



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 9**  
Wednesday, August 7, 2019

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:00 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Vicente C. Sotto III, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

Sen. Risa Hontiveros led the Body in reciting the prayer of Elizabeth Rios, Ed.D, and founder of the Passion Center, to wit:

O God, make Your words clear to me, as clear as the ice is. Make Your love be like a compass for me that gives me direction. Make Your truth be like a signpost to me that brings clarity. Make Your peace a guide for my directions. Make Your hope be like a flag that tells me that I am walking beside you. Clear my mind of all the distractions that steal me from you.

O God, bless me with clarity.  
Amen.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Senate President, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Myra Marie D. Villarica, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, S.	Pangilinan, F. N.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Cayetano, P. S.	Poe, G.
Dela Rosa, R. B. M.	Recto, R. G.
Drilon, F. M.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Gatchalian, W.	Sotto III, V. C.
Go, C. L. T.	Tolentino, F. T. N.
Hontiveros, R.	Villanueva, J.
Lacson, P. M.	Villar, C. A.
Marcos, I. R.	Zubiri, J. M. F.
Pacquiao, E. M. D.	

With 21 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.



Senators Gordon and Lapid arrived after the roll call.

Senator De Lima was unable to attend the session as she was under detention.

### APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 8 (August 6, 2019) and considered it approved.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests:

- Representative Geraldine B. Roman of the First District of Bataan and her brother Tonyboy Roman Jr.;
- Ambassador of Israel to the Philippines, His Excellency Rafael Harpaz;
- Local government officials from the Municipality of Cabangan, Zambales headed by Mayor Ronald Apostol;
- Bukidnon Second Electric Cooperative, Inc. (BUSECO) headed by the president of the Board, Mr. Alex Payangga, and general manager, Mr. Christopher Dulfo; and
- Board of directors of the First Bukidnon Electric Cooperative, Inc. (FIBECO) headed by its general manager, Mr. Reynaldo B. Balaba.

Senate President Sotto welcomed the guests to the Senate.

### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, the session was suspended to allow the senators to greet the guests.

*It was 3:04 p.m.*

### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:08 p.m., the session was resumed.

### 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. 551, entitled

**AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR OVERLOADING OF PASSENGERS IN PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 552, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING INTERNET SAFETY AND PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN**

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; Public Information and Mass Media; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 553, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (MDI) IN SOCCSKSARGEN REGION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committees on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 554, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE MINDANAO RAILWAYS AUTHORITY PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS, AND DUTIES, AND PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR**



**ITS OPERATION AND SUSTAINABILITY**

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Public Services; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 555, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE SIARGAO DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A LEVEL 3 GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE "SIARGAO ISLAND MEDICAL CENTER," AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

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

Senate Bill No. 556, entitled

AN ACT EMPOWERING THE PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF TRADITIONAL AND COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH CARE BY VESTING UPON IT REGULATORY POWERS, PROVIDING IT WITH AUGMENTED HUMAN RESOURCES AND UPGRADED EQUIPMENT, ESTABLISHING TESTING LABORATORIES AND FIELD OFFICES, AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8423 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 557, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS IN ALL RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

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

Senate Bill No. 558, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL GAMES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committee on Sports**

Senate Bill No. 559, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE FOOD

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 560, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS IN ALL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FROM TAKING THEIR PERIODIC, PRELIMS, MIDTERM OR FINAL EXAMINATIONS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

Introduced by Senator Pacquiao

**To the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Higher, Technical and Vocational Education**

Senate Bill No. 561, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEOPLE'S

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COUNCIL IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS

Introduced by Senator Drilon

**To the Committees on Local Government; and Electoral Reforms and People's Participation**

Senate Bill No. 562, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING THE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY FOR THE NURSING PROFESSION IN THE PHILIPPINES AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9173 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE NURSING ACT OF 2002"

Introduced by Senator Gordon

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 563, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FREE FOOD FOR CHILDREN IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND DAY CARE CENTERS FROM PRODUCTS OF FARMERS PURCHASED BY THE GOVERNMENT OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'SCHOOL FEEDING PURCHASED FROM LOCAL FARMERS PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

