



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

S e n a t e

Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 22

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

**FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SESSION NO. 22
Tuesday, September 18, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:05 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Manny Villar, called the session to order.

PRAYER

The Body observed a minute of silent prayer.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:06 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:07 p.m., the session was resumed.

ROLL CALL

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

Angara, E. J.	Honasan, G. B.
Aquino III, B. S. C	Lacson, P. M.
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.
Gordon, R. J.	Zubiri, J. M. F.

With 22 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Pangilinan acknowledged the presence of 29 youth members of the Ship for Southeast Asia Youth Program (SEAYP) headed by National Youth Commission Commissioner Lino Badilla.

REMARKS OF SENATOR ROXAS

Senator Roxas suggested that the Body agree on the actual time that plenary sessions are called to order to determine how the attendance of the Members would be recorded particularly since Members who make the effort to be present spend much time waiting in the session hall and wondering when the session would actually begin.

For his part, Senator Zubiri pointed out that if plenary sessions were called to order at four o'clock in the afternoon, there would be more time allotted for committee hearings which could then be held from one o'clock to four o'clock. However, Senator Pangilinan clarified that doing so would require an amendment to the Rules.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

It was 4:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:11 p.m., the session was resumed.

Senator Pangilinan stated the Members have agreed to open the session at three o'clock in the afternoon, have the roll call and place on record members who are not present at that time as "absent" or as having "arrived after the roll call."

AS *JMB*

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 21 and considered it approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENT
OF SENATOR PANGILINAN**

Senator Pangilinan informed the Body that after the reading of the Reference of Business, the session would be suspended for the all-senators caucus.

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. 1501, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO REGISTER ALL OFFENDERS CONVICTED OF ANY ACT INVOLVING CHILD ABUSE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1502, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE COMMUNICATION BY PROHIBITING CENSORSHIP IN ALL FORMS OF MEDIA THAT INTERFERES WITH THE RIGHTS OF FREE SPEECH, FREE PRESS, AND FREE EXPRESSION

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 1503, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR POISON PREVENTION AND TO ESTABLISH POISON CONTROL CENTERS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1504, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR DIGITAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1505, entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL PROGRAM THAT WILL PROVIDE PREGNANT WOMEN WITH ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1506, entitled

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

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1507, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 386, ALSO KNOWN AS THE *10-*

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CIVIL CODE, ARTICLE 1403, ON THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS REGARDING AGREEMENTS FOR THE SALE OF GOODS, CHATTELS, OR THINGS IN ACTION

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Trade and Commerce; and Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws

Senate Bill No. 1508, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS FOR SUPERVISED VISITATION CENTERS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Youth, Women and Family Relations; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1509, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR APPLYING AIRPORT BUBBLES AS A METHOD OF IDENTIFYING, ASSESSING, AND REDUCING THE ADVERSE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE AIRPORT GROUND AND FLIGHT OPERATIONS AND IMPROVING THE OVERALL QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Public Services; Environment and Natural Resources; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1510, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PENAL CODE, ARTICLE 310, TO INCREASE THE PENALTIES IN CERTAIN INSTANCES OF QUALIFIED THEFT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1511, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR RESTRICTIONS ON GARNISHMENT OF COMPENSATION DUE FOR PERSONAL SERVICES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 1512, entitled

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

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 1513, entitled

AN ACT REPEALING ACT NO. 7160 ALSO KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, SECTION 17(B), PARAGRAPH (V), ON THE OBLIGATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO MAINTAIN BARANGAY ROADS, BRIDGES AND WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Local Government; and Public Works

Senate Bill No. 1514, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE FOR START-UP COSTS OF COM-

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MUNITY PROGRAMS TO PREVENT
RESIDENTIAL LEAD-BASED POISON-
ING IN CHILDREN

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1515, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE
OF RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S
HEALTH

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1516, entitled

AN ACT TO DEVELOP AN
EDUCATIONAL STRATEGY THAT
ADDRESSES THE EDUCATIONAL
NEEDS OF ALL MEMBERS OF
LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1517, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR TECHNICAL
PREPARATION EDUCATION IN
PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS
AND STATE COLLEGES AND
UNIVERSITIES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1518, entitled

