



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

S e n a t e

Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 2

Tuesday, July 24, 2007

**FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SESSION NO. 2
Tuesday, July 24, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:35 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Manny B. Villar, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III led the prayer, to wit:

Dear Lord, today as we anxiously face challenges in an uncertain environment, we call to mind St. Francis' prayer for serenity to guide us in these trying times:

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things that I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

Amen.

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Emma Lirio-Reyes, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, E. J.	Honasan, G. B.
Aquino III, B. S. C	Lacson, P. M.
Biazon, R. G.	Lapid, M. L. M.
Cayetano, A. P. S.	Legarda, L.
Cayetano, C. P. S.	Madrigal, M. A.
Defensor Santiago, M.	Pangilinan, F. N.
Ejercito Estrada, J.	Pimentel Jr., A. Q.
Enrile, J. P.	Revilla Jr., R. B.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Villar Jr. M. B.

With 18 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senators Arroyo, Gordon, Roxas and Zubiri arrived after the roll call.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session.

**DEFERMENT OF APPROVAL
OF THE JOURNAL**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body deferred the reading and approval of the Journal of Session No. 1.

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. 1, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING THE PURCHASE
OF MEDICINE BY SENIOR
CITIZENS FROM THE COVERAGE
OF THE VALUE ADDED TAX,
AND AMENDING SECTION 109(1)
OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL
REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 2, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING THE BENEFITS
AND INCENTIVES OF BARANGAY
TANOD BRIGADES, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SEC. 393(d) OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHER-
WISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL
GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

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Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 3, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE (1) HEALTH WORKER IN EVERY BARANGAY, INCREASING THEIR SALARIES AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 4, entitled

AN ACT REVIVING THE PHILIPPINE MOVIE INDUSTRY BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO THE PROPRIETORS, LESSEES, OPERATORS OF THEATERS AND CINEMAS

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 5, entitled

AN ACT TO ABOLISH THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT IN LIBEL CASES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 355 AND 360 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 6, entitled

AN ACT MAKING R.A. 7323 MORE EFFECTIVE AND RELEVANT TO PRESENT AND FUTURE CONDITIONS BY EXPANDING ITS COVERAGE IN TERMS OF EMPLOYER PARTICIPATION, ADJUSTING THE INCOME CLASSIFICATION REQUIREMENT THEREIN, PROVIDING AUTOMATIC AND NON-DIMINUTION CLAUSES ON ITS BUDGETARY ALLOCATION AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THOSE WHO DISHONOR THE EDUCATION VOUCHERS, AMENDING FOR THESE PURPOSES R.A. 7323 ENTITLED "AN ACT TO HELP POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS PURSUE THEIR EDUCATION BY ENCOURAGING THEIR EMPLOYMENT DURING SUMMER AND/OR CHRISTMAS VACATIONS, THROUGH INCENTIVES GRANTED TO EMPLOYERS, ALLOWING THEM TO PAY ONLY SIXTY PER CENTUM OF THEIR SALARIES OR WAGES AND THE FORTY PER CENTUM THROUGH EDUCATION VOUCHERS TO BE PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT, PROHIBITING AND PENALIZING THE FILING OF FRAUDULENT OR FICTITIOUS CLAIMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 7, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE COMMISSION OF ACTS OF TORTURE AND INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCE OF PERSONS ARRESTED, DETAINED OR UNDER CUSTODIAL INVESTIGATION, AND GRANTING JURISDICTION TO THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION FOR VIOLATION OF THE CUSTODIAL RIGHTS OF

MS

THE ACCUSED, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 2, 3, AND 4 OF R.A. 7428, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 8, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) AND AUTHORIZING ITS AUTOMATIC RETENTION, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE SECTIONS 284 AND 286 OF R.A. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 9, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF AND PROVIDING PROTECTION TO JOURNALISTS, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 10, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 11, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr.

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 12, entitled

AN ACT PUNISHING THE PUBLICATION, BROADCASTING, AND EXHIBITION OF PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS THAT APPEAR IN TRADITIONAL MEDIA SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PAPER, CELLULOID, FILM, MAGNETIC TAPES, OR THROUGH AIRWAVES, OR THROUGH THE USE OF COMPUTERS, THE INTERNET, CYBERSPACE, INTERNET CHAT, WEB SITES, ELECTRONIC MAILS, OPTICAL MEDIA, OR OTHER ELECTRONIC MEDIA, AND OTHER TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS THEREOF, PROVIDING PENALTIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr.

To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; and Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 13, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING AND REGULATING DRAG RACING AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr.

To the Committee on Public Services

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Senate Bill No. 14, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF
HEAVY EQUIPMENT

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 15, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING AND REGULAT-
ING THE OPERATION OF CABLE
TELEVISION IN THE PHILIPPINES,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 16, entitled

AN ACT TO ENSURE PUBLIC ACCESS
TO OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla Jr.

**To the Committees on Public Information
and Mass Media; and Civil Service and
Government Reorganization**

Senate Bill No. 17, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 10
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
SPECIAL PROTECTION OF
CHILDREN AGAINST CHILD
ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND
DISCRIMINATION ACT

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla Jr.

**To the Committee on Youth, Women and
Family Relations**

Senate Bill No. 18, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL BRANCHES,
SUBDIVISIONS, INSTRUMENTAL-
ITIES AND AGENCIES OF THE
GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING
GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND
CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS OR
THEIR SUBSIDIARIES TO DIVULGE
THE IDENTITY OF HIRED FOREIGN
CONSULTANTS, THE NATURE OF
THEIR WORK AND THEIR COM-
PENSATION, PERKS AND OTHER
PRIVILEGES, AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES IN CASE OF VIOLA-
TION THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No.19, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 9167 BY PROVIDING FOR A
NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE TO
BE MANAGED BY THE FILM
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 20, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING AFFORDABLE
HEALTH CARE SERVICES, THROUGH
THE HEALTH MAINTENANCE
ORGANIZATIONS, REGULATING
THEIR OPERATIONS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla Jr.

