



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
JULY 22, 2013 - JUNE 13, 2014

# PERFORMANCE OF THE SENATE



“THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
HAS AFFORDED US THE OPPORTUNITY  
TO PROVE THE STABILITY OF OUR INSTITUTION  
IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY.”

SENATE PRESIDENT FRANKLIN M. DRILON





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FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
SIXTEENTH CONGRESS  
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**This is an official publication of the**  
*Senate of the Philippines*

**Senate, Pasay City**  
**July 2014**

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**CLOSING REMARKS OF  
SENATE PRESIDENT FRANKLIN M. DRILON**

Adjournment Sine Die of the  
1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress  
11 June 2014

**RESTORING THE PEOPLE'S FAITH  
IN THE SENATE**

My esteemed colleagues, good evening.

As the First Regular Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress comes to a close, I would like to express my sincerest gratitude and deepest appreciation to my colleagues for their boundless enthusiasm and single-mindedness in pursuing our legislative agenda, which translated into an impressive legislative performance.

Since we opened the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress in July of last year, it has been a difficult and challenging journey for the Senate. I would like to thank the members of this august Chamber for remaining composed and focused on our mandate despite the barrage of harsh and relentless criticisms directed at our beloved institution when the PDAF controversy surfaced last year.

The openness in which we have allowed media to report on this matter and the trust we have for our legal processes show how strong we have built our democratic foundations to withstand political turmoil. However, we cannot deny that the PDAF controversy has cast a long, dark shadow over our institution. And we completely understand the people's outrage. Thus, the members of this august Chamber collectively sought ways to address the issue. We abolished the PDAF even before the Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional. We conducted our own investigation on the alleged misuse of the pork barrel funds.

By undertaking these measures, we are telling our people that the Senate is listening to their pleas and clamor for reforms. We are sending a clear and strong message that their Senate is sensitive to their grievances and concerns.

Amid these spirit-breaking challenges, I am certain that each one of us only has the nation's and the institution's best interest at heart. We might be going through turbulent times right now, but I am confident that, in time, we will be able to restore the people's trust and confidence in our institution.

We must not lose sight of our ultimate goal, which is to provide a better life for our countrymen; a life that is not wanting in choices and opportunities. Neither should we forget that the Senate, a bastion of democracy, has a glorious beginning and a history of honor in public service. And we shall endeavor to bring back that honor and glory.

Even if the PDAF controversy was constantly dominating the headlines and trending in the social media for months, and despite severe public beating, the Senate continued to work, deliberating on bills and crafting measures that would significantly improve the lives of our countrymen. Despite the controversies and intrigues that incessantly plagued this institution, we have persevered and continued to discharge our duties to the Republic and our people.

Today, as we adjourn *sine die* our First Regular Session, allow me to report to our people what the Senate of the Philippines has accomplished.

The First Regular Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress has afforded us the opportunity to prove the stability of our institution in the face of adversity. This august Chamber, which has traditionally reveled in the confidence of the electorate and consistently maintained its prominence, has been battered by, perhaps, the gravest crisis to have ever crossed its path. In my 16 years in the Senate, never before have I witnessed this kind of turmoil.

As we continue to brave through the unforgiving blizzard of controversies, our commitments and vows to the people serve as our guiding light on the road to recovery and redemption.

While we defend our institution against doubts to its integrity, our constituents are faced with a tougher fight – a fight for survival as natural disasters hitting the nation in recent years are evolving with terrifying intensity and frequency. In 2013, one of the strongest typhoons ever recorded in history ripped through the Visayas and left a trail of devastation of epic proportions, from which our people in the region are still staggering to recover.

In this light, we worked for the timely enactment of several measures to enable our people to quickly get back on their feet.

Among these measures enacted in record time is the national budget for 2014, which provided for an authorization to spend ₱2.265 trillion in public funds with special emphasis on the calamity-stricken areas. This measure introduced the Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program, which apportioned ₱20 billion to empower the victims of the most tragic natural

and man-made calamities in the past year, specifically, the typhoons Yolanda, Santi, Odette, Pablo, Sendong, Vinta, Labuyo, the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in Bohol, and the Zamboanga City siege. Moreover, it provided for a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund of ₱13 billion, and Quick Response Fund of ₱4.8 billion, both of which bolster the government's capacity to address and the people's readiness to face these catastrophic phenomena. The law likewise allocated ₱80 billion for reconstruction and rehabilitation programs under the Unprogrammed Fund.

In terms of distribution among agencies, the Department of Education garnered the largest percentage share at 27.23%, representing ₱309.43 billion. Other departments with significant shares are the following:

<b>BUDGET OF SELECTED SECTORS</b>		
	<b>( in billion pesos )</b>	<b>Percent Share</b>
Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)	219.91	19.36
Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)	136.14	11.98
Department of National Defense (DND)	123.19	10.84
Department of Health (DOH)	90.77	7.98
Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)	83.40	7.34
Department of Agriculture (DA)	80.03	7.04
Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC)	48.89	4.30
Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)	23.92	2.10
Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)	20.38	1.79

We also passed RA 10634, appropriating ₱14.6 billion to augment the Calamity Fund in the 2013 national budget by ₱11.2 billion and the Quick Response Fund by ₱3.4 billion. On the other hand, Joint Res. No. 1 extended the validity of appropriations under the Calamity Fund and Quick Response Fund in the 2013 national budget until the end of this year.