Senate Bill No. 564, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF THE OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH

Introduced by Senator Binay

**To the Committees on Youth; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 565, entitled

AN ACT IMPROVING ACCESS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FACILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS

Introduced by Senator Binay

**To the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 566, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS INVESTING IN BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Binay

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 567, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING FISCAL INCENTIVES TO MEDIA ENTITIES DEVOTING AIRTIME AND SPACE TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, AND TO ADVERTISERS OR SPONSORS SUPPORTING SUCH PROGRAMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

Senate Bill No. 568, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING GENDER EQUALITY BY AMENDING ARTICLE 14 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE

PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Binay

**To the Committee on Women, Children,  
Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 569, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE MOTOR-  
CYCLE SAFETY TRAINING PROG-  
RAM TO BE INCLUDED IN THE  
REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGIS-  
TRATION OF MOTORCYCLES

Introduced by Senator Binay

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 570, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE MONTHLY  
SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR  
CITIZENS AND EXPANDING THE  
COVERAGE THEREOF, AMENDING  
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 2  
AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432,  
AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT  
NO. 9257, FURTHER AMENDED BY  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHER-  
WISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED  
SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010"

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

Senate Bill No. 571, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING A 'NO PERMIT,  
NO EXAM' POLICY OR ANY SUCH  
POLICY THAT PREVENTS STUDENTS  
OF ANY EDUCATIONAL INSTITU-  
TION FROM TAKING THEIR EXAM-  
INATIONS DUE TO UNPAID TUI-  
TION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

Introduced by Senator Binay

**To the Committees on Basic Education,  
Arts and Culture; and Higher, Technical and  
Vocational Education**

Senate Bill No. 572, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MANDA-  
TORY CROP INSURANCE COVER-  
AGE FOR SMALL FARMERS, PRO-  
VIDING FOR A NATIONAL GOVERN-  
MENT SUBSIDY, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Binay

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

Senate Bill No. 573, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR COMPRE-  
HENSIVE ATOMIC REGULATION,  
CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE  
PHILIPPINE ATOMIC REGULATORY  
COMMISSION, AND APPROPRIAT-  
ING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Sotto III

**To the Committees on Science and Tech-  
nology; Civil Service, Government Reorganiz-  
ation and Professional Regulation; Ways and  
Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 574, entitled

AN ACT TO LOWER THE PRICE OF  
ELECTRICITY BY EXEMPTING ITS  
SALE BY GENERATION, TRANS-  
MISSION AND DISTRIBUTION  
COMPANIES AND ELECTRICITY  
COOPERATIVES FROM THE IMPOSI-  
TION OF VALUE ADDED TAX,  
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE,  
SECTIONS 108 (A) AND 109 (1) OF  
THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVE-  
NUE CODE, AS AMENDED BY  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9337, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 575, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SUPORTA  
PARA SA PRODUKTONG PILIPINO

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PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Local Government; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 576, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING LAND, AIR, AND SEA TRANSPORT PROVIDERS TO PROVIDE PRIORITY SEATING FOR THE ELDERLY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9257 AND 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZEN'S ACT OF 2010"

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 577, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING SUSTAINABLE COASTAL TOURISM, PROVIDING MECHANISMS FOR ITS INSTITUTIONALIZATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 578, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE "ABOT ALAM" PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 579, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANAGEMENT, CONTROL, REGULATION, AND UTILIZATION OF RAINWATER RUNOFF, AND IMPROVEMENT OF ECOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF CATCHMENTS TO ADDRESS FLOODING AND WATER SUPPLY NEEDS IN URBAN AND RURAL CENTERS, AND CREATING THE NECESSARY INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committee on Public Works**

Senate Bill No. 580, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE MANDATORY ENVIRONMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE TO PROMOTE ECOLOGICAL PROTECTION