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

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Senate Bill No. 21, entitled

AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT
8479 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
DOWNSTREAM OIL INDUSTRY
DEREGULATION ACT OF 1998

Introduced by Senator M. A. Madrigal

To the Committee on Energy

Senate Bill No. 22, entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING THE HUMAN
RIGHTS AND HUMAN SECURITY
OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE,
STRENGTHENING THE ORGANIZ-
ATION AND EXPANDING THE
FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION
ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND CRIMINAL-
IZING HUMAN RIGHTS AND
HUMAN SECURITY VIOLATIONS

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

**To the Committees on Justice and Human
Rights; Civil Service and Government Reorgan-
ization; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 23, entitled

AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT
9372, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
HUMAN SECURITY ACT OF 2007

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

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

Senate Bill No. 24, entitled

AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT
9337, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 27, 28,
34, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112,
113, 114, 116, 117, 119, 121, 148, 151,
236, 237 AND 288 OF THE
NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE
CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 25, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
REVISED PENAL CODE OF THE
PHILIPPINES, BY REPEALING
SECTIONS 139, 140, 141 AND 142
THEREIN

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

**To the Committees on Constitutional
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws;
and Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 26, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING CHILD PORNO-
GRAPHY, IMPOSING PENALTIES
FOR THE COMMISSION THEREOF
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

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

Senate Bill No. 27, entitled

AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT
7942, "AN ACT INSTITUTING A
NEW SYSTEM OF MINERAL
RESOURCES EXPLORATION,
DEVELOPMENT, UTILIZATION
AND CONSERVATION", OTHER-
WISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE
MINING ACT OF 1995

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

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

Senate Bill No. 28, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPORT-
ATION OF GMO PLANTS, FRUITS,
FOOD AND PRODUCTS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

To the Committee on Agriculture and Food *He*

Senate Bill No. 29, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BAN ON ALL LOGGING OPERATIONS IN THE COUNTRY TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND REHABILITATION OF THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENT, PROVIDING FOR CITIZEN'S RIGHTS AND THE APPROPRIATE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF THIS ACT

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 30, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE SAMAR ISLAND NATURAL PARK (SINP), SITUATED IN THE PROVINCE OF SAMAR, NORTHERN SAMAR AND EASTERN SAMAR, AS A PROTECTED AREA AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator M.A. Madrigal

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 31, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING A FIXED TERM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

To the Committee on National Defense and Security

Senate Bill No. 32, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; Foreign Relations; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 33, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ARTICLES OF MILITARY JUSTICE IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES REPEALING FOR THAT PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NUMBERED FOUR HUNDRED EIGHT, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ARTICLES OF WAR, AS AMENDED, OTHER SPECIAL LAWS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Biazon

To the Committee on National Defense and Security

Senate Bill No. 34, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992" AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7917, EXPANDING THE ALLOCATION OF REVENUES FROM THE SALE, LEASE, JOINT-VENTURE AGREEMENTS AND OTHER TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING MILITARY BASES AND RESERVATIONS, ALLOCATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

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

Senate Bill No. 35, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE USE OF THE PROCEEDS FROM THE DEVELOPMENT, LEASE OR USE OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES FOR PAYMENT OF

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PENSIONS AND OTHER BENEFITS
OF THE VETERANS AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

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

Senate Bill No. 36, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A LOCAL
HOUSING BOARD IN ALL CITIES
AND FIRST TO THIRD CLASS
MUNICIPALITIES, PROVIDING FOR
ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

**To the Committees on Urban Planning,
Housing and Resettlement; and Local Govern-
ment**

Senate Bill No. 37, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A SOCIAL-
IZED AND LOW-COST HOUSING
LOAN RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM,
PROVIDING THE MECHANISMS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

**To the Committee on Urban Planning,
Housing and Resettlement**

Senate Bill No. 38, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING THE UTILIZ-
ATION PERIOD OF THE AGRI-
CULTURAL COMPETITIVENESS
ENHANCEMENT FUND, AMENDING
FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 8 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8178, ENTITLED
"AN ACT REPLACING QUANTITA-
TIVE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT
RICE, WITH TARIFFS, CREATING
THE AGRICULTURAL COMPETI-
TIVENESS FUND" AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

To the Committee on Agriculture and Food

Senate Bill No. 39, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE COMMIS-
SION OF ACTS OF TORTURE AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Biazon

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

Senate Bill No. 40, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REPRODUC-
TIVE HEALTH CARE STRUCTURES
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Biazon

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; Youth, Women and Family Relations;
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 41, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 2
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1405
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"SECRECY OF BANK DEPOSIT
LAW," EXEMPTING GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES
FROM THE PROHIBITION AGAINST
DISCLOSURE OF OR INQUIRY
INTO DEPOSITS WITH ANY
BANKING INSTITUTION AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

Senate Bill No. 42, entitled

AN ACT ADOPTING AN OMNIBUS
JOB CLASSIFICATION AND COM-
PENSATION STANDARDIZATION
SYSTEM IN THE CIVIL SERVICE, *etc*

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APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,
PROVIDING PENAL SANCTIONS
FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

Senate Bill No. 43, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A REPRODUC-
TIVE HEALTH AND POPULATION
MANAGEMENT COUNCIL FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF AN INTEG-
RATED POLICY ON REPRODUC-
TIVE HEALTH RELATIVE TO SUS-
TAINABLE HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
AND POPULATION MANAGEMENT,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-
graphy; Local Government; Ways and Means
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 44, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 3 OF
REPUBLIC ACT 4300, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS AN ACT TO PROHIBIT
AND PENALIZE WIRE TAPPING
AND OTHER RELATED VIOLA-
TIONS OF THE PRIVACY OF
COMMUNICATION, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

Senate Bill No. 45, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CIVIL
SERVICE CODE OF THE PHILIP-
PINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

Senate Bill No. 46, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE EDUCA-
TION AND LICENSURE OF
PHYSICIANS AND THE PRACTICE
OF MEDICINE IN THE PHILIPPINES,
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2382, AS
AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

**To the Committees on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization; Education, Arts
and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 47, entitled

AN ACT REVISING REPUBLIC ACT
NUMBERED 6939, CREATING THE
COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

Senate Bill No. 48, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF
FIREARMS SMUGGLING, PROVID-
ING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

Senate Bill No. 49, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PHILIPPINE
NATIONAL POLICE TRUST FUND
TO BE UTILIZED FOR THE PNP
PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS
HEREIN SPECIFIED, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

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Senate Bill No. 50, entitled

AN ACT DECENTRALIZING THE TEXTBOOK PROCUREMENT PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DepEd) BY CREATING A DIVISION TEXTBOOK PROCUREMENT SERVICES UNIT (DTPSU) IN ALL PROVINCIAL AND CITY DIVISION OFFICES INCLUDING THOSE IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (ARMM) REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF R.A. NO. 8047 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ACT

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 3, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PLIGHT OF DETAINEES IN MUNICIPAL, CITY AND PROVINCIAL JAILS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF RECOMMENDING IMMEDIATE REMEDIAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE SERIOUS PROBLEM OF CONGESTION, INADEQUATE FACILITIES, INHUMANE CONDITIONS AND OTHER PROBLEMS AFFECTING THE WELFARE OF DETAINEES

Introduced by Senator Enrile

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 4, entitled

RESOLUTION HONORING THE FOURTEEN (14) MARINES WHO PERISHED IN THE LINE OF DUTY IN ALBARKA, BASILAN LAST 10 JULY 2007; CONDEMNING UNDER THE STRONGEST TERMS POSSIBLE THE BARBARIC ACT OF BEHEADING AND/OR MUTILATING THE REMAINS OF TEN (10) OF THEM; AND URGING THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT AND THE LEADERSHIP OF THE MILF TO IDENTIFY AND PUNISH THE PERPETRATORS

