabilitation funds, Senator Escudero agreed, adding that in the House of Representatives, the closest they can get to resolving such concern was to provide for the use and release of funds to cover the areas damaged by typhoons *Labuyo*, *Odette*, *Pablo*, *Sendong*, *Santi*, *Vinta*, as well as the earthquake in Bohol and Cebu, the Zamboanga siege and the places specifically damaged by *Typhoon Yolanda*.

Senator Cayetano (A) adverted to his trips to Bogo, Daanbantayan, Madridejos, Bantayan Island in Northern Cebu, and to Sta. Fe, Albuera and Isabel in Western Leyte on November 24. He informed the Body that in Western Leyte, where majority of the people are farmers and fishermen, there was a great opportunity to pour in the needed funds for motorized bancas so people can fish right away, or in quick-yielding crops, like *kamote*, cassava, corn, which can be harvested after three months. He also cited Bantayan Island in Cebu which produce eggs. He opined that instead of just giving funds for relief, rehabilitation and rebuilding of the urban centers like Tacloban, the government might miss out opportunities to pump money in the countryside and develop the smaller municipalities. He then

asked how the national government would use the money in the supplemental budget.

Responding thereto, Senator Escudero stated that according to the data submitted by the Executive department, the P14.6 billion will be distributed as follows: QRF of the DSWD for tapering of relief operations for calamity-affected families – P3.4 billion; NHA, for housing assistance – P5.5 billion; assistance to enterprises through the Philippine Export-Import Agency – P440 million; guarantee loans extended by micro-financing institutions through the Land Bank of the Philippines – P1.3 billion; clearing operations – P400 million; fuel subsidy P100 million; farm tools - P100 million; seeds – P100 million; banca and fishing paraphernalia – P1.66 billion; coconut rehabilitation – P1.8 billion; and water supply – P200 million.

Senator Escudero said that when he questioned the Executive department as to how the other needs would be taken care of, he was informed that the QRFs of various agencies were used, and that the P12 billion in savings, for which Congress is seeking to extend its validity, could be used to support the agencies that are in the field already engaged in rehabilitation and construction.

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that many of the questions on the floor would be answered during the bicameral conference committee of the 2014 GAA. He said that there will be a lot of discussions about several areas that were hit by Typhoons *Santi* and *Labuyo* in Aurora, Nueva Ecija and Tarlac, including the Zamboanga siege.

He narrated that on December 1, he had the chance to visit Loay, Carmen, Tagbilaran, Madrejos, and Loon in Bohol where people informed him about the failure of the national government to bring to their towns even a single piece of building material. He clarified that the Boholanos were not complaining about government's focus on *Typhoon Yolanda* victims as they, in fact, showed concern for the victims and even sent donations.

Asked by Senator Cayetano (A) whether indeed the NHA would follow the system of granting P10,000 worth of materials for both partially or totally damaged houses, Senator Escudero said that it was only in the evening of the previous day that the House of Representatives decided, in lieu of other agencies engaged in shelter, to come up with the provision to allocate supplemental budget to the NHA. He surmised

that the NHA is still in the process of conducting consultations and studying the parameters and the items of expenditure.

Senator Cayetano (A) cautioned that allowing the NHA to consult with the LGUs would only add to the bureaucratic red tape. Since the NHA already has a list of partially and totally damaged houses which was provided by the barangay captain to the mayor who, in turn, presented it to the Provincial Risk Reduction and Management Council which provided it to the national government, he believed that it would be better to hand over the money to the LGUs and for Congress to give them the parameters on how it could be used.

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that the earthquake in Bohol resulted in the movement of the soil, causing sinkholes and leading to the discovery of underground caves. He said that the vice mayor of Maribojoc informed him that if the P10,000 worth of materials is given to those with partially damaged houses, the homeowner would be tempted to sell the materials and make a profit out of it than fix the house because P10,000 worth of materials is not enough to build a house. He said that the LGU instead asked one of the town's architects to put together an architectural plan to build a 35-square meter house worth P35,000. He said that in Carmen, Bohol, people were able to put up an 18-square meter house worth P32,000, with a design based on the old structures that were left standing after the earthquake. He said that the wooden posts were cemented to the ground, the roofs bolted, and the walls made out of interwoven splits of bamboo to allow the wind to pass through.

Relative thereto, Senator Cayetano (A) recalled that during the discussions with the NHA, it was revealed that it would cost P225,000 to build a house. He stated that as representatives of the people, the Senate should look into the matter. He said that he was disturbed by the fact that no housing materials have been given to Bohol and that NHA seemed to be out of touch with what was happening on the ground. He expressed hope that the plans of the NHA would eventually be presented to Congress for its inputs.