We enacted RA 10635, which established the MARINA as a single and central maritime administration to comply with international standards, and averted the possible employment ban against 80,000 Filipino seafarers in the European Union. We also passed RA 10632, which postponed the Sangguniang Kabataan Elections, to give the Congress sufficient time to formulate substantial reforms to this youth governance mechanism. Just today, the president signed RA 10636 granting Philippine citizenship to Andray Blatche.

Over and above these six measures that successfully completed the legislative process, nine bills await President Aquino's approval, reflecting our unwavering commitment to focus on delivering pieces of legislation that will improve the quality of life for every Filipino.

Among these bills is HB 353, which would strengthen our response to calamities by mandating telecommunications service providers to send free mobile alerts in the event of natural and man-made disasters. Under the bill, the alerts shall consist of updated information from the relevant agencies, and shall be sent directly to the mobile phone subscribers located near and within the affected areas. We trust that this measure would help achieve the main objectives of disaster preparedness, which are to lessen the impact of the typhoon and ultimately save lives.

The Graphic Health Warning Law, which was passed after seven long years, seeks to increase the awareness of the public on the deadly effects of smoking through graphic health warnings printed on at least 50% of the principal display surface of tobacco packages. We believe that this proposed measure will bring us closer to our goal of protecting the present and future generations from the devastating health, social, environmental, and economic consequences of tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke.

We also proposed amendments to the Act Liberalizing the Scope and Entry of Operations of Foreign Banks. Under this measure, reputable and financially sound foreign banks shall be allowed to acquire up to 100% of the voting stocks of domestic banks. We are confident that, with greater foreign participation in our banking sector, we shall have access to a bigger pool of financial resources in order to support various infrastructure projects and other development initiatives.

We also extended the corporate life of the Philippine National Railways. Recognizing the importance of PNR's uninterrupted service to the riding public, both houses worked intently to ensure this measure's swift passage.

We also passed the Go Negosyo bill in order to promote the development of micro, small and medium enterprises.

Likewise awaiting the President's signature are SB 2211 or the so-called Lemon Law, which aims to strengthen consumer protection in the purchase of brand new motor vehicles; SB 2273, which seeks to strengthen the anti-drug campaign of the government by amending Section 21 of RA 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act Of 2002; HB 3187, which grants the Cotabato Light And Power Company a franchise to construct, install, establish, operate, and maintain a distribution system for the conveyance of electric power to the end-users in the City of Cotabato and portions of the Municipalities of Datu Odin Sinsuat and Sultan Kudarat, both in the Province of Maguindanao; and H. Jt. Res. 12, which declares July 27, 2014 as a Special Nonworking Holiday to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Iglesia Ni Cristo.

The Senate has likewise approved on third reading four more measures, which include landmark bills on good governance and public accountability.

These include the Freedom of Information Act, which seeks to implement a policy of full public disclosure of all government transactions involving public interest, with appropriate safeguards to protect the national security. Once enacted into law, this measure shall launch a culture of transparency, accountability and public participation in government.

On the other hand, SB 2138 aims to empower the Sandiganbayan to speedily resolve cases against erring government officials and employees. The bill seeks to introduce innovations to the anti-graft court, such as the concept of justice-designate, modification in the voting requirement, and transfer of jurisdiction to the regional trial courts of "minor" cases.

Also approved on third reading are SB 1281, which declares August 18 of every year as "Jesse Robredo Day," a Special Working Holiday; and SB 2226, which aims to protect the amateur nature of our student-athletes by regulating the residency requirement and prohibiting the commercialization of student-athletes.

In the advanced stages of the legislative process are five bills approved on second reading, majority of which seeks to remove the traditional barriers to the effective delivery of education throughout the country, namely poverty, distance and age. These are SB 2274, which seeks to expand access to education through open learning and distance education in tertiary levels of education; SB 2272, which aims to strengthen the ladderized interface between technical-vocational education and training and higher education;

SB 2212, which actively promotes entrepreneurship and financial education among the Filipino youth; and SB 2275 or the so-called Iskolar ng Bayan Bill, which mandates all state colleges and universities to annually confer automatic admission and provide scholarship grants to the top 10 public high school students of their graduating class. Likewise passed on second reading is SB 1647, which aims to repeal the crime of premature marriage under the Revised Penal Code.