Introduced by Senator Trillanes IV

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 5, entitled

RESOLUTION TO DIRECT THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN THE PHILIPPINES, THE FAILURE AND REFUSAL OF THE ARROYO ADMINISTRATION TO SIGN THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL PERSONS FROM ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCES AND INDORSE THE SAME TO THE SENATE FOR RATIFICATION, AND TO PRIORITIZE THE BILLS PENALIZING ACTS OF TORTURE AND INVOLUNTARY DISAPPEARANCE OF PERSONS IN CUSTODY AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PHILIPPINE COMMISSION ON MISSING PERSONS

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Foreign Relations

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 6, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC

ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF DRUG EXAMINATION AS A REQUIREMENT FOR DRIVERS LICENSE APPLICATION, IN RELATION TO THE REPORTED MALPRACTICES COMMITTED BY SOME LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) PERSONNEL

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs; and Public Services

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 7, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY ON THE UTILIZATION AND PROMOTION OF THE WIND ENERGY SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Energy

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 8, entitled

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; TRADE AND COMMERCE; AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT STATE OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE (E-COMMERCE) IN THE PHILIPPINES AND ITS COMPETITIVENESS IN THIS INDUSTRY

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 9, entitled

RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF REALIGNING THE SAVINGS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 WITH THE END IN VIEW OF INCREASING THE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF TEACHERS AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL NATIONWIDE

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Finance

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 10, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND COMMERCE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY INTO CONSUMER COMPLAINTS AGAINST UNDESIRABLE TRADE PRACTICES OF PRIVATE CORPORATIONS IN ORDER TO CRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE CORPORATION CODE, THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE PRICE ACT AND OTHER LAWS OR DRAFT NEW BILLS TO STRENGTHEN CONSUMERS' RIGHTS PROTECTION

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Trade and Commerce

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 11, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND COMPLIANCE OF ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, DEPARTMENTS, AND AGENCIES WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS AND ALL LAWS

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**RELEVANT TO CITIZENS' ACCESS
TO INFORMATION AS A MEANS
OF CURBING GRAFT AND
CORRUPTION**

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

**To the Committees on Public Information
and Mass Media; and Civil Service and
Government Reorganization**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 12, entitled

**RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE
COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC INFORMATION
AND MASS MEDIA; AND
TRADE AND COMMERCE TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATE
OF FILM PRODUCTION IN THE
COUNTRY, WITH THE END IN
VIEW OF EXTENDING BUSINESS
ASSISTANCE TO THIS SECTOR,
PARTICULARLY TO THE
SMALL FILM PRODUCERS AND
INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS**

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 13, entitled

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENT-
ATION OF INCENTIVES AND
REWARD SYSTEM FOR MOVIE
PRODUCERS UNDER REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 9167**

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

**To the Committees on Public Information
and Mass Media; and Finance**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 14, entitled

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL
DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF LAWS
SECURING OR PROMOTING THE
GENERAL WELFARE OF MILITARY
VETERANS AND RETIREES IN
THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
PHILIPPINES, IN VIEW OF
THE ALLEGED SUSPENSION OF
BENEFITS BY THE GOVERN-
MENT AND ANOMALOUS DIS-
BURSEMENTS BY UNSCRUPUL-
OUS PERSONS**

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

**To the Committees on National Defense
and Security; and Accountability of Public
Officers and Investigations**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 15, entitled

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GAMES,
AMUSEMENT AND SPORTS TO
INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGIS-
LATION, THE ACTUAL STATE
OF AFFAIRS OF PHILIPPINE
SPORTS**

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito
Estrada

**To the Committee on Games, Amusement
and Sports**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 16, entitled

**RESOLUTION URGING BOTH HOUSES
OF CONGRESS TO IMMEDIATELY
CONVENE THE JOINT CONGRES-
SIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
ON REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9372,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
HUMAN SECURITY ACT OF 2007,
TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENT-
ATION OF SAID ACT** *AB*

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Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong"
Revilla, Jr.

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 17, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PRESENT STATE OF BANDWIDTH AVAILABILITY AND BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT IN THE COUNTRY WITH THE END IN VIEW OF COMING UP WITH POSSIBLE GOVERNMENT SUPPORT THAT WILL HASTEN THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE BENEFITS IT CAN BRING TO THE ECONOMY

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M.
Lapid

To the Committee on Public Services

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 18, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES, AMUSEMENT AND SPORTS TO INQUIRE, LOOK INTO AND INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE DEATH OF FILIPINO BOXER ANGELITO "LITO" SISNORIO JR. AFTER AN ALLEGED MISMATCH FIGHT AGAINST FORMER WORLD BOXING COUNCIL FLYWEIGHT CHAMPION CHATCHAI SASKUL IN THAILAND LAST MARCH 31, 2007

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M.
Lapid

To the Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 19, entitled

RESOLUSYONG NAGTATADHANA
SA PAGSALIN SA WIKANG

PAMBANSA NG RULES OF THE SENATE AT KILALANIN ITO NG SENADO BILANG OPISYAL NA PANUNTUNAN SA WIKANG FILIPINO

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M.
Lapid

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 20, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY RELATIONS; PUBLIC WORKS; AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO INQUIRE AND LOOK INTO, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ALARMING RISE OF CHILDREN'S DEATH AND INJURY FROM VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF COMING UP WITH REMEDIAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE RISING INCIDENTS OF ROAD TRAGEDIES AND TO PROMOTE CHILD PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN SCHOOL ZONES

Introduced by Senator Honasan

To the Committees on Public Works; and Youth, Women and Family Relations

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 21, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO REVIEW AND INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ALLEGED NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1199 OR THE LAW ON APPELLATE REVIEW PROCEDURES IN MILITARY TRIBUNAL AND COURT MARTIAL CASES PARTICULARLY THE PROVISION ON THE CREATION OF THE COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF DETERMINING WHETHER

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SUCH NON-ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW HAS DEPRIVED NUMBERS OF UNIFORMED MEN IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) FACING CHARGES OF BASIC RIGHTS TO A FAIR TRIAL

Introduced by Senator Honasan

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Justice and Human Rights

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 22, entitled

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT SENATOR ANTONIO TRILLANES IV BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SESSIONS AND OTHER FUNCTIONS OF THE SENATE

Introduced by Senators Pimentel Jr., Aquino III, Biazon, M. A. Madrigal, Lacson, Loren Legarda, Mar Roxas, Manny Villar, Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, Alan Peter S. Cayetano, Escudero, Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr., Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid, Honasan and Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 23, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE SPATE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS IN THE COUNTRY

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 24, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES, AMUSEMENT AND SPORTS TO CONDUCT A