Senator Escudero said that while there were indeed certain shortcomings and absence of information, an amendment has been introduced in the bill requiring the agencies to furnish both Houses of Congress as well as the COA with a copy of the detailed utilization of the amounts, and post-enactment

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interventions by legislators through their respective Oversight Committees on Public Expenditures as well as the oversight committees of the agencies concerned. He believed that the latter mechanism in no way violates the recent Supreme Court decision on PDAF. He explained that through the oversight committees, legislators can inquire from the agencies, hold them to task, and find out how they are doing with their programs. He said that there are already better ways of doing matters compared to the antiquated ways of approaching similar problems.

Concurring with Senator Escudero, Senator Cayetano (A) clarified that the oversight powers of Congress will not tell the agencies what to do and that the interventions by the legislature as representatives of the people are not always evil and self-serving because they were elected by the people and therefore closer to the people, and are more sensitive to the needs of the people compared to appointed bureaucrats.

On the plan of the national government to take a "one-size-fits-all" approach to all affected areas, Senator Cayetano (A) expressed hope that it would instead have a customized approach to rehabilitation and be sensitive enough to listen to the people on the ground.

Senator Escudero opined that with the enormity of the disaster that the country has been facing in recent months, the usual way of doing things would simply not apply. He believed that one of the reasons why the President appointed former Senator Lacson to be the rehabilitation czar was the belief that he can put all the agencies together and make it fit the needs on the ground and simply implement current plans and programs. Agreeing that every locality would have different needs and priorities, he underscored the need to make the most out of the money that Congress is appropriating given the scarcity of resources.

Reverting to the breakdown of the P14.6 supplemental budget, Senator Cayetano (A) observed that the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) would be appropriated P1.8 billion. He inquired if it is the priority to start replanting coconut as soon as possible, considering that it would take eight years before making a harvest. He likewise inquired on the possibility of using the coco levy fund not only to replant coconut trees but to have alternative uses for the coconut fruits and tree. He added that the

P1.8 billion fund for PCA could be used for other crops or livelihood that would produce a yield within three to six months.

Senator Escudero informed the Body that he and Senator Recto filed a resolution urging the government to use the coco levy fund, an off-budget item, to aid and assist coconut farmers and workers, which is the primary intention of the fund, on top of whatever Congress is allocating for replanting. He reiterated that the figures are indicative amounts which may change.

Senator Cayetano (A) believed that many of the victims, who are coconut planters whose families earned a living on coconut plantations, would rather replant coconuts. He questioned, however, the intention of the P1.8 billion to be given to the PCA which represents almost 15% of the supplemental budget, especially since there is money in the DA and the coco levy fund. He opined that the amount would be put to better use if used in micro-financing or for crops that can be harvested in the next few months. In fact, he said, the plea of the people in Daanbantayan, Cebu is to be given a backyard type of poultry as livelihood to supply the needs of the town while it is recovering from the devastation. He asked on the wisdom of allocating P1.8 billion to the PCA as it would not help people to do replanting. He said that the victims could instead put up small businesses with the money or government can use it to plant agricultural products that can be harvested right away. He then suggested to allocate the P1.8 billion to the Department of Agriculture so that its purpose could be generic.

Senator Escudero, however, said that the name of an agency would not appear in the bill except allocation for the QRF of the DSWD intended for relief and augmentation of the Calamity Fund of the Office of the President.

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that as soon as the bill is approved, Congress would call on the officials in charge and ask them to submit their plans before implementation so that Congress can check whether the plans are appropriate for the respective areas.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR OSMEÑA

Senator Osmeña surmised that the amounts or the breakdown of the budget are indicative, meaning, not permanent. He then inquired as to how and when

it would become permanent, whether it is subject to congressional approval or would merely consider the advise of the latter on how it would be spent.

Senator Escudero stated that the fund shall not be subject to congressional approval but shall comply with the provisions of RA 10121 or the NDRRMC law. He said that aside from reportorial requirements, its availment and utilization shall be subject to Section 35 of the Revised Administrative Code which requires the agency utilizing the funds to submit a special budget to the DBM and a copy thereof furnished to Congress.

Noting that the oversight committees' role would be *post facto*, Senator Osmeña pointed out that the fund is so enormous as it would sum up to P143 billion.

At this juncture, Senator Escudero gave a breakdown of the fund: extension of the availability of the budget – P12 billion; supplemental budget – P14.6 billion; programmed fund for 2014 – P20 billion; unprogrammed fund for 2014 – P18 billion; and CARE fund for 2014 – P16.9 billion.

