



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

S e n a t e

Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 51

Tuesday, February 5, 2008

**FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SESSION NO. 51
Tuesday, February 5, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:47 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Manny Villar, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Compañera Pia S. Cayetano led the prayer, to wit:

Let us put ourselves in the presence of the Lord.

Our Father in Heaven, we ask You to please accept our gratitude for Your presence in our lives, for Your provisions for our daily life, and for Your protection over us each day. We are grateful for our families, for our neighbors, for our countrymen, and for our colleagues in this Chamber.

We come to You and express our desire to become a part of the healing of our land. Our fellow legislators in the other House have been through a very challenging experience and we believe that more challenges will confront them and all of us in the future. Make us Your instruments of peace and of healing.

Bless us today, Oh God, that we may accomplish the purpose of our lives this day realizing that our tomorrow will be greatly influenced by what we do today.

In the Name of Jesus, our Lord and Saviour, amen.

ROLL CALL

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

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

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

Senators Escudero and Zubiri arrived after the roll call.

Senator Gordon was on official mission.

Senator Pimentel was on official mission abroad.

Senator Lacson was unable to attend the session due to a previously accepted engagement.

Senator Trillanes was unable to attend the session.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Pangilinan acknowledged the presence of students from Chiang Kai Shek College, Rizal Technological University, Gideon Academy and the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

Senate President Villar welcomed the students to the Senate.

CREATION OF SUBCOMMITTEE

Senator Roxas manifested that the Committee on Trade and Commerce created a subcommittee specifically for anti-trust and competition policy

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legislation, and that Senator Enrile had been designated as its chair. He explained that the authority to create a subcommittee is provided for in Section 18, Rule X of the Rules of the Senate which states, "The membership of the permanent committees, including their respective Chairmen, shall be chosen by the Senate. The Chairman of each committee may designate the Vice Chairman or such Vice Chairmen of his committee and create such subcommittees as may be deemed necessary."

INQUIRY OF SENATOR BIAZON

Asked by Senator Biazon how the membership of a subcommittee is determined for the purpose of establishing a quorum to conduct business, Senator Roxas explained that the subcommittee membership must be a subset of nine, the total membership of the Committee on Trade and Commerce, the determination of which must be made by the members of the Committee, and that it must be an odd-numbered composition.

Senator Biazon believed that committee membership depends on how extensive the jurisdiction of a committee is. He expressed concern that the referral of a measure to a subcommittee might dilute the principle behind the determination of the committee membership.

Senator Roxas stated that any output of the subcommittee has to be passed upon by the mother committee for approval.

Relative thereto, Senator Pangilinan clarified that Section 24, paragraph 2 of Rule XI of the Rules states that, "Where a subcommittee is created to conduct hearings on a bill or resolution referred to a committee, the report of the subcommittee shall be submitted to the committee through its Chairman for its appropriate action before the report is submitted to the Senate."

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL AS CORRECTED

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 50 and considered it approved, subject to the correction made by Senator Arroyo on the left column of page 352, last sentence of the first paragraph, to delete the phrase "especially with respect to," and in lieu thereof, to insert the

word **WHETHER**, and after the word "advocating," to insert a comma (,) and the phrase **IS A GOOD POLICY**.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Letter of Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, dated 31 January 2008, submitting to the Senate for its concurrence the **International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures (as amended)**, known as the **Revised Kyoto Convention (RKC)**, which was adopted by 114 Customs Administration attending the World Customs Organization's (WCO) 94th Session in June 1999.

To the Committee on Foreign Relations

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Letter from the Secretary General of the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 17 December 2007, the House of Representatives adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 11, entitled

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES,

in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

To the Archives

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 2047, entitled

AN ACT ACCELERATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION

AS

COMPONENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP), BY PROVIDING AUTOMATIC APPROPRIATION THEREOF, AND ADDRESSING MAJOR IMPLEMENTATION PROBLEMS OF THE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "CARP LAW OF 1988" AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 129, AS AMENDED"

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

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

Senate Bill No. 2048, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF WOMEN IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Gordon

To the Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations

Senate Bill No. 2049, entitled

AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE PHILIPPINE INDUSTRIAL AND LABOR DISPUTE SETTLEMENT SYSTEM AND FOR THAT PURPOSE, AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