AN ACT TO BAN CERTAIN TRUCKS
IN PARTICULAR HOURS OF THE
DAY

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1519, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A PROGRAM
PROVIDING FOR THE ORGAN-
IZATION OF HOUSING BENEFI-
CIARIES INTO MANUFACTUR-
ING COOPERATIVES FOR THE
FABRICATION OF HOUSING
MATERIALS REQUIRED FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF THEIR
HOUSES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1520, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 386, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE CIVIL CODE, ARTICLE 2180,
TO INCLUDE ACADEMIC EDUCA-
TIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1521, entitled

AN ACT ACCREDITING THE PHILIP-
PINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION AS
THE INTEGRATED MEDICAL
PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION
OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor
Santiago

**To the Committees on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization; and Health and
Demography**

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Senate Bill No. 1522, entitled

AN ACT CREATING INDUSTRIAL ESTATES IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1523, entitled

AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO ISSUE A STANDARD REGULATING WORKER EXPOSURE TO DIACETYL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1524, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AVIATION NOISE MANAGEMENT AND REDUCTION IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committees on Public Services; and Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 1525, entitled

AN ACT TO PREVENT LUXURIOUS CONDITIONS IN PRISONS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 1526, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT SECURITY PROCEDURES TO REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF INFANT PATIENT ABDUCTION AND BABY SWITCHING

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 1527, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING AS A CRIME THE ACT OF DRIVING A MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF LIQUOR AND/OR PROHIBITED DRUGS AND PROVIDING GRADUATED PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

Senate Bill No. 1528, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE MINDANAO POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE IN CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE MINDANAO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MUST), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pimentel Jr.

To the Committee on Rules

Senate Bill No. 1529, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING FIVE HUNDRED (P500.00) PESOS MONTHLY ALLOWANCE TO ALL BARANGAY TANODS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Pimentel Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 1530, entitled

AN ACT TO FIX THE MAXIMUM RETAIL PRICE OF MEDICINES UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS AND INCREASE ACCESS TO CHEAPER MEDICINES BY CREATING A DRUG PRICES REGULATION BOARD AND BY AMENDING RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8293 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1531, entitled

AN ACT INCLUDING AMONG THE AREAS CLOSED TO MINING APPLICATIONS THOSE DECLARED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AS NO MINING ZONES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7942 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE MINING ACT OF 1995, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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

Senate Bill No. 1532, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DURING THE MARCOS REGIME, DOCUMENTATION OF SAID VIOLATIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Pimentel Jr.

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

Senate Bill No. 1533, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1464, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Francis "Chiz" G. Escudero

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 1534, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR FILIPINO GIFTED CHILDREN AND SCIENCE-ORIENTED YOUTH, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Senate Bill No. 1535, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING OIL COMPANIES TO INSTALL OIL SPILLAGE PREVENTIVE AND CONTROL MECHANISM IN THEIR TANKERS AND TO UNDERTAKE IMMEDIATE CLEANING OPERATIONS IN THE EVENT OF OIL SPILLS WITHIN THE COUNTRY'S TERRITORIAL WATERS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

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Senate Bill No. 1536, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE BOTTLED WATER BUSINESS

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Senate Bill No. 1537, entitled

AN ACT INCLUDING BARANGAY OFFICIALS WITHIN THE COVERAGE OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS)

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1538, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING THE UTILIZATION PERIOD OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8178, ENTITLED "AN ACT REPLACING QUANTITATIVE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT RICE, WITH TARIFFS, CREATING THE AGRICULTURAL COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Gordon

To the Committee on Agriculture and Food

Senate Bill No. 1539, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBERED 1275, ENTITLED "REORGANIZING THE PROSECUTION STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND THE OFFICES OF THE PROVINCIAL AND CITY FISCALS, REGIONALIZING THE

PROSECUTION SERVICE, AND CREATING THE NATIONAL PROSECUTION SERVICE," AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Enrile

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1540, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE U.P. AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Senate Bill No. 1541, entitled

AN ACT IMPOSING CRIMINAL SANCTIONS AGAINST UNSCRUPULOUS CONTRACTORS AND AWARDEES OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 9184 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

