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**SESSION NO. 17**

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

**FOURTEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 4:12 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Manny Villar, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

Sen. Francis Pangilinan read Psalm 37, verses 1 to 17, from the Bible, to wit:

*Do not fret because of evil men  
or be envious of those who do wrong.  
for like the grass they will soon wither,  
like green plants they will soon die away.  
Trust in the Lord and do good;  
dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.  
Delight yourself in the Lord;  
and he will give you the desires of  
your heart.*

*Commit your way to the Lord,  
trust in him and he will do this:  
He will make your righteousness shine  
like the dawn,  
the justice of your cause like the  
noontday sun.*

*Be still before the Lord and wait  
patiently for Him.  
do not fret when men succeed in their ways,  
when they carry out their wicked schemes.*

*Refrain from anger and turn from wrath.  
do not fret—it leads only to evil.  
For evil men will be cut-off,  
but those who hope in the Lord will  
inherit the land.*

*A little while, and the wicked will be no more;  
though you look for them, they not be found.  
But the meek will inherit the land  
and will enjoy great peace.*

*The wicked plot against the righteous  
and gnash their teeth at them;  
but the Lord laughs at the wicked,  
for he knows their day is coming.*

*The wicked draw the sword  
and bend the bow  
to bring down the poor and needy,  
to slay whose ways are upright,  
But their swords will pierce their own hearts,  
and their bows will be broken.*

*Better the little that the righteous have  
than the wealth of many wicked;  
for the power of the wicked will be broken,  
but the Lord upholds the righteous.*

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:

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

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

Senator Angara was on official mission abroad.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session.

**APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading

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of the Journal of Session No. 16 and considered it approved.

### DEFERMENT OF THE REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body deferred the Reference of Business to a later hour.

### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

Availing herself of the privilege hour, Senator Defensor Santiago clarified that the intent of her speech is to provide two working papers to the three committees that will hear the Garcillano case. She then proceeded to deliver her privilege speech, to wit:

#### THE DOCTRINE OF EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE, AFTER THE 2006 SENATE AND GUDANI CASES

##### DEFINITION AND BACKGROUND

##### *Definition*

In constitutional law, the doctrine of executive privilege is a paradox. There is no mention of it at all in the Constitution, but scholars accept that it is "constitutionally based." It is implied from the doctrine of separation of powers, which itself is not textually demonstrable.

*Tingnan natin ang Saligang Batas, walang separation of powers doon pero tinatanggap natin iyon. Ganoon din ang executive privilege. Wala iyon sa Saligang Batas pero tinatanggap ng ating mga korte.*

It is also implied from the totality of executive power. Thus, like most doctrines in law, it is not a simple matter, but instead it requires a certain amount of patient scholarship, and a becoming sense of legislative deference to case law.

*Kailangang pag-aralan nating mabuti ito para hindi tayo mapahiya sa Korte Suprema o kung sino man na mga iskolar na nagbabasa ng diyaryo tungkol sa mga pinagsasabi natin dito.*

*Black's Law Dictionary* defines the doctrine of executive privilege, as follows:

This privilege, based on the constitutional doctrine of separation of powers, exempts the executive from disclosure

requirements applicable to the ordinary citizen or organization where such exemption is necessary to the discharge of highly important executive responsibilities involved in maintaining governmental operations, and extends not only to military and diplomatic secrets but also to documents integral to an appropriate exercise of the executive domestic decisional and policy-making functions, that is, those documents reflecting the frank expression necessary in inter-governmental advisory and deliberative communication.

Wikipedia Encyclopedia on the internet gives this definition. Occasionally, Wikipedia is reliable.

In the U.S. government, executive privilege is the power (reserve power) claimed by the President of the United States and other members of the executive branch to resist certain search warrants and other interventions by the legislative and judicial branches of government. The concept of executive privilege is not mentioned in the U.S. Constitution, but some consider it to be an element of the separation of powers doctrine, and/or derived from the supremacy of the executive branch in its own area of constitutional activity.

In the 1995 Philippine case of *Almonte v. Vasquez*, the Philippine Supreme Court defined this doctrine, thus:

At common law a governmental privilege against disclosure is recognized with respect to state secrets bearing on military, diplomatic, and similar matters.

*Kaya puwede palang maglihim ang Executive Branch sa ating publiko o laban sa Kongreso o laban pa nga sa korte. Ganoon din ang korte, puwede rin silang maglihim ng kanilang mga pinag-uusapan. Mayroon din silang pribilehiyo na ganoon. Tayo lamang siguro sa legislative branch ang walang ganoong privilege because all our hearings are mostly conducted in public view and we want the public, in fact, to know what we are doing or saying, possibly because we are politicians and always fully aware that another election is just three years away.*

##### *History of doctrine*

In 1792, all of 18th century backwards, U.S. President George Washington, in effect, invoked ~~it~~

executive privilege, by refusing to give to Congress and the courts information about a disastrous expedition against American Indian tribes along the Ohio River. Washington lost the case, and duly handed over all of the papers that Congress had requested. In 1796, Washington also refused a request by the House of Representatives for documents relating to the negotiation of the Jay Treaty with England. As in the Philippines, the U.S. Senate alone plays a role in the ratification of treaties. Hence, Washington provided the documents to the Senate, but not to the House.

*Kaya noon pang umpisa ng ating demokrasyang kinopya natin ay nag-uumpisa na ang presidente na magsabi sa dalawang sangay ng gobyerno na may karapatan siyang itago ang ibang mga lihim ng gobyerno baka kasi pakinabangan ng mga kalabang dayuhan o kaya ng mga rebelde.*

Eleven years later, U.S. Chief Justice John Marshall – one of the greatest names in law, the great jurist who created the doctrine of judicial review – ordered President Thomas Jefferson to produce documents relevant to a treason case against Aaron Burr. Although the President complied with the court's order, he denied the authority of the court to issue it, and insisted that his compliance was voluntary.

*Dito pa lamang makikita mo na ang push and pull, at ang dynamics ng ating tripartite system of government. Palaging nagseselosan ang tatlong sangay na ito: executive, legislative and judicial.*

In 1954, President Dwight Eisenhower coined the term "executive privilege," in refusing to turn over the notes of Eisenhower's meeting with U.S. Army members to a Senate committee chaired by the infamous Sen. John McCarthy.

In the landmark 1974 case of *U.S. v. Nixon*, the U.S. Supreme Court accepted the valid need for executive privilege, but refuted the argument that it is an absolute privilege.

*Bago tayo nagkagulo sa administrasyon na ito, noong 1974 pa umabot na ito sa Korte Suprema ng Amerika at ang sabi nito, "Tama lamang na mayroong kapangyarihan ang Executive o ang Presidente na magtago ng mga state secrets kaya there is a valid need for executive privilege." Ang sabi ng korte, "Hindi naman absolute privilege yon." Sinabi ulit ng Presidente, "Ayokong magsabi kung ano ang gusto niyo, ayokong halungkatin ninyo ito." As I will show later, there is a certain condition for her to invoke this privilege.*

Although the Philippine Constitution, like the U.S. Constitution, does not provide for executive privilege, the Philippine Supreme Court has applied the doctrine of executive privilege in a long line of cases.

### *Scope of executive privilege*

The authoritative author Lawrence Tribe, professor of Constitutional Law at Harvard, has marked out the limits of executive privilege and confined it to the following fields only – *ito lamang ang mga puwedeng ilhim ng President:*

1. *State Secrets: Ano ang ibig sabihin ng state secrets? Kung ang senador ay nagpunta sa session ng Senado, pagkatapos ay hindi umuwi hanggang ala-una ng kinaumagahan, yan ba ang state secret? Hindi.* State secrets are defined by a U.S. case as governmental secrets relating to national defense or international relations. *Tama nga lamang naman. Ipalagay mo ba naman sa media o dyaryo o sa radio o sa TV kung ano ang ginagawa ng ating gobyerno tungkol sa national defense o sa ating kaugnayan sa ating mga kapwa bansa o ibayo, malalaman na nila ngayon.*

Once established, government has a privilege to refuse to disclose the secret. The information is of such a nature that its disclosure would subvert crucial military or diplomatic objectives.

In the most recent 2000 case of *Gudani v. Senga*, the Philippine Supreme Court upheld state secrets as part of the scope of executive privilege. More specifically, the Court defended state military secrets, thus:

Thus, we have to consider the question: may the President prevent a member of the armed forces from testifying before a legislative inquiry? We hold that the President has constitutional authority to do so, by virtue of her power as commander-in-chief, and that as a consequence a military officer who defies such injunction is liable under military justice.

*Nakakagulat yata itong Gudani v. Senga, kasi sa Biyernes mayroon tayong ipinatawag na mga military officials. Sabi ng Korte Suprema, hindi na kailangang sabihin ng Presidente na ipinagbabawal niya silang pumunta dahil sa executive privilege niya. Sapat na na mag-utos siya dahil Commander-In-Chief na siya ng Armed Forces. But I will go to that point a little later.*

2. **Informer's Privilege.** Defined by a U.S. case as the government's privilege to withhold from disclosure the identity of persons who furnish information on violations of law to officers charged with enforcement of that law. In the Philippines, we have laws protecting whistleblowers.

3. **Internal Deliberations.** Defined as inter-governmental documents reflecting advisory opinions, recommendations and deliberations comprising part of a process by which governmental decisions and policies are formulated.

In the 1995 case of *Almonte v. Vasquez*, in effect, the Philippine Supreme Court approved of these three categories of information as entitled to a claim of executive privilege.

*Ano ang puwedeng executive privilege ni Presidente Arroyo?* Number one, state secrets concerning the military; number two, concerning international relations or foreign relations; number three, sensitive national security matters. *Iyan lamang ang puwedeng ilihim dahil ipinagtatanggol niya ang ating bayan.*

Now let us deal with a leading American case on this topic.

#### UNITED STATES CASE: *U.S. v. NIXON*

In the United States, the landmark case on executive privilege is the unanimous decision in *U.S. v. Nixon*. However, the request for executive documents was made, not by Congress, but the courts.