RESOLUTION

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 292, entitled

RESOLUTION COMMENDING CARLA GISELA YSABEL CONCEPCION OF

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES DILIMAN, WINNER OF THE 2008 BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES ISLANDS-DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE AWARDS, IN RECOGNITION OF HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIELD OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Introduced by Senator Gordon

To the Committee on Rules

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Report No. 36, prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Energy; Environment and Natural Resources; Ways and Means; Finance; and Public Services, on Senate Bill No. 2046, with Senators Angara, Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr., Miriam Defensor Santiago, Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, Loren Legarda, Gordon, Compañera Pia S. Cayetano and Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid as authors thereof, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING AND ENHANCING THE DEVELOPMENT, UTILIZATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 211, 485, 588, 803, 1058, 1221, 1303, 1423, 1608, 1711 and 1821, taking into consideration Proposed Senate Resolution Nos. 7 and 68.

Sponsors: Senators Miriam Defensor Santiago, Angara, Compañera Pia S. Cayetano, Loren Legarda, and MAR Roxas

To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 2050, entitled

AN ACT MAXIMIZING THE FULL POTENTIALS AND EXPERTISE OF

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ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS AND SUPERVISORS BY REQUIRING THEM TO HAVE TEACHING LOADS ESPECIALLY ON MAJOR SUBJECTS IN THE CURRICULUM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 2051, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING WIRE, ELECTRONIC, AND ORAL COMMUNICATIONS INTERCEPTION AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 2052, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE UNLAWFUL SALE AND PURCHASE OF DISSERTATIONS, THESES, TERM PAPERS, ESSAYS, REPORTS, OR ANY OTHER ASSIGNMENT

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 2053, entitled

AN ACT TO REGULATE THE UNAUTHORIZED INSTALLATION OF COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND TO REQUIRE THE CLEAR DISCLOSURE TO COMPUTER USERS OF CERTAIN COMPUTER SOFTWARE FEATURES THAT MAY POSE A THREAT TO USER PRIVACY

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

To the Committee on Science and Technology

Senate Bill No. 2054, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CREDIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS WORKERS

Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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

Senate Bill No. 2055, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF GOVERNMENT EDUCATION/SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO DESERVING NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, 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; Ways and Means; and Finance

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 1659 ON THIRD READING

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Third Reading, Senate Bill No. 1659, printed copies of which were distributed to the senators on January 31, 2008.

Pursuant to Section 67, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the Senate, upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, Secretary Reyes read only the title of the bill, to wit:

AN ACT ALLOWING FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS TO CONTINUE RECEIVING PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT PENSIONS AND BENEFITS EVEN WHEN SIMILAR PENSIONS AND BENEFITS ARE PROVIDED BY

AS

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, AMENDING SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6948, AS AMENDED, FOR THIS PURPOSE.

Secretary Reyes called the roll for nominal voting

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor

Angara	Honasan
Arroyo	Legarda
Cayetano (A)	Madrigal
Cayetano (P)	Pangilinan
Defensor Santiago	Revilla
Ejercito Estrada	Roxas
Enrile	Villar
Escudero	Zubiri

Against

None

Abstention

None

With 16 senators voting in favor, none against, and no abstention, the Chair declared Senate Bill No. 1659 approved on Third Reading.

**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 126
ON SENATE BILL NO. 1965**

(Continuation)

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration, on Second Reading, of Senate Bill No. 1965 (Committee Report No. 126), entitled

AN ACT DECRIMINALIZING VAGRANCY AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 202 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE.

Senator Pangilinan stated that the parliamentary status was the period of interpellations.

**REMARKS
OF SENATOR DEFENSOR SANTIAGO**

At this juncture, Senator Defensor Santiago stated that she would not interpellate on the bill but would give a cosponsorship speech as she wanted to have the Penal Code on Vagrancy repealed. She also suggested that the code should simply be referred to as the Penal Code, not Revised Penal Code, because the revisions took place many decades ago.

**COSPONSORSHIP SPEECH
OF SENATOR DEFENSOR SANTIAGO**

Thereupon, Senator Defensor Santiago delivered her cosponsorship speech on Senate Bill No. 1965, as follows:

The intent of Senate Bill No. 1965 repealing the provisions of Article 202 of the Penal Code on Vagrancy is in order to remove from the arsenal of law enforcers the instrument of abuse against the poor and marginalized people, especially women in prostitution. This bill is laudable.