REVIEW, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PREPARATIONS BEING CONDUCTED BY THE PHILIPPINE SPORTS COMMISSION (PSC), THE PHILIPPINE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (POC), AND THE NATIONAL SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS (NSAs) IN THE NEARING INTERNATIONAL SPORTING EVENTS PARTICULARLY THE 2007 SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES (SEA GAMES) IN KORAT, THAILAND; 2008 OLYMPICS IN BEIJING, CHINA; AND THE 2010 ASIAN GAMES IN GUANGZHOU, CHINA, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ASSURING THE COUNTRY'S SUCCESSFUL PARTICIPATION IN THESE NEARING INTERNATIONAL SPORTING MEETS

Introduced by Senator Honasan

To the Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 25, entitled

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE TWO FILIPINO BOXERS WHO WON INTERNATIONAL BOXING FEDERATION (IBF) TITLES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

To the Committee on Rules

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF SENATOR EJERCITO ESTRADA**

Rising to a question of personal and collective privilege, Senator Ejercito Estrada delivered the following speech:

**THE STATE OF THE NATION
UNDRESSED!**

I rise today on a matter of personal and collective privilege to express my sentiments on the state of the nation address delivered yesterday by Mrs. Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

I articulate not only my own personal views, but the comments and observations relayed to me by many of our constituency. They conveyed to me their combined disappointment and

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apprehension over Mrs. Arroyo's loud and extravagant claims of achievements.

We listened yesterday to another enumeration of programs and projects that Mrs. Arroyo claims she had accomplished or proposes to fulfill.

Six years after Mrs. Arroyo grabbed power and seven SONAs later, our people remain poor, helpless, desperate, frustrated, and alienated. They are simply worse off than they were six years ago.

And yet Mrs. Arroyo blithely tries to make us believe that we now have a robust and resilient economy.

Our people were treated to another litany of fantastic infrastructure achievements and fabulous infrastructure projects now supposedly in the pipeline.

In her SONA, Mrs. Arroyo sent shivers and chills again to the spine.

If she is serious, and assuming these are not pipe dreams exclusively scripted for her SONA alone, are we to expect another round of new taxes and increases in charges, levies, rates, duties and other fees of government services and transactions?

Or are we going to borrow again? If my memory serves me right, did Mrs. Arroyo tell us how these projects are to be funded? She has chosen to be vague on this and as we all can see, the bottomline in all these is money. The rest is just plain conversation.

Kaya kinakabahan ako at ang ating mga kababayan kung may mga high tech at high-faluting project si Gng. Arroyo na ipinagayabang dahil ang kapalit nito ay karagdagang buwis.

But equally disturbing and incredible is the claim of Mrs. Arroyo of a 77% conviction rate by the Ombudsman, as if to tell us that her government is winning the fight against corruption.

Unfortunately, Mrs. Arroyo does not exactly enjoy a reputation of being honest and truthful. I will not be surprised, however, if this figure is taken from some manipulated data not very different from the certificates of canvass of votes that brought her to power in 2004.

Mrs. Arroyo also proclaim that our country today enjoys a robust and resilient economy. She claims that 400,000 jobs have been created.

If this is so, why is it that our people continue to leave the country in droves every day to become supermaids, caregivers, babysitters, and manual laborers and even managerial and technical workers in foreign lands? They leave the country in search of employment and better opportunities even if they know that in a foreign land, they stand to be abused, maltreated, exploited and oppressed.

And despite all pronouncements of hailing our overseas Filipino workers as new heroes, no concrete program from Mrs. Arroyo was laid out for them.

To me and to many of our poor and marginalized countrymen who wage a daily war of survival, the reality of poverty and deprivation are found there in the streets, in the slums, in their very homes. For them, Mrs. Arroyo's words in her SONA are empty achievements and promises that are not edible.

But what strikes us is that the entire SONA of Mrs. Arroyo yesterday did not even pay attention, did not even make mention of an important issue that strikes deep and hard in the heart of the body politic. It is a compelling dilemma that is begging and crying for resolution. I refer to the extrajudicial killings, to the numerous incidences of ambushes, assassinations, and abductions that have now attracted international attention.

Sa magagandang palabok ng SONA, wala tayong narinig tungkol sa kung ano ang ginagawa o gagawin ng gobyerno ni Gng. Arroyo sa mga extrajudicial killings. Hindi magtatagal tayo na ang magiging extrajudicial killing capital of the world. Wala ho siyang ginawa kundi bumati nang bumati ng mga tao at patayuin ang mga tao. Para tuloy siyang si Lolit Solis, wala po siyang ginawa kundi bumati nang bumati sa telebisyon.

Mrs. Arroyo glosses over this important concern and conveniently sweeps it under the rug. She does not even offer a token report on what her administration has done, or plans to do about the growing list of cases of extrajudicial killings. Instead, she proposes new laws which perhaps is a way of diverting attention from a critical failure of her Administration.

Mrs. Arroyo talks now of her legacy, even claiming that her successor will benefit from what she has accomplished and will accomplish during the next three years.

She extravagantly claims that she did not benefit from her predecessor, but conveniently

avoids the fact that my father, President Estrada, left in the public coffers more than P70 billion when he was unceremoniously and unconstitutionally removed.

But if Mrs. Arroyo wants to leave a respectable legacy, she might as well address today the matter of the extrajudicial killings.

These are issues that we cannot ignore for they offend our sensibilities, in much the same manner that the "Garci tapes," the Jose Pidal accounts, the fertilizer scams, and so many others have jolted us and offended our sensibilities.

Our people are waiting for results that they could experience in their day-to-day struggle.

Our people are asking for relief from poverty, from taxes, from high prices of basic commodities, from criminality in the streets, from many things that government has failed to deliver.

And this is because Mrs. Arroyo is simply busy fantasizing about her enchanted kingdom, so detached from her people, and so secure in the electrified fences in Malacanang.

Nawa'y magising tayong lahat sa panaginip na ang nangingibabaw ay pawang malayo sa katotohanan.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:08 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:08 p.m., the session was resumed.

SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, interpellations on Senator Ejercito Estrada's speech were deferred.

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 22, entitled

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT SENATOR

ANTONIO TRILLANES IV BE ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SESSIONS AND OTHER FUNCTIONS OF THE SENATE.

With the permission of the Body, only the title of the resolution was read without prejudice to the insertion of its text into the Record of the Senate.

Thereupon, the Chair recognized Senator Pimentel, Sponsor of the measure, and Senator Angara for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ANGARA

Reiterating his support for the resolution, Senator Angara nonetheless queried on its implications, noting that it only expresses the sense of the Senate and therefore does not impose a binding and compulsory effect on those to whom it is addressed. In reaction, Senator Pimentel stated that any expression of the sense of the Senate on any matter would have to be taken seriously by those concerned. Among other things, he said, the proponents were urging their colleagues to adopt the resolution so that Senator Trillanes could participate in Senate functions and discharge his duties.