*Medyo kaiba ang U.S. v. Nixon, dahil dito sa Senado ang problema natin ay kapag hiningi natin ang impormasyon sa Office of the President, sinasabi niya kung minsan na hindi niya puwedeng payagan ang kanyang Cabinet member at iba pang opisyal na magtestigo sa atin dahil mayroon daw siyang executive privilege.*

*Pero sa U.S. v. Nixon, ayaw ni Nixon ibigay ang mga papeles niya sa korte mismo.*

#### **The facts**

In 1974, after the Watergate cover-up, charges alleging conspiracy to defraud the U.S. and obstruction of justice were filed against the Attorney General and others. *Kasi pinaghinalaan na na si President Nixon ang nag-order ng paganakaw ng mga files ng kalaban niya sa kampanya. Subali't sinabi ni Nixon na hindi niya puwedeng ibigay ang mga papeles na hinihingi dahil mayroon siyang executive*

*privilege. President Nixon was named as unindicted co-conspirator. Mayroon silang ganoong sistema sa Amerika. The district judge issued a subpoena duces tecum – ibig sabihin niyan, pumunta ka at magdala ng papeles – directed at the President to produce certain tapes of conversations with specifically named advisors and aides on particular dates, and other memoranda, then in his possession, relevant to the upcoming trial of those indicted or those charged.*

The President released edited transcripts of the 20 conversations which had been subpoenaed. But the President declined to release additional materials and moved to quash the subpoena — *ibig sabihin, huwag nang ituloy ang subpoena* — asserting executive privilege. His claim was denied by the U.S. Supreme Court.

#### **The ruling**

These are relevant verbatim excerpts from the American decision, which are widely quoted by courts everywhere in the world.

However, neither the doctrine of separation of powers, nor the need for confidentiality of high level communications, without more, can sustain an absolute, unqualified presidential immunity from judicial process under all circumstances....

*Sabi ng korte na hindi puwedeng sabihin ng Presidente "Basta may executive privilege ako, tapos. Ayaw ko nang magpaliwanag sa inyo."*

When the privilege depends solely on the broad, undifferentiated claim of public interest in the confidentiality of such conversations, a confrontation with other values arises. Absent a claim of need to **protect military, diplomatic, or sensitive national security secrets**, we find it difficult to accept the argument that even the very important interest in confidentiality of presidential communications is significantly diminished by production of such material for *in camera* inspection with all the protection that a district court will be obliged to provide....

*In camera* means private.

These are the considerations justifying a **presumptive privilege for presidential communications.** *AK*

*Ngayon, kung ipatawag natin sa Garci hearing ang mga opisyal ng gobyerno at sabihin nila na they are invoking executive privilege, there is a presumption that they are correctly invoking the privilege. There is a presumptive privilege that the President is obeying the law.*

The privilege is fundamental to the operation of government and inextricably rooted in the separation of powers under the Constitution. In *Nixon v. Sirica...* (1973), the Court of Appeals held that such presidential communications are "presumptively privileged,"...

He does not place his claim of privilege on the ground that they are military or diplomatic secrets. As to these areas, the courts have traditionally shown the utmost deference to presidential responsibilities....

*Kaya kung sa Garci ipinatawag natin ang mga opisyal ng presidente o cabinet members niya, ang dapat lamang na isasagot nila ay "Bawal kaming magsalita dahil military secret ito or diplomatic secret" Iyon lamang dapat ang kanilang mga base. Kapag lumagpas pa sila doon ay delikado na sila. Wala na silang presumptive privilege.*

No case of the Court, however, has extended this high degree of deference to a President's generalized interest in confidentiality.

*Hindi puwedeng sabihin ni Presidente Arroyo na basta confidential, tapos. Hindi puwede iyan ayon sa korte.*

Nowhere in the Constitution... is there any explicit reference to a privilege of confidentiality, yet to the extent this interest relates to the effective discharge of a President's power, **it is constitutionally based.**

We conclude that when the ground for asserting privilege as to subpoenaed materials sought for use in a criminal trial is based only on the generalized interest in confidentiality, it cannot prevail over the fundamental demands of due process in the fair administration of criminal justice. The generalized assertion of privilege must yield to the demonstrated, specific need for evidence in a pending criminal trial.

*Sabi iyan sa Amerika at madalas na sinusunod natin ang sinasabi ng America pero wala tayong obligasyon na sundin nang*

*mahigpit. Puwede naman tayong magbago kung sa tingin natin na mas iba ang ating kaso o kaya ay mas marunong ang mga argumento na naririnig natin sa ating bansa.*

*Ngayon ay pumunta na tayo sa Pilipinas.*

#### PHILIPPINE CASE: SENATE V. ERMITA

In the Philippines, the landmark case on executive privilege is *Senate v. Ermita*, where the principal star and celebrity was Sen. Joker P. Arroyo.

#### *The facts*

In September 2005, the Senate, acting as a Committee of the Whole, set an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the North Rail Project, over which alleged overpricing and other charges had been made. The proper invitations were issued to certain executive officials concerned. *Kamukha lamang ito ng sinasabing National Broadband Network o ZTE scandal ngayon. Mayroong kontrata na ibinigay ang gobyerno na bilyong piso ang halaga kaya maraming mga akusasyon na nagkaroon ng illegal na pera ang ibang mga tao doon. Kaya ang sabi ng Senado ay imbestigahan natin at nagpadala sila ng imbitasyon. Kasi sa Senado ay nagpapadala muna kami ng imbitasyon. Kung ayaw magpunta ay nagpapadala na kami ng subpoena. Ano ang kaibahan ng imbitasyon sa subpoena? Makukulong ka sa Senado kung hindi mo susundin ang subpoena, subali't kung imbitasyon, okey lamang kung hindi ka pumunta.*

At about the same time, the Committee on National Defense and Security also scheduled a separate inquiry on alleged electoral fraud in the 2005 elections, including allegations that the President had been allegedly wiretapped while talking to a Comelec commissioner. The proper invitations were served to certain high officials of the Armed Forces of the Philippines. *Kaya nag-umpisa na kaming mag-imbetiga nitong Garci scandal na ito two years ago.*

Subsequently, the President issued Executive Order No. 464, entitled "Ensuring observance of the principle of separation of powers, adherence to the rule of executive privilege, and respect for the rights of public officials appearing in legislative inquiries in aid of legislation under the Constitution," with the following condensed excerpts:

**Sec. 1.** All heads of departments of the Executive Branch of the government shall secure the consent of the President prior to appearing before either House of Congress.

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**Sec. 2. (a).** Executive privilege covers all confidential or classified information between the President and the public officer covered by this executive order.

**Sec. 2 (b).** The following are covered by this executive order: officials of executive departments, generals and flag officers of the AFP; high officers of the PNP; senior national security officials; and such other officers as may be determined by the President.

**Sec. 3.** All public officials enumerated in Sec. 2 para (b) shall secure prior consent of the President prior to appearing before either House of Congress.

*Aba, napakalawak pala nitong E.O. No. 464. Walang paliwanag, basta sinasabi, "Pag pinatawag ang Executive branch ng Kongreso, House or Senate man, basta kumuha muna kayo ng pahintulot ko. Kung ayaw ko, huwag kayong pumunta." Ang problema dito ay wala na kaming makuhang testigo kung hindi kursunada ng Presidente.*

#### **The ruling**

The Court cited with approval the 1974 United States case of *U.S. v. Nixon*, and Philippine cases consisting of the 1995 case of *Almonte v. Vasquez*; the 1998 case of *Chavez v. PCGG*; and the 2002 case of *Chavez v. Public Estates Authority*. *Kaya mayroon na pala tayong mga kaso. Itong sa 1995, ang pinaka-unang modernong kaso tungkol sa hindi pagbigay ng pahintulot ng Presidente sa kanyang Cabinet na pumunta sa Senado ay tungkol sa Economic Intelligence and Investigations Bureau. Mayroon tayong Bureau of Customs gusto pang kumita ng pera para pag inilabas na ng Bureau of Customs, huhulihin nila. Eh di may delihensiya nga naman sila. Ngayon, itong si Almonte na dating heneral, kahit malayo siya sa pagka-presidente ay sinabi niya, "May executive privilege din ako. Kung ano man iyong papeles ng aking bureau ay hindi puwedeng ibigay." Natural, sabi ng Korte Suprema, "Anong palagay mo sa iyong sarili? Ordinaryo ka lamang na opisyal ng executive branch, ayaw mong magbigay ng papeles sa Ombudsman?" Kaya napagalitan tuloy ang taong ito. At doon natin makikita ang kasalanan kung minsan sa ating demokrasya o sa gobyerno. Mayroon tayong opisina, pero gagawa pa ng panibagong opisina para bantayan iyong orihinal na opisina. Sinong magbabantay sa pangalawang opisina? Gusto lamang makihati sa kita. Nagbayad na sa Bureau of Customs, pero gusto*

*nila na mayroon pa silang dagdag na antas at bayaran din sila. Iyon lamang ang katotohanan niyan dahil kung wala siyang itinatago, bakit ayaw niyang ipakita ang mga papeles? Anong executive privilege ang pinagsasabi nitong heneral na ito? Nagbasa man lamang ba siya ng libro? Iyon na nga ang problema sa gobyerno natin, ang daming nagdudunungdunungan. They are giving literacy a bad name in our country. Ganoon din sa *Chavez v. PCGG*; *Chavez v. PEA* – parehong talo silang lahat dahil sabi ng Korte Suprema, "Wala kayong mga executive privilege from all of these cases." In *Senate v. Ermita*, our Supreme Court drew out what it called a "clear principle," which it declared thus:*

Executive privilege, whether asserted against Congress, the courts, or the public, is recognized only in relation to certain types of information of a sensitive character.

*Hindi puwedeng lahat na lang na sabihin mo ay state secret. Ang impormasyon should be very sensitive in that, baka nakataya ang freedom ng ating country, ang buhay ng ating mga kababayan, our dearest values in civil society like our democratic form of government.*

Said the Court:

While executive privilege is a constitutional concept, a claim thereof may be valid or not depending on the ground invoked to justify it and the context in which it is made. Noticeably absent is any recognition that executive officials are exempt from the duty to disclose information by the mere fact of being executive officials.