Article 202 is an antiquated law. Together with the rest of the provisions of the Penal Code, Article 202, is, in fact, celebrating its 76th anniversary this January. The Penal Code, as enacted by the so-called Philippine Legislature at that time, was approved on December 8, 1930, and it took effect on January 1, 1932. But Article 202 is even older than the Penal Code. The roots of Article 202 date back farther beyond the Old Revised Penal Code of 1887, to Spain's legal compendium called "*Siete Partidas*" of King Alfonso X in 1265 A.D.

Kaya ang luma na ng batas na ito; 2008 na ngayon, 13th century pa ito. Dapat na talagang palitan ito dahil wala na itong kabuluhan sa ating modernong lipunan.

It is indeed an archaic law that has ceased to serve its original purpose. What happened in the 13th century that made it necessary to pass a law, in effect authorizing the arrest of women poised in the act of prostitution?

The original purpose of this law was to tie the workers to their industrial jobs during the Industrial Revolution in order to prevent them from moving away from low-paying and oppressive jobs to improve their condition.

We are taught that by a decision of the U. S. Supreme Court. *Biro mo, nakatali pa pala*

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ito sa Industrial Revolution. *Ibang* revolution na tayo ngayon, information revolution. *At ito naman pala ay biniktima ang mga mahihirap. Ayaw nila na lumayo o umalis ang mga mahihirap sa kanilang mga trabaho para maghanap ng ibang trabaho sa ibang lugar.* That is the real source of the Anti-Vagrancy Law.

Now, these are the reasons why we should pass this bill sponsored by Senator Escudero, laudably.

1. The Vagrancy Law has been used as an instrument for abuse of women in prostitution.

Sabi ko nga, hindi naman hinuhuli ng pulis ang mga babae na nakatayo doon sa isang kilalang hotel sa may Quezon Avenue, o doon sa may Aurora Boulevard sa Cubao, para idemanda ng prostitution because prostitution is very difficult to prove. Ginagawa lang nilang panakot para maka-avail sila of the services of this unique type of professionals for free. Gusto lang nilang malibre.

In the Philippines, enforcement of the vagrancy law had been focused on women in prostitution. In all the five years that I was RTC judge, there was never a case of vagrancy against a male, always against a female, and had been extensively used as an instrument of abuse by law enforcers. According to the Human Rights Commission in its Advisory on the Sexual Abuse and Torture of Women in Custody: "The Anti-Vagrancy Law has been used as a pretext for arbitrary arrest and detention of women, who have subsequently complained of rape, sexual abuse, and other ill treatment by police officers. Women as sex workers are among the most marginalized and discriminated groups in Philippine society. They are particularly very vulnerable to human rights violations because of their low status."

I even went on to the publication called the *Women's Journal on Law and Culture*. As expounded in an article, it said "Armed with the Vagrancy Law, the police often subject these prostituted women to extortion and other forms of brutality. The police and 'bagansya' have, over time, become instruments of the further victimization of prostituted women." Notice, we no longer say "prostitute." We say "prostituted women" dahil marami rin tayong kasalanan sa lipunan laban sa mga babaeng ito. Hindi naman nila kasalanan na wala silang ibang hanapbuhay kung hindi iyon lang.

"Every night, prostituted women along the streets of Quezon Avenue and Cubao, as well as

in other parts of the Philippines, face what is known as "round-ups" by the police, herding off to the station individuals who are found violating the Vagrancy Law. During these round-ups, women prostitutes are forcibly cramped into vehicles, in the process being kicked and shoved, even verbally abused and sexually harassed. At the police station, they are subjected to extortion and are required to pay somewhere between P100.00 and P500.00 in exchange for their release. For those women who can afford the payment, they immediately regain their freedom. For those women who cannot pay, they may be asked instead to provide sexual services to the police if they wish to be released. The rest of them who do not have the money and do not wish to provide sexual services remain in jail, and cases against them are subsequently filed. This process of extortion and abuse receives a stamp of legitimacy from the enforcement of the Vagrancy Law, and is a practice that is long-entrenched among the police."