Senator Angara asked whether the senators, in adopting the resolution, would not be impliedly or expressly stating that they could disregard the rule of law as he stressed that between the rule of law and the participation of a Member in Senate functions, there is no doubt that society and the Members themselves would uphold the former. For his part, Senator Pimentel asserted that there is no need to choose one over the other because the resolution itself recognizes the primary jurisdiction of the Makati Regional Trial Court over the person of Senator Trillanes. Precisely, he noted, the resolution cited the case of Sen. Justiniano Montano who, in the 1950s, was charged with multiple murder, a non-bailable offense, but was allowed to post bail by the Supreme Court to participate in Senate functions. He stated that the resolution is asking the authorities who have custody of Senator Trillanes to consider that his right to participate in the Senate functions is primordial and need not contradict any rule of the law.

Asked whether the resolution is asking the court to allow Senator Trillanes to participate in Senate functions subject to the court's own rules and regulations, Senator Pimentel replied in the affirmative.

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Senator Pimentel stated that the military authorities are holding Senator Trillanes in custody so that he could be made to answer charges whenever needed, which the Senate could also guarantee if Senator Trillanes was placed under its custody.

Senator Angara said that he would not like the resolution to give the impression that the Senate is asking the courts to disregard the legal processes just because one of the senators is prevented from attending the sessions. He pointed out that in former Senator Montano's case, the Supreme Court had ruled that he could attend the sessions, but in Senator Trillanes' case, a ruling of that kind has yet to be issued.

Senator Pimentel stated that the resolution is only gently suggesting to the court that there is a precedent which could easily be used to justify allowing Senator Trillanes to attend the sessions. He pointed out that if the court does not want to grant bail, which is another possibility, placing the accused in jail may not necessarily be the only alternative to deal with him, as he mentioned that several people who have been charged with heinous crimes had been placed in hospitals.

Senator Angara believed that it would be better to leave Senator Trillanes' custody and security to the military because it has the facilities and resources for the purpose, to which Senator Pimentel replied that it possibly could be the case so long as he is not deterred from attending the sessions and functions of the Senate.

Asked whether the resolution envisions that Senator Trillanes could also attend out-of-town hearings, Senator Pimentel said that when he was a detainee during the Marcos regime, he was allowed to go to certain places under guard all the time. He clarified that the resolution should not preclude action by Senator Trillanes' own counsel to bring the matter legally before the Judiciary, but he opined that the expression of the sense of the Senate could very well be an additional argument for Senator Trillanes to be granted bail.

Further, Senator Pimentel agreed to the observation that after the approval of the resolution, it would be up to Senator Trillanes' lawyers to take the cudgels and trigger the necessary action, adding that if the Senate would like to take the matter forward, the Members can file a manifestation in court

supporting the petition of the lawyers to allow the Senator to perform his duties.

Senator Angara said that the action of the Senate should not be considered an interpretation of the law that when one is indicted for a serious crime, one way of evading the indictment is to run for public office and get elected.

Senator Pimentel pointed out that the relevant law on the issue is that if an individual, who is facing administrative charges, runs for public office and gets elected, his election would normally wipe out the administrative charges but not insofar as the criminal charges are concerned.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR BIAZON

Senator Biazon pointed out that a major factor to be considered by the Senate is that Senator Trillanes was given a mandate by almost 12 million voters and that he is presumed innocent until proven guilty. He stated that Senator Trillanes is charged with alleged violation of Article 97 of the Articles of War (conduct unbecoming of an officer and a gentleman) that was filed before the military court, and the Anti-Coup d'Etat law that was filed before the civil court. He clarified that Senator Trillanes is in detention not because of the case filed before the civil court but because the court gave custodial responsibility to the military; thus, it is not for the military to decide whether or not Senator Trillanes should be allowed to perform his duties as a senator.

Senator Biazon informed the Body that he had discussed the following options with the counsel of Senator Trillanes: 1) file a petition before the court to grant him bail; 2) file a petition before the court to allow him to attend to his official functions; and 3) ask the court that he be placed under the custody of the Senate.

Asked if it would be appropriate for the Senate to file a petition before the court on behalf of Senator Trillanes, Senator Pimentel stated that he does not see anything wrong with it, explaining that such an action would not be aimed at influencing the decision of the court but merely to express its concern about the rights and prerogatives of its Member. He said that the resolution should be approved first before the Senate could decide on any other moves.

Senator Biazon stated that at the proper time, he would discuss the third and seventh "whereas" clauses of the resolution. Senator Pimentel welcomed the idea, saying that Senator Honasan would certainly agree to a discussion of the third "whereas" clause.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR GORDON

Adverting to the oath of office of a senator, Senator Gordon believed that the Body was debating a very serious matter that might send conflicting signals not only to the Filipino people but also to the whole world, as the resolution involved several principles, one of which is separation of powers.

On the concern that the resolution might be interpreted as inappropriate interference by one branch of government with a coequal branch, Senator Pimentel explained that the resolution is merely suggesting that the circumstances under which Senator Trillanes was being deprived of his liberty are, in effect, violating his right to participate in the deliberations of the Chamber, and they should be taken into account by the proper authorities. He believed there is a way out of the problem without sacrificing the rule of law in any way. Moreover, he disagreed to the observation that getting elected to a public office is an expeditious way of evading criminal charges, as the disposition of such cases is done case-to-case.

Senator Gordon clarified that he was not antagonistic to Senator Trillanes' plight. Nonetheless, he expressed concern that the Body might be accused of lawyering for Senator Trillanes, which could put it in an embarrassing situation.

Senator Pimentel explained that the resolution simply expresses the sense of the Members and, regardless of what other people might think, at least, the Members shall have taken a stand that Senator Trillanes should be allowed to discharge his duties as a senator under all the relevant principles of the rule of law. He conceded the possibility that the court might consider the resolution as an attempt to influence its action.

Senator Gordon reiterated his concern on the appropriateness of the resolution, stressing that he was merely protecting the principle of separation of powers, and that the Body should not send signals to the people that just because somebody was elected nationwide, he was entitled to certain privileges.

Replying to further queries, Senator Pimentel stated that election to public office is a privilege which brings with it certain rights and accountabilities. But he clarified that the resolution was not absolving Senator Trillanes from whatever misdeed he might have committed. He admitted that people have the privilege to interpret the Body's intent one way or the other even as he stressed that what is important is that the Body has expressed its sense on the issue, justifying it in accordance with the rule of law.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ENRILE

Replying to Senator Enrile's queries, Senator Pimentel affirmed that the resolution is expressing the collective sense of the institution, not the sense of the individual Members, although a senator who supports the resolution would be expressing his individual sentiment. He agreed that, as the Chamber is ruled by a Majority, the sense of the institution would be the sentiment of the Majority. He added that the weight of the sentiment would depend on the validity of the arguments, so if dissent is strong, the court might be persuaded not to give way to the sentiment of the Majority. He said that he was not aware of any instance in the history of the Senate or of the House of Representatives when the same collective sense of the institution was expressed in relation to a case similar to that of Senator Trillanes, nor of any such resolution passed by the Senate of the United States. Nonetheless, he pointed out that just because nothing had been said before regarding a similar incident, the Body should not do it.