The Court proceeded to invalidate half of the executive order and to validate the other half. But, in effect, the Court declared EO 464 invalid. The ruling can be summarized as follows:

Sec. 1 which requires presidential approval before any cabinet member can testify in Congress, is valid only with respect to Question Hour, as provided in our Constitution.

*May bago na tayong paraan ngayon. Ginaya natin sa parliamentary form of government na ang tawag ay Question Hour. Puwede naman makahingi sa mga Cabinet member, "Pumunta ka nga sa Senado at may itatanong lang kami sa iyo." Ito ang Question Hour. Kaya puwedeng mag-executive privilege doon.*

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Sec. 2 para (a) which defines the nature, scope, and coverage of executive privilege is valid because it merely provides guidelines, and does not purport to be conclusive on the other branches of government.

Sec. 2 para (b) which lists the public officials covered by the executive order but includes other officers as may be determined by the President, is invalid

*Kasi sa law, ito ay labag sa tinatawag na void for vagueness or overbreadth doctrine. Sobrang dami ang hindi puwedeng ipatawag. Kung sino pala ang kursunada ng Presidente ay puwedeng hindi ipatawag. Hindi naman puwede iyon, sabi ng Korte Suprema.*

Sec. 3 which requires prior presidential consent before public officials can appear in Congress, is invalid *per se*.

“Per se” means by itself. *Halimbawa, umuwi ang asawa mo ng alas onse na wala naman siyang paalam sa iyo, he is guilty per se.*

The Court held that the invalid half of the executive order constituted erroneous invocation of executive privilege, thus:

The claim of privilege under Sec. 3 of EO 464 in relation to Sec. 2 para b is thus **invalid per se**. It is not asserted. It is merely implied. Instead of providing precise and certain reasons for the claim, it merely invokes EO 464, coupled with an announcement that the President has not given her consent. It is woefully insufficient for Congress to determine whether the withholding of information is justified under the circumstances of each case. It **severely frustrates** the power of inquiry of Congress. In fine, **Sec. 3 and Sec. 2 (b) of EO 464 must be invalidated.**

*Kaya wala namang sinabi ang Korte Suprema na wala ng executive privilege kundi, itong EO 464 ay napakasagwa ng pagkasulat, maling-mali ang sinusubukan niya na pag-apply ng executive privilege. Kaya kung ako si President, hahanapin ko ang tao na nag-draft nito at barilin ko na antimano on the ground of self-defense. Iyong buhay mo invalid, per se.*

So now, before we start our Garci probe, we can already clarify: *Ano ba talaga ang ibig sabihin ng executive privilege? Mamaya may ipinatawag tayong mga testigong importante at sasabihin ng Presidente “executive privilege”.*

## STATEMENT OF DOCTRINE OF EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE

The doctrine of executive privilege, as recently amplified in the 2006 cases of *Senate* and *Gudani*, now consists of the following principles:

1. The doctrine of executive privilege is not explicitly provided for in the Constitution, but it is an accepted constitutional concept, rooted in the separation of powers. *Kaya napakaganda ng karera ng isang abogada dahil walang madalian dito, kailangan pag-aralang mabuti. Wala pala ito sa Constitution but it is constitutionally based. Ano kaya ang diperensya dyan? Kailangan, doctorate ka muna dahil kung pabigla-bigla ka, talagang mahhirapan ka.*

2. At the outset, there is a **disputable presumption** that executive information is entitled to executive privilege. If the President invokes executive privilege, the information becomes presumptively privileged. The privilege, however, is qualified, not absolute. The presumption can be overcome by an adequate showing of need. The confidential nature of the information should be crucial to the fulfillment of the unique role and responsibilities of the executive branch.

To overthrow the presumption, there must be a showing of high necessity, sufficient to outweigh public interest. The urgent necessity should relate to the discharge of highly important executive responsibilities.

3. The privilege attaches to certain **types** of information of a sensitive character, not to **certain executive officials**.

4. The privilege must be **expressly claimed**, not merely implied. There must be a formal claim of privilege. An improperly asserted claim of privilege is no claim of privilege.

5. Executive privilege may only be claimed by the President, but she may authorize the Executive Secretary to invoke the privilege on her behalf, by using the formula “By order of the President,” meaning, that he personally consulted with her.

6. When the claim of confidentiality does not rest on the need to protect military, diplomatic, or other security secrets, but on a **general interest** in the confidentiality of his conversations, courts have declined to find in the Constitution an absolute privilege of the President against a subpoena considered essential to the enforcement of criminal law. In *Chavez v PCGG*, the court held that there is a “governmental privilege *against public*”



*disclosure* with respect to state secrets regarding military, diplomatic, and other national security matters.”

### *Procedure for invoking the doctrine*

What should be the procedure when we want to subpoena certain executive or military officials during our Garcillano hearing that starts on Friday?

1. If the Senate committee—there are actually three of them—invites or subpoenas a public official, he must inform the President or the Executive Secretary of the need to invoke the privilege.

2. The official must so inform the Senate committee, which has a duty to afford reasonable time and fair opportunity to the President or the Executive Secretary to study the proposed claim of privilege.

We subpoena *ang testigo, sinabi niyang* “Magkunsulta muna ako sa Presidente kung executive privilege ito.” *Tapos bibigyan natin kaagad ng warrant of arrest? Bigyan natin ng panahon ang Presidente na pag-aralan ang paksa.*

3. If the privilege is not invoked—*ayaw ng Presidente mag-invoke ng privilege* but the witness refuses to attend anyway — the Committee, if it has not yet done so, must issue a subpoena, cite the official for contempt, and order him jailed until he purges himself of the contempt.

4. If the privilege is invoked, there should be a statement of the specific basis of the claim. There should be sufficient specificity to make it possible to assess the potential harm resulting from disclosure. The facts upon which the privilege is based must be established. “A formal and proper claim of executive privilege requires a specific **designation and description of the documents** within its scope, as well as **precise and certain reasons** for resuming their confidentiality.”

The President may not issue a blanket requirement of prior consent on executive officials summoned to attend a congressional hearing. The Court recognized in *Senate* that there are considerable limitations on executive privilege.

5. However, Congress should not require the Executive to state the reasons for the claim with such particularity as to compel disclosure of the information which the privilege is meant to protect. *Kamukha nito, kung may probe tayo or inquiry dito sa Senado at sabihin ng witness natin, “Your Honor, I invoke my right against*

*self-incrimination,” hindi sapat iyon. Kailangan ipaliwanag niya na kung patuloy niyang sagutin ang pagtatanong ay baka madamay niya ang sarili niya. May karapatan siyang huwag idamay ang sarili niya. That is called the right against self-incrimination. Pero hindi sapat na sabihin niya na, “I have a right against self-incrimination under the Bill of Rights.” Kailangang magpaliwanag siya sa mga senador bakit mai-incriminate ang sarili niya. Ang Senado, hindi siya, ang maghahatol kung tama ang sinasabi niya o hindi. Ganoon din sa executive privilege.*

6. However, the President has power to prevent military officers from testifying before Congress—*ibang bagay ang military officials* — based on her power as commander-in-chief to control the actions and speech of members of the armed forces. *Kasi, iba ang disiplina sa military. Mayroon silang tinatawag na line of command at hindi ka maaaring lumabag sa utos sa iyo anuman ang paniwala mo o sa tingin mo ay mas marunong ka sa kumander mo. Biro mo, ano ang mangyayari kung nakikipagdigmaan tayo tapos mas marunong ka pa sa kumander mo? Sigurado talo tayo. Kaya iba ang sistema nila, ganoon din sa executive privilege. Pag inutusan ng commander-in-chief na siyang Presidente o kaya ng AFP Chief of Staff na huwag gumawa ng ganiito o kailangang gumawa ng ganyan, hindi puwedeng magrebelde ang official. Under the Articles of War, that is already a crime sufficient to call into play criminal liability and dismissal from the military service. The President in this case does not need to claim executive privilege. Her prerogatives as commander-in-chief are not hampered by the same limitations as in executive privilege. Kaya mag-ingat tayo kung nagpapatawag tayo ng mga opisyal-militar, kaiba sila sa mga opisyal-sibilyan. The Court said: “[E]ven the most compelling necessity cannot overcome the claim of privilege if the court is ultimately satisfied that military secrets are at stake.” Pero iyan, kung may talagang lihim militar, hindi naman puwedeng sabihin mo na lamang na dahil militar ka, lahat na lamang ng sabihin mo ay lihim ng military. Kailangang patunayan mo rin iyon*

7. If the President prevents a member of the armed forces from testifying before a legislative inquiry, she merely has to invoke her constitutional authority as commander-in-chief, and does not even need to invoke executive privilege.

8. To compel the President to authorize the military or other official to testify, Congress has to secure a judicial order.

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**EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE IS VALID;  
EO 464 IS INVALID**

In *Senate v. Ermita*, the Supreme Court virtually declared EO 464 invalid because it authorized implicit claims of executive privilege. *Sino kasi ang sumulat ng EO 464 na iyan?* EO 464 was invalid because it imposed a blanket prohibition. But the doctrine of executive privilege itself remains valid, provided: 1) It is expressly claimed. EO 464 was an implicit claim. *Ngayon dapat sabihing maliwanag ng Presidente, "I claim formally executive privilege;"* 2) It should relate to specific facts constituting state secrets regarding military, diplomatic, foreign relations, and other national security matters *para tayo sa Senado ang maghatol ngayon kung tama nga naman ang pag-invoke niya ng executive privilege o hindi. Ngayon, kung hindi tayo magkasundo*, unfortunately then, because this is an inter-branch dispute, we will all have to go to the Supreme Court.

In *Gudani v. Senga*, the Court clarified its earlier *Senate* ruling thus: "The Court did not rule that the power to conduct legislative inquiry *ipso facto* superseded the claim of executive privilege, acknowledging instead that the viability of executive privilege stood on a case-to-case basis. Should neither branch yield to the other branch's assertion, the constitutional recourse is to the courts, as the final arbiter of the dispute."