2. The Vagrancy Law is void for vagueness.

The current vagrancy provisions in the Penal Code are easily assailable on the constitutional infirmity of void for vagueness. As presently defined, the crime of vagrancy fails to give a person of ordinary intelligence fair notice that his/her contemplated conduct is forbidden by the statute. As shown by the Philippine experience, it encourages arbitrary and erratic arrests. It makes criminal activities that by modern standard are normally innocent, and it places almost unfettered discretion in the hands of the police.

The Vagrancy Law results in a regime in which the poor and the unpopular are permitted to "stand on a public sidewalk ... only at the whim of any police offer." *Kung malakas ka sa pulis, eh di tumayo ka doon na naka-high heels, naka-mini-skirt at naka-make-up na makapal. Kung hindi ka niya kursunada ay aarestuhin ka. Magtatrabaho ka doon sa police station pero hindi ka niya babayaran. Iyan ang ibig sabihin niyan.*

Such a legal regime has no place in a society that is governed by the rule of law. To live under the rule of law entails that "all persons are entitled to be informed as to what the State commands or forbids."

Now, let me define the meaning of "void for vagueness." The void for vagueness doctrine encourages the government to clearly distinguish conduct that is lawful from that which is unlawful. *Ibig sabihin, kapag gumawa tayo ng*

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panukalang batas dito sa Kongreso, siguraduhin natin na maski sinong nakatapos ng Grade III, basta't nakakaintindi at nakakapagbasa ng Ingles, at binasa niya ito na wala siyang abugado, maiintindihan niya kung ano ang bawal at ano ang puwede. Kung hindi niya maintindihang mabuti kung aling linya ang bawal at ano ang pinapayagang hakbang sa probisyon ng naturang batas, that is unconstitutional because it is void for being vague. That is why, we here in the legislative branch of government must be careful that our language is always clear even to the layman.

Under the due process clauses, individuals must be given adequate notice of their legal obligations so they can govern their behavior accordingly. When individuals are left uncertain by the wording of an imprecise statute, the law becomes a standardless trap for the unwary.

The doctrine also curbs the arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement of criminal statutes. Penal laws must be understood not only by those persons who are required to obey them but by those persons who are charged with the duty of enforcing them. Statutes that do not carefully outline detailed procedures by which police officers may perform an investigation, conduct a search, or make an arrest, confer wide discretion upon each officer to act as he or she sees fit. *Itong mga search, frisk and arrest ng pulis, may problema tayo rito. Dahil noong ako ay immigration commissioner, palaging nagreklamo ang mga foreign prostitutes kapag sine-search sila ng mga pulis. Sa batas kasi, kapag inaresto ka sa akto, puwede kang i-frisk without a search warrant, if one is caught in the act of committing a crime. That is called "stop and frisk" or "arrest and frisk." Eh, ang problema, sabi ng mga babae kapag nag-search ang mga pulis, pinapahiga muna sila. The search must be conducted when the victim is in a vertical position and not with the victim in a horizontal position.*

Precisely worded statutes are intended to confine an officer's activities to the letter of the law. *Kaya itong ating Anti-Vagrancy Law na ito, unconstitutional ito because it is void for vagueness. Hindi mo maintindihan kung ano ba talaga ang bawal dito. Kung ikaw ay nakatayo lamang na wala kang ginagawa, vagrant ka na ba? Kahit ilang oras kang nakatayo diyan, paano malalaman ng pulis, halimbawa, na ikaw ay taong walang hanapbuhay? Titingnan ka lamang ba niya ayon lamang sa kursunada niya? That is why the present*

law really should be abolished because it is too vague.

The void for vagueness doctrine also discourages judges from attempting to apply sloppily worded laws. Like the rest of society, judges often labor without success when interpreting poorly worded legislation. Courts may attempt to narrowly construe a vague statute so that it applies only to a finite set of circumstances. However, such judicial constructions are not always possible. Ultimately, a confusing law that cannot be cured by a narrow judicial interpretation has to be struck down as an unconstitutional violation of the due process clauses.

3. Excerpts from U.S. decisions that have struck down vagrancy ordinances

With the indulgence of the Sponsor, I will just read excerpts from certain decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court that have struck down vagrancy ordinances. *Kaya tama itong advocacy ni Senador Escudero dahil sa Amerika talagang in-abolish nila ang mga law nila against vagrancy.*

This aspect of the vagrancy ordinance before us is suggested by what this Court said in 1876 about a broad criminal statute enacted by Congress: "It would certainly be dangerous if the legislature could set a net large enough to catch all possible offenders, and leave it to the courts to step inside and say who could be rightfully detained, and who should be set at large." (*United States v. Reese*, 92 U.S. 214,221.)