Replying to further queries, Senator Pimentel explained that the real intent of the resolution is to persuade the authorities to allow Senator Trillanes, in accordance with the rule of law, to join his colleagues in discharging his functions. He admitted that the rule of law provides that a person charged with a criminal offense is under the custody and control of the judicial branch of government, which is why a paragraph in the resolution was addressed to the court trying Senator Trillanes' case. He believed that the Body was not inhibited from expressing its sense on the issue of Senator Trillanes.

Asked whether the tenor of the resolution is to pressure the courts to perform an act, Senator Pimentel disagreed. He stressed that there was no imposition whatsoever. He agreed that the lawyers of Senator Trillanes could go to court and plead his

case but, as his colleagues, the Members also have the opportunity to assert what they believe should be done.

Senator Enrile observed that the situation could be reversed and the Supreme Court, by a majority of its Members, could pass a resolution asking the Senate to act one way which the Senators could interpret as an intrusion into their functions. Senator Pimentel pointed out that the Supreme Court would only intrude into a justiciable matter.

Even as he acknowledged the possibility that the court could accuse the Senate of overstepping the bounds of its duties, Senator Pimentel believed it would not happen because the Body is merely expressing its sense in asking the proper authorities to allow Senator Trillanes to participate in Senate functions.

Clarifying that he was positing the questions merely to pursue the constitutional principle of separation of powers, Senator Enrile asked on the purpose of the resolution if it does not intend to influence, pressure or persuade the court to accede to the wishes of the Senate. Senator Pimentel replied that the value of the resolution is that the Body has expressed its desire that Senator Trillanes be allowed to participate in Senate functions.

Senator Enrile stated that he did not mind if the senators individually or collectively sent a letter to the courts, but to use the name of the Senate for the aforesaid purpose is rather indelicate given the constitutional principle of separation of powers. Senator Pimentel asserted that it is better to do so publicly so that people could judge whether or not the Senate did the right thing.

Noting the repeated references to the fact that Senator Trillanes was elected by more than 12 million people, Senator Enrile asked if his election by 100% of the electorate could wipe out his criminal liability. Senator Pimentel replied that the resolution does not insinuate that Senator Trillanes would be exculpated from his wrongdoing. He said that the resolution merely points out that while his case is ongoing, the Senator should be allowed to participate in Senate functions.

Asked if the adoption of the resolution would become a precedent for senators who are in jail and awaiting trial to be able to attend the Senate sessions,

Senator Pimentel believed that precedents are based on similar situations. Thus, he said, if at some future time a senator-elect is charged with a non-bailable offense, his colleagues could also pass a resolution to that effect. However, he said that he was not prepared to say that the resolution would set a precedent.

Adverting to his own arrest in 1990, Senator Enrile asked why none of his colleagues in the Chamber ever thought of filing a similar resolution to ask that he be allowed to participate in Senate functions. Senator Pimentel said that Senator Trillanes appears to have gained massive popular support for his cause.

Asked why the phrase "alleged involvement" was used in the second "Whereas" clause when the entire nation saw on television then Captain Trillanes giving orders to his comrades in Oakwood, Senator Pimentel said that in accordance with the rule of law, a person is only alleged to have committed a crime pending final verdict. Thus, he said, no matter how many thousands of people saw Captain Trillanes marching with the Oakwood mutineers, it has to be established by evidence that he shared their objective of ousting the government.

Asked whether there is any guarantee that Senator Trillanes has indeed opted to pursue his grievances against the government in a peaceful manner as so stated in the fourth "Whereas" clause, Senator Pimentel said there is an indication that a person, who has been charged with rebellion, has chosen the peaceful path if he runs for public office.

Noting that the resolution was made prior to the filing of any motion or pleading to seek to accomplish the intent of the resolution, Senator Enrile asked if it anticipates the filing of such pleading and influence the courts to give in to it. Senator Pimentel said that while suppositions could arise, the best way to judge the resolution is by its tenor.

Should the court accede to the request of the Body and allow Senator Trillanes to participate in the Senate functions, Senator Enrile raised the possibility that Senator Trillanes, assuming he is appointed to the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) as a representative of the Senate, would be able to influence the promotion of members of the Judiciary. Senator Pimentel stated that the situation would not arise because, usually, the Majority Leader sits

in the JBC. Besides, he believed the Senate would not commit a folly just to accommodate a Member.

Replying to further queries, Senator Pimentel affirmed that in the exercise of his duties, Senator Trillanes could participate in determining the appropriations for the Judiciary and other offices, deliver privilege speeches, and participate in the investigation of the Judiciary should such a situation arise. But he stressed that any findings of an investigation must be based on evidence and not on what Senator Trillanes feels. Senator Enrile wondered how this could be done since under the present system, those charged with offenses related to the exercise of their functions ought not to participate in the running of their offices. Senator Pimentel agreed that, indeed, if circumstances warrant, a public official could be disqualified from participating in the functions of his office.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR LEGARDA

Replying to the queries of Senator Legarda, Senator Pimentel affirmed that Senator Justiniano Montano, who was charged with multiple murders, a non-bailable offense, was nonetheless allowed by the Supreme Court to post bail and to perform his task as a duly elected senator pending a decision on his case. He further affirmed that Senator Montano was granted bail based on the petition-request of his lawyers.

On the reasons for the grant of bail to Senator Montano, Senator Pimentel read the following excerpts from the resolution of the Supreme Court dated January 29, 1953 and published in its Official Gazette in May 1953:

In the evaluation of the evidence the probability of flight is one other important factor to be taken into account. The sole purpose of confining accused in jail before conviction, it has been observed, is to assure his presence at the trial. In other words, if denial of bail is authorized in capital cases, it is only on the theory that proof being strong, the defendant would flee, if he has the opportunity, rather than face the verdict of the jury. Hence the exception to the fundamental right to be bailed should be applied in direct ratio to the extent of the probability of evasion of prosecution.

The possibility of escape in this case, bearing in mind the defendant's official and social standing and his other personal circumstances, seems remote if not nil.

Asked if Senator Trillanes poses a flight risk if he attends the sessions or out-of-town committee hearings, Senator Pimentel stated that he would not because he could better defend himself as an elected senator.

In reply to further queries, Senator Pimentel affirmed that under the Constitution, Senator Trillanes has the right to bail and is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Senator Legarda pointed out that Senator Montano was allowed by the Supreme Court to attend the Senate sessions precisely because of the constitutional right of the accused to bail. She expressed the view that the denial by the court of the petition for bail of Senator Trillanes would be a violation of his constitutional right. Senator Pimentel agreed that the denial of the petition for bail would not be in accord with the precedent set in the Montano case.