I most respectfully offer the text of the speech together with its brother text on illegal wiretapping to the respective chairs of the three committees that will start the Garcillano probe on Friday.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

*It was 5:01 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 5:02 p.m., the session was resumed.

**REFERRAL OF SPEECH TO COMMITTEES**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Defensor Santiago to the Committee on National Defense and Security as the primary committee, and to the Committees on Accountability of

Public Officers and Investigations, and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws as secondary committees.

**CHANGE OF REFERRAL**

Senator Biazon believed that Senator Defensor Santiago's speech should be properly referred to the Committee on Rules considering that the speech defines situations which may necessitate amendments to the Rules and an interpretation of the same that would govern the committees in hearing and handling similar cases.

Senator Pangilinan explained that he moved, and the Body approved, the referral of the speech primarily to the Committee on National Defense and Security, and secondarily to the Committees on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations, and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws, to serve as a guide when the said committees begin their hearings on Friday. However, he posed no objection to referring the speech to the Committee on Rules.

There being no objection, the motion to refer the speech to the three committees was reconsidered.

Acting on Senator Biazon's motion, Senator Defensor Santiago's speech was referred to the Committee on Rules.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Pangilinan acknowledged the presence of the officers of the Metrobank Foundation, Inc. headed by Mr. Aniceto Sobrepeña, and the winners in the 2007 Search for Outstanding Teachers sponsored by the Foundation, namely: Mr. Fredo T. Laureles of Ateneo de Manila Grade School; Mrs. Jeneuj C. Cunanan of Lanao Central Elementary School, Kidapawan City; Mrs. Madeline P. Rivera of San Pablo Central School, San Pablo City; Mrs. Leticia N. Palle of Malaybalay City Central School, Malaybalay City, Bukidnon; Mrs. Glendale B. Lamiseria of Dulag National High School, Dulag, Leyte; Dr. Ruben L. Abucayon of Alegria National High School, Alegria, Surigao del Norte; Mrs. Norma C. Pacaigue of Novaliches High School, Novaliches, Quezon City; Mrs. Cynthia B. Bangerero of Barotac Viejo National High School, Barotac Viejo, Iloilo; Dr. Benilda S. Santos of Ateneo de Manila University

Loyola Schools, Loyola Heights, Quezon City; and Dr. Caesar P. Saloma of the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City.

### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the Chair suspended the session to allow the senators to greet the winners and Senate President Villar to present to them Senate Resolution No. 15.

*It was 5:08 p.m.*

### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:15 p.m., the session was resumed.

### REMARKS OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan informed the Body that Senator Gordon was the chair of the board of judges that selected the 2007 Ten Outstanding Teachers awarded by the Metrobank Foundation and he arranged for the teachers to be present in the Chamber today. He said that the selection process was not an easy task as he recalled that when he chaired the board, it took them two to three days to select the winners.

The Chair commended Senator Gordon for the board's choice of winners.

### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR PIMENTEL

Likewise, availing himself of the privilege hour, Senator Pimentel underscored the need to preserve the languages of the Filipino people.

*The full text of his speech follows:*

#### **PRESERVE OUR LANGUAGES/ STRENGTHEN THE REPUBLIC**

Some people believe that we have many dialects, which may be true, but we have also many languages. To name some: 1) *Iloko* in the Ilocos and other adjoining provinces; 2) *Pangalatok* in Pangasinan; 3) *Kapampangan* in Panganga; 4) *Tagalog* in Manila and in Southern Tagalog provinces; 5) *Bikolano* in Bicol; 6) *Hiligaynon* in the Iloilo provinces and in Negros Occidental; 7) *Binisaya* in Cebu, Bohol and many parts of Mindanao; 8) *Waray* in Samar and parts of Leyte; and 9) the languages of the

Maranaos in the Lanao Provinces, the Maguinadanaos in Cotabato and in the adjoining provinces, and Tausug in Sulu and nearby areas.

These languages have nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, clauses, all the major components of language that are needed in verbal communications as well as in literary works.

Unfortunately, I think that all our languages are in danger of extinction with the exception of Tagalog, which has been mandated by law and by the Constitution as the basis of our national language.

Do not get me wrong, I am in favor of having a national language. We need it so that we do not have to speak the language of foreigners to communicate with one another, which is happening today in the halls of Congress most of the time. For example, I find it distressing that in our country today, we need an interpreter to translate proceedings in our courts of law throughout the land. Usually, it is from English to Tagalog or to any of the dominant language that is spoken in the place where the judicial proceedings are held. I think that trying a Filipino especially in criminal cases in a language that is foreign to him is atrocious and should be rectified soonest. But that is another story.

#### *Napoleonic idea*

Anyway, historically, it looks like it was the Jacobins of France in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century who led the drive to implement the Napoleonic wish to unify the people of France by mandating the use of one language – French – to achieve that end. Parenthetically, let me say that that was how visionary Napoleon was. And to think that Napoleon was born in Corsica and his native language was Corsican, a dialect of the Italian language.

The Napoleonic concept of language as a unifying element of nations dominated the thinking of nation-builders and policymakers in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### *Diverse languages*

Nowadays, however, that kind of thinking may already be dated. Multiple identities of people and diverse languages in one nation are now common place. Ready examples are Spain, Wales in the United Kingdom, Belgium and Switzerland.

Hence, I submit that forcing the language of one ethnic group such as Tagalog upon other

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ethnic groups is divisive and disruptive of the national fabric. The key word here is "forcing" a foreign language on a people. It does not unite. Pakistan learned this the hard way after the super-nationalists in Islamabad declared that only Urdu would be the national and official language of Pakistan. Among other things, it led to the breakaway of East Bengal and the eventual formation of Bangladesh. The ongoing civil war in Sri Lanka had as a major cause, the imposition of Sinhalese as the sole national language over the objections of the Tamils. Belgium almost had a civil war and it had to recognize Flemish as an official language along with French. Until then, influenced by the Napoleonic Doctrine, only French was the official language and the sole language of instruction in Belgium. Spain after Franco wisely recognized the regional languages as official language and as languages of instruction.

### *More Sugboanons*

In our country, "until about 1970 there were more Filipinos who spoke Sugboanon or Cebuano-Visayan and its various dialects, than those speaking Tagalog. Tagalog as we all know was adopted as the major but not the sole basis of Filipino, our national language in 1937. Since then more of our people have learned to understand and speak Tagalog than Cebuano-Visayan, because of the teaching and use of Tagalog or Filipino in our schools and their daily use by radio, cinema and television."

Many of us who were not born in Tagalog-speaking areas believe that unless we take pains to protect our own indigenous languages, they would eventually disappear completely from our consciousness and from use in our verbal and written communications.

### *Tragic end*

That would be sad, tragic and a total waste of a people's resource that can be put to promote our own understanding of concepts that the world outside our own limited firmament uses.

Indeed, an adviser to the President of Iceland in the 1800s, Ornlfor Thorsson, said: "Without our language, we have no culture, we have no identity, we are nothing."

Thorsson said that when the Icelandic language was in danger of disappearing after years of Norwegian colonialism. Had this happened, the Icelanders as an ethno-linguistic people would have disappeared from the face of the earth.

There is a study made by Gemma Cruz-Araneta that was published in her column in the *Manila Bulletin* of November 16, 2006. "It shows a decline in the number of users of Filipino languages other than Tagalog through the years. Tagalog users have steadily increased in number from 19 percent of the population in 1948 to 29.30 percent in 1995. The rise of Tagalog is far from spectacular, until it is compared to the decline of other languages in the country. In fact, Save Our Language through Federalism (SOLFED), this is an NGO organization, woefully predicts that in about 50 years, many of our other vernacular languages will cease to exist. To illustrate the urgency of the situation, Zambali is spoken only in four obscure towns in Zambales. Sen. Dick Gordon is one of the few who might be able to speak Zambali. I know that our Senate President Pro Tempore speaks Zambali too.

And so, there is another graph that follows. I will no longer read it for purposes of demonstrating that there is a decline in the number of non-Tagalog speakers, in other words, of other languages in the Philippines.

### *Losing a culture*

Now, that would be indeed a tragedy as Dr. Kenneth Hale, who taught linguistics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, said that: "When you lose a language, you lose a culture, intellectual wealth, a work of art."

We, the Visayan-speaking peoples of the Visayas and Mindanao, for instance, have a word "*bana*," meaning "husband" in English for which the Tagalogs have no equivalent. Tagalogs use the same word "*asawa*" for husband and wife. That, to my mind, is promoting same sex marriage because if one can have "*asawa*" and "*asawa*" in the same household, that means that, theoretically, he can have people of the same sex getting married. But that is another story.

Our word in the Visayas for blanket is "*habol*" but "*habol*" in Tagalog means "to run after." Our word for "ant" is "*hulmigas*," but the Tagalogs would call "*langgam*" but to us, "*langgam*" means "bird." In short, it would be a pity if we lose our language just because we are far from Manila whose *lingua franca* Tagalog has been the language of the people in Manila, the capital of the country, for centuries mainly for practical purposes.

If we, the non-Tagalogs, want to give our languages a decent chance of survival, what can we do?

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I suggest that there are, at least, two things that we can do: one fairly easy, the other quite difficult.

One merely calls for a change in the curriculum of our schools so that we allow the use of the dominant language in the various regions of the land as the medium of instruction from Grades I to VI.

I submit that the proposal makes sense because concepts would be more easily understandable to the graders if stated in the language of their homes. For instance, if one teaches Visayan grade school kids arithmetic the teacher would usually say in English, "One plus one equals two." But the concept of addition would be more clearly transmitted to the pupils in the Visayan-speaking areas if they are told in Visayan that "*Ang usa dungagan ug usa mahimong duha.*"

I would also suggest that we should teach English and Tagalog in our grade schools by using the dominant language of the people in the community. Taiwan is doing that, teaching Mandarin in Taiwanese language. The rationale is the same for the use of the local language to teach arithmetic.