Where the list of crimes is so all-inclusive and generalized as the one in this ordinance, those convicted may be punished for no more than vindicating affronts to policy authority: "The common ground which brings such a motley assortment of human troubles before the magistrates in vagrancy-type proceedings is the procedural laxity which permits 'conviction' for almost any kind of conduct and the existence of the House of Correction as an easy and convenient dumping-ground for problems that appear to have no other immediate solution." (Foote, *Vagrancy-Type Law and Its Administration*, 104 U. Pa. L. Rev. 603, 631.)

A presumption that people who might walk or loaf or loiter or stroll or frequent houses where liquor is sold, or who are supported by their wives or who look suspicious to the police are to become future criminals is too precarious for a rule of law. The implicit presumption in these generalized vagrancy standards -- that crime is

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being nipped in the bud – is too extravagant to deserve extended treatment. Of course, vagrancy statutes are useful to the police. Of course, they are nets making easy the roundup of so-called undesirables. But the rule of law implies equality and justice in its application. Vagrancy laws of the Jacksonville type teach that the scales of justice are so tipped that even-handed administration of the law is not possible. The rule of law, evenly applied to minorities as well as majorities, to the poor as well as the rich, is the great mucilage that holds society together. This is a passage from the case decided by the U. S. Supreme Court called *Papachristou v. City of Jacksonville* most recently in 1972.

So, in summary, I support our present bill decriminalizing vagrancy for the following reasons: 1) the present law is used merely to abuse women, particularly prostituted women; 2) it is void for vagueness and therefore unconstitutional; and 3) this law already has admirable precedents in U. S. jurisprudence.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of committee amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

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

1. On page 2, line 16, between the words "cases" and "under," insert the words FOR VAGRANCY;
2. On the same page, line 21, after the word "for," replace the words "violation of" with the word VAGRANCY; and
3. On the title of the bill, before the word "ACT," delete the word "REPUBLIC."

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

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

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

There being no individual amendment, upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of individual amendments.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 1965 ON SECOND READING

Submitted to a vote, there being no objection, Senate Bill No. 1965 was approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1965

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:27 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4: 27 p.m., the session was resumed.

SPECIAL ORDER

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body approved the transfer of Committee Report No. 28 on Senate Bill No. 1978 from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders.

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 28 ON SENATE BILL NO. 1978

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body considered, on Second Reading, Senate Bill No. 1978 (Committee Report No. 28), entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN AND DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

The Chair recognized Senator Escudero for the sponsorship.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECHES

At the instance of Senator Escudero, the explanatory notes of Senate Bill No. 7, introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada; Senate Bill No. 39, introduced by Senator Biazon; Senate Bill No. 1306, introduced by Senator Escudero; and Senate Bill Nos. 1337 and 1848, introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago, were adopted as the sponsorship speeches for Senate Bill No. 1978.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF SENATE BILL NO. 1978

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:29 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:29 p.m., the session was resumed.

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 288

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 288, entitled

RESOLUTION COMMENDING CARLA GISELA YSABEL CONCEPCION FOR WINNING IN THE 2008 BPI-DOST SCIENCE AWARDS FOR HER POTENTIALLY GROUNDBREAKING STUDY ON TRACKING CANCER CELLS USING GREEN FLUORESCENT PROTEIN FROM SOFT CORAL REEF ABUNDANT IN THE PHILIPPINES,

taking into consideration Proposed Senate Resolution No. 292, entitled

RESOLUTION COMMENDING CARLA GISELA YSABEL CONCEPCION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES DILIMAN, WINNER OF THE 2008 BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS-DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWARDS, IN RECOGNITION OF HER OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIELD OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

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

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 288

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 288, taking into consideration Proposed Senate Resolution No. 292, was adopted by the Body.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Pangilinan, the session was suspended.

It was 4:30 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION



At 4:31 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 4:31 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


EMMA LIRIO-REYES
Secretary of the Senate 

Approved on February 6, 2008