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 581, entitled

AN ACT TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE ADOPTION OF ROOFTOP SOLAR TECHNOLOGY AMONG RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND GOVERNMENT END-USERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9513, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committees on Energy; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 582, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ON-SITE, IN-CITY OR NEAR-CITY RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM FOR INFORMAL SETTLER FAMILIES IN ACCORD-

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ANCE WITH A PEOPLE'S PLAN AND MANDATING RELOCATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO PROVIDE OTHER BASIC SERVICES AND LIVELIHOOD COMPONENTS IN FAVOR OF THE RECIPIENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992"

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 583, entitled

AN ACT ACCELERATING THE TRANSFER OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, E-COMMERCE, AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO THE COUNTRYSIDE BY ESTABLISHING ICT CENTERS FOR EXCELLENCE IN ALL REGIONS OF THE PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 584, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING BEREAVEMENT LEAVE OF TEN (10) DAYS WITH FULL PAY TO ALL EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 585, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN "ADOPT-A-LIBRARY" PROGRAM, PROVIDING INCENTIVES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 586, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING A UNIFIED SYSTEM OF EXTENDING AND PROCESSING SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS, STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS, SUBSIDIES, BURSARIES AND OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT WINDOWS FOR THE FILIPINO YOUTH, ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 587, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING INTEGRATED URBAN FARMING TO ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS AND LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE

Introduced by Senator Poe

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

Senate Bill No. 588, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE USE OF BICYCLES AS AN ALTERNATIVE MODE OF TRANSPORTATION,

ESTABLISHING APPROPRIATE  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACI-  
LITIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committees on Public Services;  
Public Works; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 589, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR TAX EXEMP-  
TIONS AND SUBSIDIES FOR THE  
LOCAL MUSIC INDUSTRY AND  
AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS  
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OR  
THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE  
OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Poe

**To the Committees on Local Government;  
and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 590, entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING CONSUMERS  
FROM UNREASONABLE FEE  
INCREASES BY PROVIDING FOR  
A CONSUMER GROUP REPRESENT-  
ATION IN THE GOVERNING BOARDS  
OF GOVERNMENT REGULATORY  
BODIES, AMENDING FOR THE  
PURPOSE THEIR RESPECTIVE  
CHARTERS, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 591, entitled

AN ACT REMOVING THE CONDITIONS  
FOR THE CONDONATION OF ALL  
UNPAID INCOME TAXES DUE  
FROM LOCAL WATER DISTRICTS,  
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE  
SECTION 289-A OF THE NATIONAL  
INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS  
AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 592, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING TAX RELIEF  
TO THE LABOR SECTOR BY  
EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF  
EXCLUSIONS FROM GROSS  
INCOME AND INCREASING THE  
AMOUNTS OF DE MINIMIS  
BENEFITS EXEMPT FROM TAX  
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE  
SECTIONS 32(B) AND 33 OF THE  
NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE  
CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 593, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE DEPART-  
MENT OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO  
WORKERS, DEFINING ITS POWERS  
AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIAT-  
ING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

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

Senate Bill No. 594, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE UTILI-  
ZATION OF INFORMATION AND  
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY  
(ICT) IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS  
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Science and Tech-  
nology; Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and  
Finance**



Senate Bill No. 595, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING INCOME TAX REFORM FOR CORPORATE TAX PAYERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE, SECTIONS 27(A) AND 28 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 596, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING COMMISSION (PAGCOM), AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Games and Amusement; Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 597, entitled

AN ACT SETTING A CEILING TO THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO ENSURE MACRO-ECONOMIC STABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Finance; and Economic Affairs**

Senate Bill No. 598, entitled

AN ACT DESIGNATING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3601, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Public Works**

Senate Bill No. 599, entitled

AN ACT DESIGNATING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY COUNCIL

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Agriculture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 600, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FROM REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF A PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE ISSUED WITHIN THE PAST SIX (6) MONTHS

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the members of the Sangguniang Bayan of Lucban, Quezon, headed by Mayor Celso Olivier T. Dator.

Senate President Sotto welcomed the guests to the Senate.