At this point, let me say that I am not aware that this change in the curriculum needs legislation to implement it. All it probably needs is a policy adopted by the Department of Education that may immediately be implemented for the entire six grades or staggered over a few years as may be necessary in accordance with the decision of our education officials in the DepEd.

If a law is necessary, I think we can easily mobilize enough support from our lawmakers to make that proposition possible.

#### *Adopt federalism*

The other way of doing it is more cumbersome because the proposal is to adopt the federal system for the country. Under the proposal, we can create 10 federal states based mainly on the linguistic preferences of the citizens.

To adopt the federal system of government needs an amendment of the Constitution. In the instances when I have articulated the need to adopt the federal system for the country, I have always maintained that the federal system would facilitate the economic development of the country and advance the cause of peace in the land.

Among other things, the adoption of the federal system would enable the federal states to enhance their own culture, language being a major component of it.

Unless we adopt the first proposal as an interim measure and the second one as the more permanent solution, I fear that our non-Tagalog languages are doomed.

We can take heart from the examples of post-Franco Spain, the United Kingdom, Belgium and Switzerland.

#### *Spain*

The evolution of Spain after Franco is a thought-provoking case. Catalan, Basque and Galician have been co-officialized and are now used side by side with Spanish in their respective regions. A conscious and systematic language policy favoring the elaboration and social implementation of minority languages in all fields of social life has led to spectacular results. Spain is often considered as a model of *linguistic development and the peaceful solution of ethnic and linguistic conflicts in the process of nation-building.*

#### *United Kingdom*


In the UK, the Welsh Language Act 1993 and the Government of Wales Act 1998 provide that Welsh and English language should be treated on a basis of equality. Public bodies are required to prepare and implement a Welsh Language Scheme. Thus, the Welsh Assembly, local councils, police forces, fire services and the health sector use Welsh as an official language, issuing official literature and publicity in Welsh versions.

#### *Belgium*

In Belgium, since 1993 there are now three levels of government: federal, regional and linguistic communities with a complex division of responsibilities. French and Flemish are now considered official languages of the Kingdom.

#### *Switzerland*

In Switzerland, the land of the cantons, four languages are recognized as official. In a small country with about 26 million people, four languages: French, German, Italian and Romansch.

I guess we have other examples of countries having multiple languages which have contributed to the stabilization of their situation instead of causing them problems of division. ~~As~~ 

I end with the suggestion that the time to take the first move to revise the curriculum of our education system, so that we allow the use of the local languages as the medium of instruction in our grade school, is now. Our other major languages are dying. We have to save them now.

The other suggestion is for the adoption of the federal system. I also suggest that it would be to our advantage as a nation for us to begin discussing the issue now. The federal system is a rather complicated one. It needs time to make our people aware of its various ramifications and to discuss and negotiate with all the stakeholders in Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao its practical implications.

In the meantime, allow us to plead with our colleagues in government: Help us preserve our languages to enhance our cultures and we strengthen the nation.

As I close, I would like to mention that Sen. Lito M. Lapid, I think, has introduced a resolution where the discussions in the Senate, the Record of the Senate, would be translated into Filipino for purposes of posterity.

I would suggest that we consciously try to adopt our own national language even in the discussions of matters affecting us in the Senate. I will be put to a disadvantage because I am not a Tagalog-speaking Filipino. I was born in Mindanao and I speak the language in Mindanao. Therefore, I should be the last one to advocate such a move as I had articulated. But it is important that as a nation, we must begin to realize that we need a common language to unify all of us but, at the same time, we must preserve the various languages of our nation because in preserving those languages, it would enhance the social fabric of the nation.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR BIAZON**

Senator Biazon recalled that when he was invited to the 1990 convention of the Inner Wheel Club hosted by the Cebu chapter, only about 20 of the more than 1,000 Filipino women present were able to sing the national anthem in the Cebuano language. He asked whether several versions of the national anthem should be allowed.

Senator Pimentel pointed out that a law prescribes only one version of the national anthem, that of Julian Felipe who composed the music and Jose Palma who wrote the lyrics of the song. While conceding the possibility that several versions of the national anthem

could be sung in the different regions of the country, nonetheless, he believed that the version prescribed by the law should be used.

On the difficulty that could arise from using the dominant language of the region as the medium of instruction in the elementary grades, Senator Pimentel explained that the situation is no different from that of using English in the grade school. He maintained that it would be fairer to the students to use the dominant language of the region than to use a foreign language.

Senator Biazon asked how many of the 87 dialects of the 87 ethnic groups in the country could be developed as the dominant language of the region and whether the other languages that would not be developed would eventually die. He noted that an area could have four languages, namely, English, Tagalog, the regional language, and a tribal dialect.

Senator Pimentel agreed to such a possibility. He cited Canada where the government recognizes the tribal language of its "first peoples" and allows the tribes to educate their children in their own language; and Tibet which was subjugated by China has two official languages, Tibetan and Chinese. He believed that the Philippines could adopt a policy that would also protect tribal languages.

Senator Biazon said that if he were the Secretary of Education, and there are ten dominant languages in the Philippines that would be used as official language, there are a number of things that he would have to deal with, including the translation of the books to the dominant language, and ensuring that there is a sufficient number of teachers in the elementary level who have a good understanding of the dialect in the region, which means that a non-Ilocano teacher cannot be assigned in Ilocos. Senator Pimentel pointed out, however, that the non-Ilocano teacher could still be asked to teach another subject. He further stressed the need for variations in the policies to be adopted, depending on the circumstances.

Asked if he was proposing that all the subjects in the elementary be taught in one language, Senator Pimentel replied in the affirmative. However, he admitted that this could not be done *in toto* because most of the terms in subjects like Science have no literal translations in the dominant language of the region.

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Senator Biazon disclosed that in Indonesia the development of a national language was stymied by the contest among the major dialects that were spoken; thus, the strategy of the Indonesian government was to adopt Bahasa Indonesia—the least-spoken among its more than 300 dialects—to be its national language.

Senator Pimentel surmised that the language of the dominant group was used in Indonesian schools, because English was never used as the medium of instruction. Senator Biazon agreed, but he pointed out that Bahasa Indonesia also adopted some English words, like “police” which became “polisi” and “confrontation” which became “confrontasi.” He said that this could also be done in the Philippines.

### INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR LEGARDA

At the outset, Senator Legarda adverted to Article XIV, Section 7 of the Constitution, which states:

“For purposes of communication and instruction, the official languages of the Philippines are Filipino and, until otherwise provided by law, English. The regional languages are the auxiliary official languages in the regions and shall serve as auxiliary media of instruction therein.”

Replying to a query by Senator Legarda, Senator Pimentel clarified that in his speech, he did not suggest doing away with English as he believed that the country would lose its edge over other countries in the use of the English language. His proposition, he said, is to add the dominant language of particular places for purposes of making that language official also.

Senator Legarda said that it was important to clarify that English would not be replaced by any auxiliary language or dialect indeed because of the need to improve on English proficiency among many other subjects in schools. Furthermore, she said that English is of paramount importance since one of the drivers of economic growth is investments in business processing outsourcing (BPO).

Replying to another query, Senator Pimentel said that the constitutional provision on the use of regional languages as the auxiliary official languages is seldom, if at all, observed. He explained that his proposal is

for a Visayan teacher, for example, to use the Visayan word to describe the nature of the object that he or she is trying to teach to pupils in the grade school. He said that he was not aware of any systematic way of using a dominant language in any community for purposes of instructing pupils in the grade school.

In reply to further queries of Senator Legarda, Senator Pimentel clarified that his suggestion is to use the dominant language of a community in teaching even the English or Filipino languages, as incalculable benefits to the Filipino people would be realized if the language used is known to both teacher and pupil.

Senator Legarda asked if the constitutional provision is sufficient enough to implement the proposal, so that all DepEd has to do is provide a mechanism for official languages in the region to be used as supplementary mode of instruction in the region. Senator Pimentel replied that there is no need to enact a law saying that perhaps a circular could be issued directing that henceforth, the teaching of English, Mathematics and other courses should be done in the dominant language of the community pursuant to the constitutional provision. He said that this could be done probably on a staggered basis; for instance, Grades I to III at a given time, and Grades IV to VI thereafter.

Replying to another query, Senator Pimentel affirmed that the use of regional languages or “dialects” are clearly not discouraged and disallowed but, in fact, encouraged in the Constitution and can be implemented immediately. He insisted, however, on the use of the word “languages” rather than “dialects” because there is a difference.

Asked on his personal sentiments as regards those who “tagalize” or utilize Filipino and English, and even other regional languages with English, in one sentence or paragraph, Senator Pimentel said that while it is part of the *lingua franca* of a community, he would rather encourage people to know and speak fluent English, Tagalog or other languages than just merging them. He said that, officially, the schools can do a lot to discourage the proliferation of the use of “Taglish” in Manila as well as Visayan English in other parts of the country.

Senator Legarda agreed, as she pointed out that indeed, language is an integral part of the Filipino culture that should be preserved and protected. However, in so doing, she stated that people should

not neglect to promote and improve their proficiency in the use of the English because it is the language of trade and commerce.

### INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR GORDON

At the outset, Senator Gordon commended Senator Pimentel for espousing a worthwhile cause. He pointed out that part of the walling of the mind of many Filipinos was the impression that the Spanish friars were superior to the Filipinos because the former could learn the Filipino language, while the latter could not learn Spanish. He surmised that to a certain extent, it is an extended colonial hangover when contemporary Filipinos try to put in one regional dialect against the other.

Senator Gordon noted that the Japanese started more than five years ago to make English its official language, and that he was glad Senator Pimentel earlier clarified that the use of English would not be set aside.

Senator Gordon recalled that when he was Secretary of Tourism, one of his projects was to put together the best of the regions showcasing their culture and traditions and this, he said, contributed immensely to domestic tourism. He asked if the National Commission for Culture and the Arts is trying to do the same, for instance, by building dictionaries of the local languages and offering these to missionaries. Senator Pimentel replied that it is the NGOs that are doing this, pointing out that the missionaries, in fact, have a linguistic school in Bukidnon where words are compiled and a dictionary is being made out of the local languages translated into English.