Senator Osmeña opined that the P143.5 billion appropriation would be an enormous amount to leave at the discretion of Executive agencies inasmuch as the power to appropriate has been vested in Congress. While he agreed that the Executive agencies should be given a certain amount at their disposal in case of emergencies, he said that the proper committees of both Houses of Congress should be apprised about how the funds would be used.

With the appointment of former Senator Lacson as the new rehabilitation czar, Senator Osmeña suggested a conference between former Senator Lacson and the Senate President or the Chair of the Committee on Finance regarding his general ideas on how he wants to proceed and the magnitudes involved. He said that the Senate should exercise more power than a mere oversight, should be briefed on the progress of rehabilitation efforts, and should be able to say “no” to certain actions when needed.

Recalling the recent visit he made in the northern part of Negros, particularly Sagay, Escalante, Cadiz City and two little islands that were completely wiped out, he revealed that a French team has decided to adopt Cadiz City by building 250 houses in a new resettlement area, hence, there would be no need for government to allot a certain amount for said purpose.

Meanwhile, he also noted that although the fishermen lost both their homes and their *bancas*, some of them had expressed to him their preference to be provided with *bancas* that they can use for their livelihood instead of houses. He said that the construction and the engine of a small *banca* would cost P35,000, but that he was informed by some businessmen and people from Shell Foundation that in Iloilo where 8,000 *bancas* were missing, the same kind of *banca* would cost only P15,000 including the engine, or P8,000 for the engine and P7,000 for a piece of log. He said that former Senato Lacson could look into the matter in considering a better way of establishing priorities and their corresponding costs.

Senator Osmeña agreed with Senator Cayetano (A) on the importance of timing, adding that priority projects should be determined in the immediate future. Lastly, he reiterated his suggestion for the Chairman of the Committee on Finance to confer with Senator Lacson so that they could work together on a plan that they could also present to the Body.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto said that he was foregoing his interpellation on the measure as he has been enlightened with the explanatory notes of Senate Bill Nos. 1938, 1907 and 1917 which already encompassed all the issues on rehabilitation, repair, construction work and other activities in all the areas devastated by the recent calamities.

Manifesting support for the bill, Senator Sotto likewise expressed confidence in the leadership of former Senator Lacson as the new rehabilitation czar, as he opined that the former senator's appointment has effectively negated any apprehension that he initially had on the probable misuse of the funds that would be allocated for the purpose.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR EJERCITO

Adverting to the recent decision of the Supreme Court on the unconstitutionality of PDAF which discourages lump-sum appropriations, Senator Ejercito asked whether the DBM could be required to submit a quarterly report to the Senate Committee on Finance for transparency and accountability.

In response, Senator Escudero said that the requirement for the submission of quarterly reports

to the Committee on Appropriations, Committee on Finance, Commission on Audit as well as the posting of updates in the website of the DBM and the implementing agency has already been included in the proposed amendment.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR CAYETANO (A)

Preliminarily, Senator Cayetano (A) commended the COA for its readiness to face powerful people in the government.

Senator Cayetano (A) stated that the Chamber is exerting all efforts to hasten the passage of the bill so that the needs of the people could be addressed immediately. He said that the Quick Response Fund was so named in order for the DSWD to react quickly as the need arises. He narrated that in Cebu, the recipients of food packs were required to sign their names in a master list and he supposed that this was done to ensure that there is no corruption in the distribution of relief funds. But he believed that there are quicker ways to distribute but at the same time avoid corruption, like recording the distribution of goods on video.

He also cited instances of delay which slowed down the distribution of relief goods. He said that even as the matter had nothing to do with appropriation, he would like to put in on record so that the Chair of the Committee on Finance could assure that such instances could be avoided.

In response, Senator Escudero said that the concern would be communicated and relayed accordingly, as he noted that part of the Senate's amendment to the GAB as approved by the House of Representatives was to add a performance indicator in the budget of the OCD to enable them to come up with protocols that would encompass all operations pertaining to relief, emergency, rescue and rehabilitation in consonance with the same protocols used by the United Nations in various calamities and disasters worldwide.

Senator Cayetano (A) suggested that a time and motion report be also required to monitor the fund from the time it was released and how long it could reach the beneficiaries, and to determine possible red tape. Senator Escudero affirmed that UN protocols are existing but are not yet adopted in the country, the reason for the requirement for OCD to study and adopt some of the protocols.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR RECTO

Noting that part of the proposed amendment was to split the P14.6 billion into two, P11.2 billion for the calamity fund and P3.4 billion for the DSWD's QRF, Senator Recto asked whether the P3.4 billion would be for relief and the P11.2 billion for rehabilitation and construction. Senator Escudero answered in the affirmative, adding that relief would include emergency shelter.