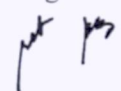
#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri the session was suspended.

*It was 3:21 p.m.*

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:39 p.m., the session was resumed with Senate President Pro Tempore presiding.





## PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR GORDON

Availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Gordon urged his fellow senators to focus on things that need to be done as the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress was just starting, for instance, making sure that the bills they filed are cogent and coherent, reflective of the goals and aspirations of the people, and that they should be sensible and focused on what should be achieved for the country. Thus, he stressed the importance of paying attention to the Constitution, a sacred document that embodies the principles, vision, rights and duties of every citizen of the country. It is equally important, he said, to respect the Constitution and try to live what is written in it.

Thereupon, he proceeded to recite the preamble of the Constitution, the marching order of every Filipino, to wit:

"We, the sovereign Filipino people, imploring the aid of Almighty God, in order to build a just and humane society and establish a Government that shall embody our ideals and aspirations, promote the common good, conserve and develop our patrimony, secure to ourselves and our posterity, the blessings of independence and democracy under the rule of law and a regime of truth, justice, freedom, love, equality, and peace, do ordain and promulgate this Constitution."

He stated that his privilege speech would focus on the role of the government, under the principle of *parens patriae*, the authority of the government as father of the country to protect its citizens vis-à-vis the role of the parents and of Congress.

Senator Gordon stated that both the Constitution and the Civil Code underscore the important role of the family. He cited Section 1, Article IV of the Constitution, to wit: "The State recognizes the Filipino family as the foundation of the nation. Accordingly, it shall strengthen its solidarity and actively promote its total development." Similarly, he said, as provided in the Civil Code, "the family is a basic social institution which the State cherishes and protects."

Corollarily, he also quoted Section 13, Article II of the Constitution, to wit: "The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage

their involvement in public and civic affairs." These constitutional mandates, he stated, are what the specific committees of the Senate seek to achieve. And he believed that the Senate has not been remiss of its duties in preparing the youth to become productive citizens, protecting them from the dangers that come their way, one of which is the danger posed by illegal drugs. He cited the efforts of the Senate President and the Members of the Senate in enacting laws that would complement the Administration's fight against illegal drugs.

Senator Gordon further cited the K-to-12 law and the Free Tertiary Education Act, all designed to harness the potential of the youth, considered the greatest asset of the nation.

Senator Gordon said that every parent wants their children to be hardworking and zealous. He negated the character "Juan Tamad," pointing out that Filipino workers are one of the most sought after because of their skills and good working attitude. He warned that the exodus of skilled Filipinos abroad is posing a threat towards the future of the quality of population left in the country. Thus, he said that while the skilled Filipinos are abroad, those left in the country should be given proper attention because they are the ones that the country will depend on in the future. He noted that the population of the country is 108 million but look at China and India, he asked. Both countries, he pointed out, took advantage of their huge population in a positive way and as a consequence, their economies are booming. He said that the increasing population in the country as seen in the enormous traffic in major thoroughfares not only in Manila but also in Cebu, Cagayan de Oro and Davao is a sign that the country is not improving. However, he stated that the trend can be overturned by providing the people with enough jobs.

At this juncture, Senator Gordon showed that the unemployment rate in 2018 reached 2.3 million resulting in an annual unemployment rate of 5.3%; and that based on the results of the 2018 survey on overseas Filipinos, the total number of OFWs in 2018 was estimated at 2.3 million, 85.5% of which are in Asia, 6.4% in Europe, 5.6% in North and South America, 1.6% in Australia, and 1.1% in Africa.

Senator Gordon also cited the phenomenon involving single parents which the law has learned to recognize through the Solo Parent Law. He said that almost half of 851,088 or 49.2% of the total registered



live births in 2016 were born out of wedlock; while babies born to teenage mothers were pegged by the Philippine Statistics Authority at 203,085 and those sired by teenage fathers at 52,070.