Senator Gordon affirmed that the best way to learn a language or dialect is to live in the place, as in the case of President Arroyo who grew up in Iligan and is able to speak many languages. He expressed support for a law or resolution that would appropriate money towards the writing of books and the creation of language stations or schools where students can take courses on the local languages as elective.

Senator Pimentel agreed to the suggestion, adding that indeed the other languages should not be considered inferior but should be treated on an equal basis. He concurred that putting up centers in educational institutions to teach them would help promote the idea of "unity in diversity" as exemplified by the U.S.

Senator Gordon asserted that the Cebuano and Muslim literature that are replete with accounts of deeds of mighty warriors and classes of people should be collected, for which purpose the National Historical Institute and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts could be tapped. He said that their programs should showcase the culture, literature and language of the different ethnic groups.

Senator Pimentel expressed hope the Committee, to which the speech would be referred, would call upon concerned government agencies to precisely brief the senators on what they are doing concretely to promote the Filipino culture and languages.

### INTERPELLATION OF SENATOR MADRIGAL

Preliminarily, Senator Madrigal thanked Senator Pimentel for bringing to the Body's attention an issue as basic as the language that is being used everyday but is being neglected by the government.

Senator Madrigal expressed concern that the Philippines is losing its edge in English. In this regard, she pointed out that linguistics studies show that learning a second language at a younger age is easier. She said that if an elementary student is taught science, history and social studies in his native tongue, he becomes not only productive and receptive but also more articulate in those subjects and later on in English.

Referring to Napoleon's effort to unify France by ordering all to speak French, Senator Madrigal noted that France has an academy on language that is composed of members from the academe who strictly police the entry of foreign languages into the country. She said that it would be good if the Philippines has an academy to guard and promote the purity of Filipino and other native languages.

Asked how the proposal of Senator Pimentel could be implemented immediately with elementary education as the focus of the Department of Education, Senator Pimentel agreed that a second language can be learned much easier if it is taught at an early age using one's native tongue. He believed that this could be done by implementing the mandate of the Constitution that other languages of the country may be used as a medium of instruction in schools.

Senator Madrigal noted that while graduates of pre-war public schools had equal facility in Tagalog,



English and Spanish, the language used by students nowadays has degenerated into "Taglish" and they are unable to express themselves well in either English or Filipino. Senator Pimentel admitted that the problem is a product of a lazy attitude of mixing up words that are understandable to the youth. He asserted that a Filipino cannot be called a cultured person if he cannot even express himself in his native language. He agreed that the government should establish an academy on the spoken and written languages.

Asked how children can be taught how to read and write properly when grammar is no longer being taught in schools, Senator Pimentel agreed that if the elementary school students are not taught Tagalog or Cebuano grammar, for instance, they would never be able to produce worthwhile literary works.

Senator Madrigal expressed hope that this would not be the last time the issue of language and culture is discussed in the Senate as she gave assurance that she would support or coauthor any bill or resolution that would look into the problem of teachers in teaching Filipino languages.

#### **REFERRAL OF SPEECH**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair referred the privilege speech of Senator Pimentel and the interpellations thereon to the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; and the aspect of tourism to the Committee of Tourism.

#### **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. 951, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO CHILDREN OF ALL OFFICERS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) IN ANY STATE COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY TO BE KNOWN AS "CHILDREN OF POLICE SCHOLAR-

#### **SHIP (COPS) PROGRAM" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 952, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NON-FORMAL EDUCATION ACCREDITATION AND EQUIVALENCY (NFE A&E) SYSTEM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 953, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING FREE SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSES FOR THE PHYSICALLY DISABLED PERSONS WHO WILL ENROLL IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF THE COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 954, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE NATIONAL POLICY ON AND ESTABLISHING THE PROGRAM FRAMEWORK FOR THE PRIMARY LITERACY AND READING APPROACH, PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS THEREFOR AND OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Local Government; and Finance** *AS*

*MS*

Senate Bill No. 955, entitled

AN ACT TO EXPAND AND REVITALIZE THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR GIFTED AND HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 956, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING FREE PUBLIC PREPARATORY EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 957, entitled

AN ACT TO INTEGRATE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION INTO THE PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY CURRICULA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 958, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING PRIVILEGES TO STUDENTS AT ALL LEVELS ON BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 959, entitled

AN ACT TO INTEGRATE IN THE CURRICULA OF ALL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS INCLUDING NON-FORMAL, INDIGENOUS LEARNING AND OUT-OF-SCHOOL PROGRAMS, A COURSE ON PHILIPPINE SOCIETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Environment and Natural Resources**

Senate Bill No. 960, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS OF ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED FAMILIES AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 961, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF MUNICIPAL SPECIAL EDUCATION CENTERS FOR DEAF-MUTE AND BLIND CHILDREN APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 962, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY, AND TERTIARY SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY ENRICHMENT, TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

AS

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Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 963, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (NISMED) APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 964, entitled

AN ACT TO PRESCRIBE NUTRITION LABELING FOR FOODS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 965, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION ON PROSTATE CANCER

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 966, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FREE MEDICINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE POOR AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 967, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THAT ALL LIQUOR PRODUCTS TO CARRY A WARNING LABEL THAT ALCOHOL INTAKE DURING PREGNANCY IS HAZARDOUS TO THE LIFE AND HEALTH OF THE UNBORN CHILD

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 968, entitled

AN ACT TO REGULATE PESTICIDE CHEMICAL RESIDUES IN FOOD

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 969, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL CIGARETTE AND CIGAR MANUFACTURERS AND DISTRIBUTORS TO SCIENTIFICALLY DETERMINE AND TRUTHFULLY PRINT, ON EACH BOX OR PACK OF CIGARS OR CIGARETTES THAT THEY MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTE OR SELL WITHIN THE COUNTRY, THE LEVELS OF NICOTINE, TAR AND CARBON MONOXIDE THAT COULD BE INHALED IN SMOKING A STICK OF CIGAR OR CIGARETTE, AND PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 970, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICE MONITORING COMMISSION

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Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 971, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REDUCTION OF METALS IN PACKAGING

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 972, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS TO REPORT INFORMATION ABOUT PATIENT INFECTIONS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 973, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A NATIONAL FOLIC ACID EDUCATION PROGRAM TO PREVENT BIRTH DEFECTS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 974, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE LABELING OF IMPORTED MEAT AND MEAT FOOD PRODUCTS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Agriculture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 975, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN OVARIAN CANCER PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 976, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE WEARING OF GLOVES IN FOOD PREPARATION IN FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 977, entitled

AN ACT RELATING TO MENTAL HEALTH PATIENT RIGHTS AND TO A HOSPITAL'S DUTY TO PROVIDE CHOICE OF THE SEX OF STAFF PROVIDING INTIMATE CARE TO A MENTAL HEALTH PATIENT

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 978, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG RETAIL REGISTRY

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 979, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING PARKINSON'S DISEASE PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ACT

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 980, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING FREE MEDICAL AND HOSPITALIZATION BENEFITS <sup>15</sup>

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TO INDIGENT FILIPINO WOMEN SUFFERING FROM WOMEN'S DISEASES, ILLNESSES AND INJURIES DUE TO VIOLENCE INFLICTED ON WOMEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 981, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE RURAL HEALTH BY PROVIDING FOR AN ACCELERATED PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A POTABLE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN EVERY BARANGAY IN THE COUNTRY WITHIN THREE YEARS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 982, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF MOBILE UNITS SERVING MEDICAL, DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT SERVICES, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF QUALITY HEALTH CARE SERVICES FOR PATIENTS WHO RECEIVE CARE IN REMOTE OR RURAL AREAS AND FOR PATIENTS WHO NEED SPECIALIZED TYPES OF MEDICAL CARE PROVIDED IN A COST-EFFECTIVE WAY

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 983, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL MILK FEEDING PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FOR

MILKFEEDING FUND THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Youth, Women and Family Relations; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 984, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF FOOD PRODUCTS INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 985, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR UNIFORM WARNINGS ON PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR OCCUPATIONAL USE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 986, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 987, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE INDUSTRIES, FACTORIES, COMPANIES, OR ANY INSTITUTION, FIRM OR ESTABLISH-

MENT USING CHEMICALS AND THEIR BY-PRODUCTS FOR PRODUCTION, TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE A COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT INFORMATION PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 988, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING PUBLIC RECREATIONAL PARKS IN MAJOR URBAN AREAS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 989, 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 Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 990, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING FOREST MANAGEMENT, UTILIZATION, CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION CENTERS IN PROVINCES INHABITED PRE-DOMINANTLY BY MEMBERS OF INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND UPLAND FAMILIES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Cultural Communities; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 991, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL ECOTOURISM POLICY, ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR ITS INSTITUTIONALIZATION, CREATING MECHANISM FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 992, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 993, entitled

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF BEACHES AND COASTAL RECREATION WATER

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 994, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND THEIR HABITATS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar *MS*

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

Senate Bill No. 995, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE USE OF RECYCLABLE OR BIODEGRADABLE MATERIALS FOR THE PACKAGING OF CONSUMER PRODUCTS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 996, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR TERMINATION OF SEA DUMPING OF SEWAGE SLUDGE AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 997, entitled

AN ACT TO PROCLAIM FIREFIGHTER'S MEMORIAL DAY

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 998, entitled

AN ACT TO ENCOURAGE THE PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs) AND STRENGTHEN THEIR ROLE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 999, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING MEASURES TO ENSURE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Public Works; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 1000, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFW) MEDICAL CENTER DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Health and Demography; Ways and Means; and Finance**

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**BILLS ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 1001, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PENAL PROVISIONS WITH RESPECT TO DELINQUENT PARENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 276, 277, AND 278 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Youth, Women and Family Relations**