Senator Recto also noted that the people affected by calamities live in local government areas, but he could not recall any provision in the measure seeking to extend the validity of the 2013 budget as well as in supplemental budget which would directly release funds to local government units. Senator Escudero said that it is an option that could be exercised by the Executive in disbursing the calamity funds but not in the disbursement of the QRFs.

As regards the listing provided by the DBM, Senator Recto asked about any plan on the part of the DBM or the Executive that would authorize the release of funds directly to local government units. Senator Escudero said that there was none as yet.

Senator Recto suggested that representations be made with the Executive on the role of the LGUs not only in providing master lists but also in reconstruction activities in their areas of jurisdiction.

Senator Escudero said that in the Senate's version of the budget for 2014, both in the programmed and unprogrammed rehabilitation funds, an item was given to LGUs in order to increase the absorptive capacity in the implementation of the rehabilitation and reconstruction plan, considering their experience and expertise in handling local projects at lower cost as mentioned by Senators Cayetano (A) and Osmeña.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no further interpellation, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Escudero, there being no objection, the following committee amendments were approved by the Body, one after the other:

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1. On page 1, line 5, delete the word "therein," and in lieu thereof, insert the phrase BY ELEVEN BILLION TWO HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P11,200,000,000) AND THE QUICK RESPONSE FUND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT BY THREE BILLION FOUR HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P3,400,000,000);
2. On page 2, delete lines 21 to 27, and in lieu thereof, insert the following:

SEC. 4. *SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.* – THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM) AND THE IMPLEMENTING DEPARTMENT/AGENCY SHALL SUBMIT, EITHER IN PRINTED FORM OR BY WAY OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT, TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, AND THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT, THE QUARTERLY ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS ON THE UTILIZATION OF FUNDS. THE DBM AND THE DBM'S WEB ADMINISTRATOR OR HIS/HER EQUIVALENT SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THAT THE SAID QUARTERLY REPORTS ARE LIKEWISE POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE DBM AND THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCY.

RELEASES FROM THE SAID FUND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE SUBMISSION OF A SPECIAL BUDGET PURSUANT TO SECTION 35, CHAPTER V, BOOK 6 OF E.O. NO. 292 SERIES OF 1987;

3. On page 3, lines 1 and 2, delete "Section V. Provision on Implementing Rules and Regulations," and renumber the subsequent provisions accordingly;
4. On page 3, line 11, between the words "effect" and "upon," insert the word IMMEDIATELY;
5. On the same page, line 12, between the words "in" and "of," delete the words "unused paper," and in lieu thereof, insert the phrase AT LEAST TWO NEWSPAPERS.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

There being no other committee amendment, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3423 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, House Bill No. 3423, as amended, was approved on Second Reading.

PRESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATION

Upon direction of the Chair, Secretary Yabes read the presidential certification as to the necessity of the immediate enactment of House Bill No. 3423, to wit:

Malacañang Palace
Manila

27 November 2013

Honorable Franklin Drilon
President
Philippine Senate
Pasay City

Dear Senate President Drilon:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, Section 26(2) of the 1987 Constitution, I hereby certify to the necessity of the immediate enactment of House Bill No. 3423, entitled:

AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FOURTEEN BILLION SIX HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P14,600,000,000) AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2013 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

to address the immediate need to augment the existing Calamity Fund and ensure continued and sustained implementation of rehabilitation efforts in calamity stricken areas. The supplemental appropriation will enhance the government's capacity to initiate the repair and reconstruction of massively damaged infrastructure and to further fund various necessary capital expenditures.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,
(Sgd.) BENIGNO S. AQUINO III
President

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**APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 3423
ON THIRD READING**

In view of the presidential certification, upon motion of Senator Cayetano (A), there being no objection, the Body considered, on Third Reading, House Bill No. 3423.

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 APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FOURTEEN BILLION SIX HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P14,600,000,000.00) AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2013 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 | Escudero |
| Aquino | Legarda |
| Binay | Osmeña |
| Cayetano (A) | Poe |
| Cayetano (P) | Recto |
| Drilon | Sotto |
| Ejercito | Villar |
| Enrile | |

Against

None

Abstention

None

With 15 senators voting in favor, none against, and no abstention, the Chair declared House Bill No. 3423, as amended, approved on Third Reading.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 5:45 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

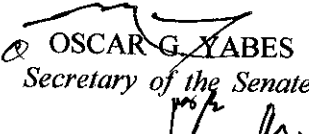
At 5:47 p.m., the session was resumed.

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 Monday, December 9, 2013.

It was 5:47 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


 OSCAR G. YABES
 Secretary of the Senate

Approved on December 9, 2013