As to the impact of the increasing number of parents who are teenagers, Senator Gordon cited the findings of the UP School of Economics indicating that for every 100 students who entered Grade 1 nationwide, 18 will drop out by Grade 2; four by Grade 4; and 10 by Grade 6, thus only 68 will remain; and of the 68 who will finish Grade 6, only 60 will enter high school, but only 45 will graduate; and of the 45 high school graduates only 26 will enter college; and only 13 will graduate. He said that every effort must be made so that the youth can complete an education or complete at least any skills training program provided for in the K to 12 law.

Concerning children in conflict with the law, Senator Gordon revealed that in 2018, there were about 91 crimes committed by children below nine years old, 358 committed by nine to 11 years old, about 3,032 crimes committed by 12 to 15 years old, and about 5,044 crimes committed by those who are 16 to 17 years old. He also lamented the lack of halfway houses where children in conflict with the law could stay. He rued the practice of mixing juvenile offenders with adults and other hardened criminals in prison cells.

Senator Gordon said that he would be proposing a bill to lower the threshold to 12 years old not to incarcerate the child offenders but to let them realize the consequences of their actions. He stated that putting children in jail could be avoided if there are barangay social welfare and development officers per barangay whose primary duty includes house-to-house visitations, counseling on child's rights and education. He also indicated his plan to propose the lowering of the drop-out rate by having truant officers in every barangay to ensure that the children are in school.

To address the lack of guidance counselor in many schools, Senator Gordon said that he would propose a mechanism that would immediately tell whether a child is absent from school so that the teacher could notify the guidance counselor who would subsequently inform the parents about the child's absence. He believed that if the child would be provided with immediate proper guidance, he or she would be able to study and eventually graduate from school. As to the ideal student-counselor ratio, he cited the American School Counselor Association's

recommendation of 250:1, a ratio that could not be applied in the country as the Philippine ratio would be 63,008 students per one counselor based on elementary enrolment in both public and private schools, totalling 15.7 million students.

Senator Gordon recalled his days in Ateneo when there were priests in every wing who acted as student counselors whom the students could go to and receive wise counsel from whenever they have problems in school or in their homes.

Senator Gordon also proposed intensifying the school-based feeding programs currently in place because they are a source of encouragement for children to go to school.

As regards the plight of nurses and dentists in the country, Senator Gordon noted that many of them, especially nurses, are being exploited because they are only offered very low salary. He rued that many of the nurses only get themselves employed in local hospitals in order to get a record or certification just to be able to work abroad. He stated that the government could utilize the services of nurses by putting them in every school clinic—both public and private—in the country. Similarly, he believed that school clinics must have dentists to address the significantly high prevalence of dental caries among school children.

On the matter of health and manpower, Senator Gordon noted that the doctor-population ratio is only 3.5 doctors for every 10,000 Filipinos, while six out of 10 Filipinos die without even having seen a doctor. Thus, he stressed the need for government to hire more doctors and assign them in the provinces. He cited his home province of Zambales which, despite having built a large health center with x-ray facility, blood bank and ambulance, still lacks doctors, thus compromising the health of the people there. He expressed hope that in the next several years, the country would attract businesses because of its more than 70 million young population.

In terms of the country's education system, Senator Gordon noted that the country's top-performing universities — UP, Ateneo, De La Salle, and UST — landed spots in the top 1,000 of the World University Rankings. In spite of the figures, he believed that a lot still has to be done in terms of post-graduate degrees involving research to prepare and allow young people to avail of more opportunities. He lamented how rarely he would hear about new concepts and

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inventions — such as incubator machines — by young Filipinos studying either in the country or abroad. With artificial intelligence as the new field in computer science, he believed that with it, the country could leapfrog and protect the young people's future.

As to the performance of the country's education system, Senator Gordon said that a study by the Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA) revealed that schools in the country failed to land in the top 400 colleges and universities. Furthermore, he said that based on the latest report from the World Bank, East Asia and Pacific's top performing education systems in the world according to rank are: Singapore (1<sup>st</sup>); Hong Kong (2<sup>nd</sup>); Japan (3<sup>rd</sup>); Macau (7<sup>th</sup>); Taiwan (9<sup>th</sup>); and South Korea (10<sup>th</sup>).