Senate Bill No. 1002, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ARTISTS CAREER SERVICE, RECOGNIZING THE SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS OF ARTISTS IN GOVERNMENT, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1003, entitled

AN ACT AUGMENTING THE MAXIMUM VALUE OF THE FAMILY HOME EXEMPT FROM EXECUTION, FORCED SALE OR ATTACHMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 157 OF THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1004, entitled

AN ACT TO PREVENT CHILDREN'S ACCESS TO FIREARMS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs; and Youth, Women and Family Relations**

Senate Bill No. 1005, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE ISSUANCE OF EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION IN FAVOR OF RESIGNED OR TERMINATED EMPLOYEES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1006, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR PROTECTION OF FAMILY PRIVACY

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1007, entitled

AN ACT DESIGNATING OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR AS EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 1008, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE NEGATIVE PORTRAYAL OF A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY IN MOVIES, TELEVISION, STAGE AND OTHER FORMS OF MASS COMMUNICATION

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media**

Senate Bill No. 1009, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE A CIVIL ACTION FOR A MINOR INJURED BY EXPOSURE TO AN ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCT CONTAINING MATERIAL THAT IS HARMFUL TO MINORS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1010, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AUTISM REGISTRY

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Finance**

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Senate Bill No. 1011, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE EXACTION  
OF FEES AND UNNECESSARY  
SERVICES FROM JOB APPLICANTS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1012, entitled

AN ACT LIMITING EXPOSURE OF  
CHILDREN TO VIOLENT PROGRAM-  
MING ON TELEVISION AND CABLE  
SYSTEMS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Information  
and Mass Media**

Senate Bill No. 1013, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN AND  
FUNCTIONING OF FAMILIES BY  
ESTABLISHING A COMPREHEN-  
SIVE CHILD CARE PROGRAM

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and  
Family Relations; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural  
Development; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1014, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE CASH  
AWARDS OF NATIONAL ARTISTS,  
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE  
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 208

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1015, entitled

AN ACT TO DECLARE THE MONTH  
OF SEPTEMBER AS CEREBRAL

PALSY AWARENESS AND PROTEC-  
TION MONTH

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1016, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING PAWNSHOP  
ESTABLISHMENTS AND OPERATIONS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1017, entitled

THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL ACT

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1018, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY  
REPORTING OF MARINE CASUAL-  
TIES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Public Services; and  
Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 1019, entitled

AN ACT DESIGNATING DECEMBER OF  
EACH YEAR AS CHILD PROTEC-  
TION MONTH

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1020, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL  
CRIME DATABASE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1021, entitled

AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN  
THE EXISTING MECHANISM FOR  
DETERRENCE TO THE COMMIS-  
SION OF CRIME IN THE CONDUCT  
OF FRATERNITY, SORORITY,  
CONFRATERNITY AND ORGANIZ-  
ATION INITIATION RITES, AMEND-  
ING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC  
ACT NUMBER EIGHT THOUSAND  
AND FORTY NINE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Constitutional  
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws;  
and Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 1022, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING UNLAWFUL THE  
COMMERCIAL USE OF TELEPHONES  
FOR MAKING INDECENT OR  
OBSCENE COMMUNICATIONS AND  
PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 1023, entitled

AN ACT IMPOSING HEAVY PENAL-  
TIES ON RACKETEERS AND  
ORGANIZED SYNDICATES IN THE  
PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1024, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF  
STALKING AND PROVIDING  
PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1025, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING NATIONAL  
CEMETERIES AND PROVIDING  
FOR THEIR ADMINISTRATION  
AND MAINTENANCE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1026, entitled

AN ACT TO PROCLAIM THE MONTH  
OF JUNE AS DEAF-BLIND AWARE-  
NESS MONTH

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1027, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR UNIFORM  
STANDARDS OF LIABILITY FOR  
HARM ARISING OUT OF GENERAL  
AVIATION ACCIDENTS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 1028, entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE OFFENSES IN  
RESPECT OF UNIQUE ELECTRONIC  
EQUIPMENT IDENTIFIERS OF  
MOBILE WIRELESS COMMUNI-  
CATIONS DEVICES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Public Services; and  
Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 1029, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL RETAILERS OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS (LPG) TO HAVE A SCALE OR WEIGHING MACHINE IN THEIR STORES OR ESTABLISHMENTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Energy**

Senate Bill No. 1030, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PROVISION ON THE MANDATORY PERIODS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF LABOR CASES BY IMPOSING CERTAIN PENALTIES AGAINST LABOR OFFICIALS FOR THEIR NONCOMPLIANCE THEREWITH, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 277 OF THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1031, entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THE DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO POLICE RESPECTING PERSONS BEING TREATED FOR GUNSHOT WOUNDS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 1032, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND ARTICLE 39 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, THE REVISED PENAL CODE, DEFINING THE EXTENT TO WHICH SUBSIDIARY IMPRISONMENT SHALL BE REQUIRED

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1033, entitled

AN ACT CONSTITUTING THE INCLUSION OF WORKERS EDUCATION ON THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF DANGEROUS DRUGS AS A REQUIRED BARGAINING CLAUSE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Public Order and Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 1034, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING A UNIFORM OR STANDARD DESIGN FOR THE OUTLET AND REGULATOR OF THE LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM (LPG) GAS TANKS AND PROVIDING PENALTY FOR VIOLATION THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Energy**

Senate Bill No. 1035, entitled

AN ACT ABOLISHING THE THREE HUNDRED AND ONE (301) DAYS CRIMINAL PROHIBITION TO REMARRY AND ALLOWING THE REMARRIAGE OF A WIDOW OR A SEPARATED WOMAN FORTY (40) DAYS AFTER THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND OR THE ANNULMENT OR DISSOLUTION OF HER PREVIOUS MARRIAGE, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 351 OF ACT NO. 3815 AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair referred Senate Bill No. 1035 primarily to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws and secondarily, to the Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations.

Senate Bill No. 1036, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 29 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, THE REVISED PENAL CODE, IN ORDER TO GIVE OFFENDERS THE FULLEST BENEFIT OF PREVENTIVE IMPRISONMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1037, entitled

AN ACT ACCORDING EQUAL RIGHTS TO WIVES AND HUSBANDS IN THE PHILIPPINES BY AMENDING ARTICLES 333, 334, AND 344 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1038, entitled

AN ACT CRIMINALIZING NECROPHILIA OR CARNAL KNOWLEDGE WITH THE DEAD AND IMPOSING APPROPRIATE PENALTIES THEREOF, INCORPORATING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 335-A INTO ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1039, entitled

AN ACT TO DECLARE THE MONTH OF MAY OF EVERY YEAR AS MOUNTAINEERING MONTH

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committees on Games, Amusement and Sports; and Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 1040, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING AVAILABILITY OF HANDGUNS ONLY TO PERSONS WITH DEMONSTRATED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL IN THEIR SAFE USE, MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 1041, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE CHARGING OF TAXI FARES WHICH ARE HIGHER THAN THE OFFICIAL RATES, THE FAILURE TO USE THE TAXI METERS OR THE REFUSAL TO CARRY WITHOUT CAUSE TAXI PASSENGERS TO THEIR PLACES OF DESTINATION

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 1042, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE VALUE OF MONEY UPON WHICH THE PENALTIES OF SOME CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY ARE MEASURED, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 217, 309 AND 315 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar *AK*

*ms*

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

Senate Bill No. 1043, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE REPORTING OF THEFT OF A FIREARM BY THE LEGAL OWNER THEREOF AND PROVIDING CIVIL LIABILITY FOR VIOLATION THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 1044, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING CREDIT CARD FRAUD AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1045, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING ANY PERSON WHO INDUCES OR CAUSES ANOTHER TO USE A FICTITIOUS NAME, OR CONCEALS HIS TRUE NAME, OR USURPS THE CIVIL STATUS OF ANOTHER PERSON, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 178 AND 348 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

**To the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1046, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SERVICE OF WARRANTS OF ARRESTS IN CERTAIN CASES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 1047, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 266-A OF THE PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8353 ALSO KNOWN AS THE ANTI-RAPE LAW OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1048, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9211, OR THE TOBACCO REGULATION ACT OF 2003, SECTION 13, ON WARNINGS ON CIGARETTE PACKAGES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 1049, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE LEAVING OF CHILDREN UNATTENDED IN MOTOR VEHICLES UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 1050, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING CIGARETTES TO BE MANUFACTURED PURSUANT TO FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago *AK*

*PS*

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Public Order and Illegal Drugs**

**RESOLUTIONS**

Senate Joint Resolution No. 3, entitled

JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR RETIREMENT BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES TO ALL QUALIFIED OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS, AND THE ELECTORAL TRIBUNALS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pimentel Jr.

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 126, entitled

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE INVESTIGATION OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES BEHIND THE UNTIMELY DEATH OF U.P. STUDENT CHRIS ANTHONY MENDEZ ALLEGEDLY DUE TO HAZING

Introduced by Senator Pangilinan

**To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Education, Arts and Culture**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 127, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BROADBAND CONTRACT WITH THE ZTE AND THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE OFFICIALS CONCERNED

IN GETTING IT CONSUMMATED, AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO HALE TO THE COURTS OF LAW, THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ANOMALY IN CONNECTION THEREWITH AND TO PLUG LOOPHOLES, IF ANY, IN THE BOT LAW AND OTHER PERTINENT LEGISLATIONS

Introduced by Senator Pimentel Jr.