Asked if the Montano case is the only legal precedent, Senator Pimentel replied in the affirmative.

Considering that Senator Trillanes poses no flight risk and is entitled to bail in view of the Montano case, Senator Legarda asked if the court should allow Senator Trillanes to attend the sessions and perform his duties. Senator Pimentel explained that the first thing that the Senate should do is to express its sense that Senator Trillanes be allowed to participate in Senate functions on which the court should act accordingly. He clarified, however, that it is not the intent of the proponents to tell the court what to do.

On the status of the petition for bail of Senator Trillanes, Senator Pimentel clarified that the senator was not allowed to attend the opening session of the Senate yesterday. As one of the signatories, Senator Legarda requested all her colleagues to endorse the resolution.

REMARKS OF SENATOR ARROYO

Senator Arroyo recalled that when Senator Honasan was granted bail to campaign in the last senatorial elections, he issued a statement that based on the equal protection clause of the Constitution, candidate Antonio Trillanes and Congressman Crispin Beltran should also be released on bail and allowed to campaign. He recalled that he even suggested to

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then Captain Trillanes' lawyers to ask for a reduction of the complaint against him so that it could be a bailable offense; however, the lawyers did not heed the suggestion. He opined that it would not be fair now for the senators to do what then Captain Trillanes and his lawyers failed to do as he underscored that the senators could not be proxies to something that the principal did not do himself.

In this regard, Senator Arroyo stated that in the case of the *People vs. Jalosjos*, the Supreme Court ruled that, "One rationale behind confinement, whether pending appeal or after final conviction is public self-defense. Society must protect itself. It also serves as an example and warning to others." He believed that there is no distinction between the Montano case and the Jalosjos case.

As to the election of individuals to public office, Senator Arroyo adverted again to the ruling of the Supreme Court in the Jalosjos case:

We start with the incontestable proposition that all top officials of government — executive, legislative, and judicial — are subject to the majesty of the law. There is an unfortunate misimpression in the public mind that election or appointment to high government office, by itself, frees the official from the common restraints of general law. Privilege has to be granted by law, not inferred from the duties of a position. In fact, the higher the rank, the greater is the requirement of obedience rather than exemption.

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When the voters of his district elected the accused-appellant to Congress, they did so with full awareness of the limitations on his freedom of action. They did so with the knowledge that he could achieve only such legislative results which he could accomplish within the confines of prison. x x x

Senator Arroyo asserted that the issue boils down to a question of equal protection under the Constitution which means that all persons shall be treated alike both in the enjoyment of rights and imposition of responsibilities.

On the assertion that Senator Trillanes must be allowed to perform his duties as a senator, Senator Arroyo further quoted the Supreme Court ruling, to wit:

The performance of legitimate and even essential duties by public officers has never

been an excuse to free a person validly in prison. The duties imposed by the "mandate of the people" are multifarious. The accused-appellant asserts that the duty to legislate ranks highest in the hierarchy of government. The accused-appellant is only one of the 250 members of the House of Representatives, not to mention the 24 members of the Senate, charged with the duties of legislation. Congress continues to function well in the physical absence of one or a few of its members.

We therefore, find the election to position of Congressmen is not a reasonable classification in criminal law enforcement. The functions and duties in office are substantial distinctions which lift him from the class of prisoners, interrupted in their freedom and restricted in liberty of movement. Lawful arrest and confinement are germane to the purposes of the law and apply to those belonging to the same class.

Senator Arroyo believed that all must be treated equally. He noted that a janitor or a working man could raise the argument that his confinement would prejudice his family.

In the case of Senator Montano, Senator Arroyo recalled that when the Senator was confined, there was no law on non-bailable offense, so that if the evidence of guilt was weak, even in a murder charge, the judge had the discretion to grant bail. On the other hand, he pointed out that the present law enumerates certain offenses which are non-bailable including the offense Senator Trillanes had been charged with.

In closing, Senator Arroyo expressed his sympathy for Senator Trillanes, noting that the Senator cannot use the Senate as a vehicle because the Supreme Court has unanimously expressed its opinion on the matter. Let it not be said, he added, that the Senate has ignored a unanimous decision of the Supreme Court.

Senator Pimentel said that the Jalosjos case does not apply to the case of Senator Trillanes because the resolution does not demand his presence in the Senate but merely requests that he be allowed to attend the sessions and perform his duties. He argued that there is no parity between the Jalosjos case and the case of Senator Trillanes because not a single congressman asked the House of Representatives to express its sense to free and allow Congressman Jalosjos to attend the sessions. *He*

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Senator Pimentel stated that the Montano case was being cited only to illustrate the fact that a person, who was charged with a non-bailable offense, was granted bail by the Supreme Court because the probability of flight is remote. He pointed out that there are certain matters which are immutable and can be used as an argument to support a particular point, saying that both cases were committed by senators who were charged with non-bailable offenses. He stated that the court could find a way to harmonize this problem by applying the Montano decision to Senator Trillanes' case because the decision would be favorable to the accused, pointing out that in criminal law, what is favorable to the accused is given more weight than one that would offend the rights of the accused.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR LACSON

Asked by Senator Lacson whether the petition that Senator Trillanes had filed before the Makati Regional Trial Court is praying to be granted bail, Senator Pimentel said that he did not know.

Senator Lacson stated that in his public pronouncements, Senator Trillanes has repeatedly mentioned that he was not asking to be granted bail by the court, and that he only wanted to be allowed to perform his duties as a senator.

Asked what other considerations were taken by the Supreme Court in granting bail to Senator Montano, Senator Pimentel replied that there was no strong evidence of guilt as would preclude all reasonable probability of any other conclusion. He affirmed that in the Jalosjos case, the court had already convicted Congressman Jalosjos and because there was strong evidence of guilt, he was denied petition for bail by the Supreme Court.

Asked what the Senate could do in case Senator Trillanes was not granted bail, Senator Pimentel replied that the Senate has no power to impose in this regard.

Senator Lacson stated that he was willing to coauthor another resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Senator Trillanes be allowed to participate in the plenary sessions through teleconferencing. Senator Pimentel said that it is one possibility but it would still be subject to the court's discretion.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ROXAS

Senator Roxas pointed out that the distinct difference in Senator Trillanes' case is that Senator Trillanes received the mandate of the people when he was elected senator, which makes this a political rather than a legal issue. He recalled that when the Senate was transformed into an impeachment court, it was involved in a political process imbued with legal elements. He stated that Senator Trillanes should be allowed to perform his functions and duties pursuant to the mandate even as his trial is being pursued in court. He suggested working out a condition wherein Senator Trillanes may be allowed to participate in the Senate sessions and then be led back to his place of custody, saying that it is in this context that he supported the resolution.