Senator Gordon expressed hope that in the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress, the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, Justice and Human Rights, and Science and Technology, along with CHED, could collectively prioritize the putting together of a real program of education given the role that it plays in creating a Philippines that is an intellectual superpower.

Senator Gordon thanked Senator Zubiri for allowing him to deliver a privilege speech on the things he has in mind for the country. He said that he would also want the people to respect the Senate even more, and assured that he would do good every time he is given the opportunity to assure that Congress is refocused on the priorities that are necessary for the country. He believed that like Augustus Ceasar who created Pax Romana, a Pax Pilipinas must also be created, which means a progressive country that has peace, stability, and a great future. He hoped that the Philippines would take stock of what it has and make sure that its resources are used for the greater benefit of the country.

## INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR TOLENTINO

At the outset, Senator Tolentino stated that the privilege speech of Senator Gordon was indeed timely especially in the light of an earlier committee meeting he attended which was conducted by the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs headed by Senator Dela Rosa about the case of missing children allegedly abducted by some leftist groups. He said that he was elated when Senator Gordon raised the *parens patriae* principle in light of the fact that of the total population of the country, 70 million comprised the youth.

Asked if he would agree that the government does not only lack resources for children but that there is also the absence of creativity and imagination in those who have the control of the resources on how they could properly allocate such resources among children, Senator Gordon replied that he could only agree to a certain extent, as he cited Japan which, before the turn of the last century, was very primitive but later transformed into one of the leaders in artificial intelligence. Thus, he believed that it is not always a question of having or lacking resources but of knowing the direction one is going to and the different ways to go there. He reiterated that one way of uplifting the young people of the country is by putting together a program that Congress could review yearly and to tell whether they are on point or not.

Considering that the Body would soon scrutinize the proposed national budget for the next fiscal year, Senator Tolentino asked whether it was already the appropriate time to consider the concept of a children's budget which is not actually a separate budget for children but a comprehensive analysis of the resources that the government is going to spend for children and the services directly related to them. Such budget, he clarified, does not only refer to educational funds, social services, reformatory schools, among others, but to the totality of the indirect funds being given to children as a child and as a citizen to cover what probably is a "democratic deficit." While it was mentioned that 70 million of the population are the young people, he surmised that 60% of them may not be of voting age and although they are not entitled to vote and to participate directly in the democratic process in governance, he believed that it is high time that they were given importance by giving attention to the possibility of a children's budget—an analysis from the DBM on how to spend the resources for the youth—because they are the ones who are supposed to hold the core for the future.

Senator Gordon believed that there is nothing that would stop the Senate from coming out with an idea of collecting the powers and resources of the country and spread them towards all the different departments. He said that the government should have a national mindset to pursue and do everything in its power to prepare the future of the Filipino youth so that they could compete globally but still retaining the basic values of compassion and love of country.

To Senator Gordon's statement that the government is trying to catch up with existing global

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realities, Senator Tolentino pointed out that in 1993, the Supreme Court was hailed by courts around the world for its trailblazing decision in the case of *Oposa vs. Secretary of DENR*, when it granted environmental rights to generations yet unborn. He lamented, however, that the decision was not sustained decades thereafter.

Concurring that the court's decision was worthy of admiration, Senator Gordon believed that people should continually look for ways and means to improve and must find out how to do better each day. He underscored the need for the Senate as a policymaking body to create programs, policies and coordinated laws by maximizing limited resources, monitoring the same to predict and ensure their outcomes, and continuously developing and pursuing all such policies to get consistent results.

Senator Tolentino ended his interpellations by congratulating Senator Gordon for espousing children's rights.

#### **REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEE**

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Gordon to the Committee on Rules.

#### **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, the following senators were designated to constitute the Congressional Oversight Committee on Biofuels:

##### *Majority*

Angara Tolentino  
Binay

##### *Minority*

Pangilinan

##### *Ex officio*

Villar Pimentel

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the members of the Sangguniang Bayan of San Pascual, Batangas, headed by Vice Mayor Willy Dimatactac.