To the Committees on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1542, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING AND PENALIZING CRIMES AGAINST INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND OTHER SERIOUS INTERNATIONAL CRIMES, OPERATIONALIZING UNIVERSAL JURISDICTION, DESIGNATING SPECIAL COURTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Senate Bill No. 1543, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CENTER FOR TEACHER'S EXCELLENCE ALL THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Senate Bill No. 1544, entitled

AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE LEVEL OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LEVELS FROM GRADE 10 TO GRADE 18 AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Senate Bill No. 1545, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROVIDENT PERSONAL SAVINGS PLAN KNOWN AS THE PERSONAL EQUITY AND RETIREMENT ACCOUNT

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 1546, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROMOTION OF BIO-ORGANIC FARMING IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1547, entitled

AN ACT EMPOWERING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) TO MONITOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

To the Committees on Local Government; and Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 1548, entitled

THE MAGNA CARTA FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHERS

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 1549, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING EVERY 26TH OF JUNE OF EVERY YEAR AS PHILIPPINES-FRANCE FRIENDSHIP DAY

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Senate Bill No. 1550, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO SECURITY OF TENURE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 134, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE COMPLIANCE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) ON ITS MANDATE TO FORMULATE A FIVE-YEAR DEREGULATION PLAN ON RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

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

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 135, entitled

RESOLUTION CALLING ON PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO TO ISSUE A PARDON TO PRESIDENT JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME AND ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS, AS WELL AS FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Mar Roxas

To the Committee on Rules

REMARKS OF SENATOR PIMENTEL

Senator Pimentel believed that the Senate owes the people attending the plenary sessions an explanation of what the senators have been doing, because what the people have heard so far are the referral of bills to various committees and the roll call. He stressed the need of informing them that the senators would meet in a caucus to discuss serious matters such as the non-appearance of department secretaries in the Senate hearings in spite of the standing Supreme Court ruling on the matter. Further, he stated that the senators have been attending various committee hearings in the morning and the

plenary session in the afternoon until about six or seven o'clock in the evening.

Senator Pangilinan confirmed that there would be an all-senators caucus to discuss issues involving the resource persons who have refused to appear in the different Senate hearings, the barangay elections and other matters in the legislative agenda.

Regarding Senate hearings, Senator Pangilinan clarified that what the public sees on television are not the only ones being considered by the Senate and its committees because not all hearings are covered live by the media; for instance, the hearing on the ZTE broadband contract earlier in the day was covered live by media, but the previous day's hearings on the budget, the DepEd problems, and other important matters were not.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended to enable the Members to meet in a caucus.

It was 4:29 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:58 p.m., the session was resumed.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR PANGILINAN

Senator Pangilinan stated that as agreed upon in caucus, in case any senator wishes to avail of the privilege hour, the Body would convene at 2:30 p.m. to hear the speech and defer the roll call to 3:00 p.m. Further, he said that it was the consensus to consider at least 15 measures in the next two weeks, most of which already passed Third Reading in the Thirteenth Congress, namely: small and medium enterprise development bill; cheap medicines bill; bill fixing the term of the Chief of Staff; veterans bill; anti-cellphone theft bill; bill increasing the retirement benefits for judges; bill creating the Commission on Missing Persons; bill granting allowance for good conduct to prisoners; tourism bill; child pornography bill; housing measures involving loan restructuring; Credit Information Bureau bill; PERA bill; UP Charter bill; and ACEF extension bill.

As regards the barangay election, Senator Pangilinan stated that it was agreed that there would

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be no postponement, hence, elections would take place as scheduled on October 29, 2007.

With respect to the hearings on illegal wiretapping and the ZTE broadband network contract, Senator Pangilinan said that the Body would continue to discuss and deliberate the issues such as the issuance of subpoenas.

COAUTHOR

At the instance of Senator Pangilinan, Senator Trillanes was made coauthor of the UP Charter bill.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Chair instead referred Senate Bill No. 1359 (eliminating gender bias in adultery and concubinage) to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws, primarily, and to the Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations, secondarily.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 7:03 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION


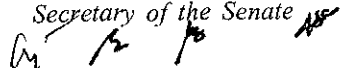
At 7:03 p.m., the session was resumed.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

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

It was 7:03 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


EMMA LIRIO-REYES
Secretary of the Senate


Approved on September 19, 2007