Senator Pimentel expressed appreciation to Senator Roxas. He clarified that the resolution does not intend to absolve Senator Trillanes of all the offenses because the innocence or guilt of Senator Trillanes would have to be decided by the courts.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR HONASAN

Senator Honasan explained that he signed the resolution because it reflected the will of the people and this takes precedence over his personal, legal and political discomfort. He said that there was no similarity between his case and Senator Trillanes', but he expressed empathy for Senator Trillanes as he was also incarcerated twice. He pointed out that when he and another Member were under assault in the Twelfth Congress, the issue of protection of rights was never raised in the Chamber. He said that he was seeking the same measure of protection that is being accorded to Senator Trillanes through the resolution.

He stated that at the appropriate time, he would propose the deletion of the third "whereas" clause as it is a matter of the difference between freedom and restriction not of Senator Trillanes alone, but of the Chamber as a whole. He feared that if the Senate's prerogative would be restricted by not allowing the majority of its Members to express their sentiment, it would be a threat to the institution once again.

Senator Pimentel accepted the proposal to delete the third "whereas" clause at the proper time. *JP*

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INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR ESCUDERO

Asked by Senator Escudero if it is the Senate's obligation to protect and safeguard the powers and prerogatives not only of the institution but of its individual members as well, Senator Pimentel replied in the affirmative.

Senator Escudero said that it behooves the Chamber to make such moves to protect its Members by assuring the performance of their obligations as senators.

On whether the approval of the resolution would authorize the Senate or some of its Members to intervene before the court and make known the Senate's position to facilitate the participation of Senator Trillanes in Senate functions, Senator Pimentel replied that the passage of the resolution would duly sanction such a move but the matter would have to be formally taken up again.

Senator Escudero stated that while it is up to the courts to weigh and evaluate the facts of the case, the Senate is duty-bound to express its support to a member who garnered almost 12 million votes. He expressed support for Senator Lacson's suggestion that Senator Trillanes be allowed to participate in the Senate sessions using available technology. He believed that it is the Armed Forces of the Philippines that has custody over Senator Trillanes and the Senate could make arrangements to allow certain gadgets to be installed to enable Senator Trillanes to participate in the deliberations.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR EJERCITO ESTRADA

Asked by Senator Ejercito Estrada how many persons have been jailed for committing rebellion and *coup d'etat*, Senator Pimentel replied that several people have been jailed.

Asked if former AFP Chief of Staff Angelo Reyes committed rebellion or *coup d'etat* against the Estrada administration in 2001, Senator Pimentel replied that rebellion becomes a crime only when it fails. He recalled that General Reyes withdrew his support from President Estrada and switched his support to then Vice-President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. He admitted that he was not certain

whether such acts could be considered a rebellion; but it was an act that was not legally sanctioned.

Asked whether the law should be equal to everybody regardless of one's economic status in life, Senator Pimentel replied in the affirmative, but he pointed out that the actual application would depend on the Executive department to pursue remedies under the law.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR BIAZON

To Senator Biazon's suggestion that the proposed resolution include that Senator Trillanes be given access to media, considering that he is denied this right at present, Senator Pimentel replied that it was a worthwhile suggestion but he would like to keep the resolution as simple as possible so that it could be passed without too much hassle.

As regards Senator Lacson's proposal to pursue another line of action outside the proposed resolution, Senator Pimentel agreed that the matter should be acted on after the passage of the resolution.

INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR AQUINO

Adverting to Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution, Senator Aquino wondered how the Members could not support the resolution which recognizes the authority of the people to designate their chosen representative such as Senator Trillanes so as to be consistent in the Senate's role of defending and upholding the law. Senator Pimentel agreed, as he clarified that the resolution does not intend to promote the view that election to public office is, in effect, a cover for all misdeeds.

Senator Aquino said that the resolution aims to show that the mandate given by the people is absolute and it does not advocate a termination of any proceedings against the said office, but rather, it is a recognition that a mandate bestowed upon Senator Trillanes gives him the authority, if not the responsibility and duty, to be able to participate in the proceedings in behalf of the people who voted for him. Senator Pimentel agreed, adding that such should always be in accordance with the rule of law.

PANGILINAN AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Senator Pangilinan and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the following amendments:

1. On the title of the resolution, after the word "SENATE," insert the phrase IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULE OF LAW; and
2. On the resolutive paragraph, delete the phrase "petition for bail," subject to style.

PIMENTEL AMENDMENT

As proposed by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the deletion of the third "whereas" clause.

MOTION OF SENATOR GORDON

Following the deletion of the third "whereas" clause on page 1, upon motion of Senator Gordon, there being no objection, all remarks pertinent to the involvement of Senator Honasan in the Oakwood mutiny were stricken off the Record of the Senate.

REMARKS OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan stated that he was supporting the resolution because he believed that the Senate is a party-in-interest in the continued detention of Senator Trillanes and in his inability to exercise his duties and responsibilities as a senator. As such, he asserted that the Senate should exert effort and provide support for Senator Trillanes to be able to discharge his duties.

MOTION TO ADOPT PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

Thereafter, Senator Pangilinan moved for the adoption of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 22.

MOTION OF SENATOR ENRILE

Noting the far-reaching implications of the resolution and the importance of having all the Members present to consider the same, Senator Enrile moved that nominal voting on the resolution be held in abeyance and be considered the first item on the next day's agenda. He said that he wanted the record to reflect the vote of each senator.

OBJECTION OF SENATOR LACSON

Senator Lacson objected to the motion, saying that the resolution should be passed since there was a quorum.

REMARKS OF SENATOR ARROYO

Senator Arroyo pointed out that even though those who opposed the passage of the resolution would lose in the voting, it is important to have the votes of the Members put on record. Senator Enrile agreed, as he noted that the fear of the absence of a quorum is quite far-fetched. However, Senator Lacson maintained his objection and moved for a division of the house.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 6:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:23 p.m., the session was resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan informed the Body that he, Senators Pimentel and Lacson had agreed to defer action on the resolution until the following day but it would be the first order of business. He withdrew his motion for the adoption of the resolution.

MOTION OF SENATOR ZUBIRI

Upon motion of Senator Zubiri, there being no objection, the period of amendments was reopened.

ZUBIRI AMENDMENT

On the resolutive paragraph, after the phrase "to allow Senator Trillanes," as proposed by Senator Zubiri and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the deletion of the phrase "sit in the Senate."

Senator Zubiri clarified that this way, the court would decide the manner in which Senator Trillanes could perform his duties.

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**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF
PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the resolution.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE
PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Pangilinan acknowledged the presence of the officers of the Sangguniang Kabataan headed by their national chairperson, Alvin Richie Nalupta.


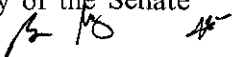
ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session

adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of the following day.

It was 6:26 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


EMMA LIRIO-REYES
Secretary of the Senate


Approved on July 30, 2007