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

#### **ADDITIONAL 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. 601, entitled

AN ACT EXCLUDING OVERTIME PAY FROM THE COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE INCOME AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 32(B)(7) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 602, entitled

AN ACT EXCLUDING THE PERFORMANCE-BASED BONUS FROM THE COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE INCOME AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 32 (B) (7) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 603, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING TOLLWAY OPERATIONS FROM THE VALUE-ADDED TAX, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 108 AND 109 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 604, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, JOURNALS, REVIEWS, BULLETINS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL OR LEARNING MATERIALS MADE OR PUBLISHED IN DIGITAL OR ELECTRONIC FORMAT FROM VALUE-ADDED TAX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 109 (1) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 605, entitled

AN ACT DESIGNATING THE THIRD SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER AS THE PHILIPPINE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS, SURVIVORS AND FAMILIES

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 606, entitled

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL POLICIES OF FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND HONESTY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 607, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPOWERMENT IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 284 OF REPUBLIC

ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 608, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING PROOF OF AVAILABLE PARKING SPACE FROM MOTOR VEHICLE OWNERS IN METROPOLITAN AREAS AS A PRE-REQUISITE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF A MOTOR VEHICLE WITH THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Public Services; and Trade Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Senate Bill No. 609, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING INDUSTRY CLUSTER-BASED PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS THROUGH INTER-LOCAL COOPERATION AND PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Local Government; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 610, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING A STANDARD OF CARE FOR THE TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH BLEEDING DISORDERS, ESTABLISHING TREATMENT CENTERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"



Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 611, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIALYSIS CLINICS IN ALL NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL HOSPITALS AND PROVIDING FOR FREE DIALYSIS TREATMENTS TO INDIGENT PATIENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 612, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE CENTER FOR DIABETES AND ENDOCRINOLOGY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 613, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 972, AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1174, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COAL MINING DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1976" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 614, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1379, OTHER-

WISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT DECLARING FORFEITURE IN FAVOR OF THE STATE ANY PROPERTY FOUND TO HAVE BEEN UNLAWFULLY ACQUIRED BY ANY PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE AND PROVIDING FOR THE PROCEEDINGS THEREFOR" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 615, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6981, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT ACT," APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 616, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PROCEDURE FOR REGISTRATION OF VOTERS DURING BARANGAY ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8189, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "VOTER'S REGISTRATION ACT OF 1996" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

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

Senate Bill No. 617, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING AND PENALIZING MARITAL INFIDELITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ACT NO. 3815,



OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE  
REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 618, entitled

AN ACT DETERRING THE CONTINUED PROLIFERATION OF IMMORAL DOCTRINES, OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS AND EXHIBITIONS AND INDECENT SHOWS BY INCREASING THE PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 619, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION (NICAC), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Villanueva

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 620, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE POLITICAL PARTY SYSTEM OF THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING A STATE SUBSIDY FUND FOR POLITICAL PARTIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator De Lima

**To the Committees on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 621, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS TO USE APPROPRIATE FILTERING DEVICES AND FIREWALLS THAT WILL RESTRICT CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO HARMFUL MATERIALS, DEFINING FOR THAT PURPOSE OFFENSES RELATED THERETO, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator De Lima

**To the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; Public Information and Mass Media; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 622, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE OF CONSENT TO PROVIDE A STRONGER PROTECTION TO CHILDREN, AND AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 266-A (1) (d) OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator De Lima

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 623, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING TRAFFIC SIGNAL POLES TO BE EQUIPPED WITH ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS

Introduced by Senator De Lima

**To the Committees on Public Works; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 624, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO JUSTICE SECTOR OFFICIALS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator De Lima

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

Senate Bill No. 625, entitled

AN ACT CREATING AN ELECTION CODE RECODIFICATION COMMITTEE TO RECODIFY THE ELECTION LAWS

Introduced by Senator De Lima

**To the Committees on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation; Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 626, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 74 AND 75 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, ALSO KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator De Lima