**To the Committees on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations; and Trade and Commerce**

**SECOND ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**BILLS ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 1051, entitled

AN ACT BANNING MOTORCYCLES FROM USING MAIN ROADS, HIGHWAYS, AND NATIONAL HIGHWAYS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 1052, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ONE SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN EVERY MUNICIPALITY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 1053, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING UNAUTHORIZED INTERCEPTION AND RECEPTION OF CABLE TELEVISION SERVICES *AK*

*AK*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor  
Santiago

**To the Committees on Public Services; and  
Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 1054, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT  
NO. 8485, ALSO KNOWN AS THE  
ANIMAL WELFARE ACT OF 1998,  
SECTION 8 ON THE PENALTIES  
FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE ACT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor  
Santiago

**To the Committee on Agriculture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 1055, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT  
NO. 8049, ALSO KNOWN AS THE  
ANTI-HAZING LAW OF 1995,  
SECTION 4 ON THE PENALTIES  
FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE ACT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor  
Santiago

**To the Committees on Constitutional  
Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws;  
and Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 1056, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE NON-  
INDIGENOUS SPECIES MANAGEMENT  
PLAN AND LISTING PROCESS FOR  
NON-NATIVE SPECIES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor  
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1057, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT  
NO. 7877, ALSO KNOWN AS THE  
ANTI-SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACT

OF 1995, SECTION 3 ON THE  
DEFINITION OF WORK, EDUC-  
ATION OR TRAINING-RELATED  
SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor  
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1058, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE DEVELOP-  
MENT AND USE OF MARINE AND  
HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE  
ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor  
Santiago

**To the Committees on Energy; Environ-  
ment and Natural Resources; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1059, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING GOVERNMENT  
AGENCIES TO SUPPORT HEALTH  
IMPACT ASSESSMENTS AND TAKE  
OTHER ACTIONS TO IMPROVE  
THE HEALTH AND THE ENVIRON-  
MENTAL QUALITY OF COMMUNI-  
TIES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor  
Santiago

**To the Committees on Health and Demo-  
graphy; and Environment and Natural Resources**

Senate Bill No. 1060, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE MONTH OF  
FEBRUARY OF EVERY YEAR AS  
LIVER CANCER AND HEPATITIS-  
B AWARENESS MONTH

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S.  
Cayetano

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

pb

Senate Bill No. 1061, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE ISSUANCE OF EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATION IN FAVOR OF RESIGNED, DISMISSED OR SEPARATED EMPLOYEES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1062, entitled

AN ACT ACCREDITING THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AS THE INTEGRATED MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1063, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE OPERATION OF COMPUTER RENTAL SHOPS AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

**To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 1064, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

**To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws**

Senate Bill No. 1065, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MOUNTAINS OF BANAHAW AND SAN CRISTOBAL IN THE PROVINCES OF LAGUNA AND QUEZON AS A PROTECTED AREA, UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1066, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MT. HILONG-HILONG RANGE SITUATED IN THE CITY OF BUTUAN AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF REMEDIOS T. ROMUALDEZ, CABADBARAN AND SANTIAGO IN THE PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL NORTE AS A PROTECTED AREA, UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1067, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BALINSASAYAO TWIN LAKES LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF VALENCIA, SIBULAN AND SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL AS A PROTECTED AREA

Handwritten initials "MB" and a checkmark.



UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1068, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE APO REEF IN SABLAYAN, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK AND ITS PERIPHERAL WATERS AS BUFFER ZONES, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1069, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ALIWAGWAG FALLS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BOSTON AND CATEEL, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF COMPOSTELA, PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1070, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING LAKES MANAPAO, KATUGDAY, DANA

AND MAKUAO LOCATED WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BUHI, CAMARINES SUR AND THE MUNICIPALITIES OF POLANGUI AND MALINAO, ALBAY AS A PROTECTED AREA TO BE KNOWN AS THE SINARAPAN SANCTUARY, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1071, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE AGUSAN MARSH WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF SAN FRANCISCO, BUNAWAN, VERUELA, LORETO AND LAPAZ IN THE PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR AS A WILDLIFE SANCTUARY PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES PURSUANT TO R.A. 7586

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1072, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SIARGAO GROUP OF ISLANDS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BURGOS, DAPA, DEL CARMEN, GEN. LUNA, PILAR, SAN BENITO, SAN ISIDRO, STA. MONICA AND SOCORRO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE AS A PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES PURSUANT TO R.A. 7586

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

MS

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

Senate Bill No. 1073, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BESSANG PASS NATURAL MONUMENT/LANDMARK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CERVANTES, ILOCOS SUR AS A PROTECTED AREA AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1074, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE AGOODAMORTIS PROTECTED SEASCAPE AND LANDSCAPE IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF AGOO, STO. TOMAS AND ROSARIO, IN THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION AS A PROTECTED AREA, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1075, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE LIDLIDDA-BANAYOYO PROTECTED LANDSCAPE IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF LIDLIDDA AND BANAYOYO, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR AS A PROTECTED AREA, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1076, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE AREA COVERED BY THE NORTHERN NEGROS FOREST RESERVE SITUATED IN THE CITIES OF TALISAY, SILAY, VICTORIAS, CADIZ, SAGAY AND SAN CARLOS AND THE MUNICIPALITIES OF E.B. MAGALONA, MURCIA, TOBOSO, CALATRAVA AND DON SALVADOR BENEDICTO, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL AS A PROTECTED AREA PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT PURSUANT TO R.A. 7586 (NIPAS ACT OF 1992) AND SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE NORTHERN NEGROS NATURAL PARK

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1077, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MT. BALATUKAN RANGE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF GINGOOG AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CLAVERIA, MEDINA, AND BALINGASAG, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL, AS A PROTECTED AREA, UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1078, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING TURTLE ISLANDS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY IN THE PROVINCE OF TAWI-TAWI AS PROTECTED AREA, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES *AS*

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1079, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE EL NIDO-TAYTAY MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF EL NIDO AND TAYTAY, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1080, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MALAMPAYA SOUND SITUATED IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYTAY AND SAN VICENTE, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN, AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano

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

Senate Bill No. 1081, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING FARMER ORGANIZATIONS TO UNDERTAKE RICE IMPORTATIONS, PROVIDING FUND ASSISTANCE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**To the Committee on Agriculture and Food**

Senate Bill No. 1082, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT IN JOLO, SULU, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE SULU SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1083, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY (PIA), AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 100 ALSO KNOWN AS "CREATING THE PHILIPPINE INFORMATION AGENCY" BY PROVIDING AN ADDITIONAL FUNCTION, ESTABLISHING A NATIONWIDE WELFARE FUND AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1084, entitled

AN ACT ALLOWING THE TITLING OF LANDS COVERED BY A CERTIFICATE OF LAND OWNERSHIP AWARD (CLOA) GRANTED UNDER THE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM AND UTILIZING ITS USE AS COLLATERAL FOR PURPOSES OF SECURING AGRICULTURAL LOANS AND SIMILAR OTHER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AMENDING THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SIXTY-SIX HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVEN, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**To the Committees on Agrarian Reform;  
and Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 1085, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DEMONSTRATION, PERFORMANCE OR EXHIBITION IN PUBLIC CERTAIN SEXUAL ACTS, AND THE PRODUCTION, IMPORTATION, SALE OR DISTRIBUTION, OR PUBLIC SHOWING OR DISPLAY OF PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIALS, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1086, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEMATIC AND PERIODIC REVIEW OF THE ECONOMY, EFFICIENCY AND VIABILITY OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**To the Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises**

Senate Bill No. 1087, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BARANGAY LIVELIHOOD AND SKILLS TRAINING CENTER IN EVERY RURAL BARANGAY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1088, entitled

AN ACT REGIONALIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PAYROLL SYSTEM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1089, entitled

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE IMPORTATION OF SUBSTANCES THAT DEplete THE OZONE LAYER, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1090, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION, PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF NATIONAL LANDMARKS, ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL LANDMARKS COUNCIL FOR THE PURPOSE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1091, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT IN GENERAL SANTOS CITY, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE GENERAL SANTOS SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREE PORT AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1092, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE  
OF PALAWAN AS THE ECOLOGICAL  
TOURISM CAPITAL OF THE  
PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1093, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ANY PERSON,  
ASSOCIATION, CORPORATION,  
OR ENTITY TO SECURE THE  
NECESSARY CLEARANCE OR  
PERMIT FROM THE NATIONAL  
HISTORICAL INSTITUTE (NHI)  
BEFORE COMMENCING ANY  
CONSTRUCTION OR REAL ESTATE  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN  
AREAS IDENTIFIED, DESIGNATED  
AND APPROPRIATELY MARKED  
AS HISTORICAL PLACES OR IN  
AREAS PROXIMATE THERETO,  
PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR  
VIOLATION

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and  
Culture; Urban Planning, Housing And Resettle-  
ment; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1094, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PRE-  
NEED PLAN SECURITIES CODE

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**To the Committees on Banks, Financial  
Institutions and Currencies; and Trade and  
Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 1095, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE  
CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT  
OF SMALL CLAIMS COURTS IN  
THE PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIAT-  
ING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1096, entitled

AN ACT ALLOCATING THE COLLEC-  
TIONS FROM THE TRAVEL TAX  
TO THE PHILIPPINE TOURISM  
AUTHORITY, AMENDING FOR THE  
PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE  
NO. 1183, AS AMENDED, AND  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7722, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1097, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE  
MANDATORY INCLUSION OF THE  
STUDY OF ENVIRONMENT AS AN  
ADDITIONAL SUBJECT IN THE  
SECONDARY EDUCATION CURRI-  
CULUM

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and  
Culture; Environment and Natural Resources;  
and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1098, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE  
OF THE DEFINITION OF THE  
CRIME OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT  
BY INCLUDING UNWANTED TEXT  
MESSAGE, ELECTRONIC MAIL OR  
COMMUNICATIONS ADOPTING

SIMILAR MEANS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SEVENTY EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SEVEN, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SEXUAL HARASSMENT LAW

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

**To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 1099, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMULGATE A CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY STANDARD FOR EACH DURABLE INFANT OR TODDLER PRODUCT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

**To the Committee on Trade and Commerce**

Senate Bill No. 1100, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING PHOTO AND VIDEO VOYEURISM

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago


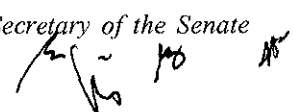
**To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights**

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, Senate President Pro Tempore Ejercito Estrada declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, September 10, 2007.

*It was 7:02 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
EMMA LIRIO-REYES  
Secretary of the Senate  


Approved on September 10, 2007