**To the Committees on Local Government; and Electoral Reforms and People's Participation**

Senate Bill No. 627, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 40 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9710, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA OF WOMEN

Introduced by Senator De Lima

**To the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 628, entitled:

AN ACT REPEALING ARTICLE 133 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator De Lima

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

Senate Bill No. 629, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE USE OF AEROPONICS, HYDROPONICS

AND AQUAPONICS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF HIGH VALUE FISH, CROPS AND VEGETABLES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Marcos

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

Senate Bill No. 630, entitled

AN ACT TO COMBAT TERRORISM AND SECURE THE NATION, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9372, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "HUMAN SECURITY ACT OF 2007," AND OTHER LAWS

Introduced by Senator Marcos

**To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 631, entitled

AN ACT ABOLISHING THE TRAVEL TAX

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Ways and Means; Tourism; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 632, entitled

AN ACT MODERNIZING THE WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS LAW IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A LEGAL FRAMEWORK THAT SHALL FACILITATE TRADE AND COMMERCE, CREATING THE WAREHOUSE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 633, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 15 OF



REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8436 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO USE AN AUTOMATED ELECTION SYSTEM IN THE MAY 11, 1998 NATIONAL OR LOCAL ELECTIONS AND IN SUBSEQUENT NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTORAL EXERCISES, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9369 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 634, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING DISCLOSURE OF DEPOSITS, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE THE PERTINENT LAWS ON SECRECY OF DEPOSITS

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 635, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO POST TRANSACTION FEES FOR EACH AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINE TRANSACTION AND RESTRICTING TRANSACTION FEES FOR AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 636, entitled

AN ACT INTEGRATING VOTER EDUCATION IN THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Electoral Reform and People's Participation**

Senate Bill No. 637, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO ALL PUBLIC PROSECUTORS, ASSOCIATE PROSECUTION ATTORNEYS, AND PROSECUTION ATTORNEYS DURING THEIR INCUMBENCY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 638, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY, CONVERSION, AND IMPORTATION OF ELECTRIC AND HYBRID VEHICLES, INCLUDING CHARGING STATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Public Services; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 639, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PRESERVATION, REFORESTATION, AFFORESTATION, AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF MANGROVE FORESTS IN THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

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

Senate Bill No. 640, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE BICOL MEDICAL CENTER FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1,000) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL WORKFORCE COMPLEMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8053, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 641, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE SERVICE INCENTIVE LEAVE OF EMPLOYEES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 95 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 642, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE OWNERSHIP AND OPERATION OF DRONES BY PRIVATE PERSONS

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committees on Public Services; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Senate Bill No. 643, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING NIGHT SHIFT DIFFERENTIAL PAY TO THE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES INCLUDING THOSE IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPO-

RATIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 644, entitled

AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE STANDARD OF PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE WELFARE OF SELF-EMPLOYED WORKERS AND CRAFTSMEN AND THE PROMOTION OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP THEREBY AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE, SECTION 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8282 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Senate Bill No. 645, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING TAX INCENTIVES TO BROADCAST AND PRINT MEDIA DEVOTING AIRTIME AND SPACE TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, AND TO ADVERTISERS OR SPONSORS SUPPORTING SUCH PROGRAMS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 646, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, SUPERVISION AND REGULATION OF THE PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE

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PROFESSION, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 647, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FREE AND SUITABLE PUBLIC EDUCATION FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 648, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committee on Agriculture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 649, entitled:

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL POLICY IN PREVENTING TEENAGE PREGNANCIES, INSTITUTIONALIZING SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR TEENAGE PARENTS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 650, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING WHO ARE INSTITUTIONALIZED PERSONS AND PENALIZING THEIR MALTREATMENT

Introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr.

**To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Justice and Human Rights**

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

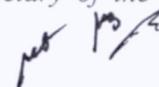
Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, August 13, 2019.

*It was 5:39 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.



ATTY. MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA  
*Secretary of the Senate*



Approved on August 13, 2019