When we commence the Second Regular Session in July, we shall resume consideration of 20 bills currently under plenary debates and amendments:

1. S. No. 12 Providing Barangay Officials, Including Barangay Tanods, Members Of The Lupon Ng Tagapamayapa, Barangay Health Workers And Barangay Day Care Workers A Retirement Benefit
2. S. No. 29 Prohibiting The Discrimination On The Employment Of Any Individual On The Basis Merely Of Age
3. S. No. 136 Reforming The National Apprenticeship Program And Providing Standards For The Training And Employment Of Apprentices, And Regulatory Standards For Accreditation Of Apprenticeship Programs
4. S. No. 480 Increasing the Quarter Allowance of Officers and Enlisted Personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines
5. S. No. 510 Declaring The Fifth Day Of October Of Every Year As The National Teachers' Day
6. S. No. 914 Regulate and Modernize the Practice of Chemistry in the Philippines, Repealing for the Purpose Republic Act Numbered 754 Entitled, "An Act to Regulate the Practice of Chemistry in the Philippines"
7. S. No. 2042 Prohibiting the Development, Production, Stockpiling, Use of Chemical Weapons and Providing for their Destruction
8. S. No. 2055 Regulating the Practice of Forestry in the Philippines, Repealing for this Purpose Republic Act Numbered Sixty-two Hundred Thirty-Nine, Known as "The Forestry Profession Law"
9. S. No. 2103 Regulating the Practice of Metallurgical Engineering in the Philippines, Repealing for this Purpose Presidential Decree Numbered 1536, Otherwise Known as the Metallurgical Engineering Law of the Philippines

10. S. No. 2134 Reorganizing The Cooperative Development Authority, Repealing For The Purpose Republic Act No. 6939, Creating The Cooperative Development Authority
11. S. No. 2161 Crafting the Quezon City Development Authority (QCDA), Defining its Powers and Functions, Providing for its Organizational Structure and Capitalization
12. S. No. 2207 Amending Some Provisions Of Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known As The Philippine Fisheries Code Of 1998
13. S. No. 2210 Institutionalizing the Poverty Reduction Through Social Entrepreneurship (Present) Program and Promoting Social Enterprises with the Poor as Primary Stakeholders
14. S. No. 2239 Requiring All Franchise Holders Or Operators Of Television Stations And Producers Of Television Programs To Broadcast Or Present Their Programs With Closed Captions Options
15. S. No. 2270 Ensuring the Fundamental Equality of Men and Women Under the Laws on Marriage and Family Relations, Amending for the Purpose Executive Order No. 209, Otherwise Known as The Family Code of the Philippines
16. S. No. 2271 Establishing A Framework For Film And Television Tourism In The Philippines, Marketing The Industry Globally And Providing Employment For The Sector
17. S. No. 2277 Establishing the Open High School System in the Philippines
18. S. No. 2278 Mandating The Completion Of The Land Acquisition And Distribution (LAD) Component Of The Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) By June 30, 2016 Pursuant To Republic Act No. 6657, Otherwise Known As The "Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law", As Amended
19. S. No. 2280 Amending Presidential Decree No. 968, otherwise known as the Probation Law of 1976, as Amended
20. S. Jt. Res.2 Increasing the Subsistence Allowance of All Officers and Enlisted Personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and of all Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Personnel of the Philippine National Police From Ninety Pesos (₱90.00) to One Hundred and Fifty Pesos (₱150.00) Per Day

Moreover, we have concurred in the ratification of extradition treaties with the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland, Spain, and India to boost the government's effort to fight criminality, especially those related to child trafficking and prostitution.

We also adopted 44 resolutions that range from commendation to expression of sympathy.

Finally, our permanent committees, subcommittees and joint congressional oversight committees have likewise conducted 324 public hearings on 806 bills, from which we gained the valuable insights and helpful views of stakeholders on various legislative proposals.

All told, not only have we maintained our focus on the tasks that had earned us our membership in this august Chamber, we have also outpaced the legislative output of the previous Congress. At the adjournment *sine die* of the First Regular Session of the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, three measures were enacted into law, six bills were transmitted for the approval of the President, eight bills were approved on second and third reading, and one treaty was concurred. While for the same period in the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, six measures were enacted into law, nine were transmitted for the approval of the President, nine were approved on second and third reading, and three treaties were concurred.

The Senate has shown a strong resolve to fulfill its duty to the nation, with fervor and determination. Never have we neglected our obligation to the people, even as we confront our present difficulties.

Before I end, let me thank the Senate Secretariat and our respective staff for the unswerving support and competent service.

To my esteemed colleagues, I commend all of you for your dedication to fulfill your sworn duty, undeterred by the issues hounding this institution. I am also thankful and deeply humbled by your continued trust and confidence in my leadership.

With that, let me once more thank all of you for your valuable support, and may God bless the Senate, the Filipino people and the Republic of the Philippines.

Thank you very much.

## OFFICERS OF THE SENATE

Franklin M. Drilon  
PRESIDENT

Ralph G. Recto  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Alan Peter Compañero S. Cayetano  
MAJORITY LEADER

Juan Ponce Enrile  
MINORITY LEADER

Oscar G. Yabes  
SECRETARY

Jose V. Balajadia, Jr.  
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



# SENATORS OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS



# FRANKLIN M. DRILON

SENATE PRESIDENT

Franklin M. Drilon has devoted a life of service to the Filipino, offering the best of himself to his countrymen.

Drilon's journey in public service is defined by exemplary integrity and unparalleled competence. He has consistently stood by his principles even in the face of forceful resistance and served as a catalyst of reform in the public sector—these traits of a genuine leader inspire confidence in other people and propel them into action.



## ***As an Iskolar ng Bayan***

As an embodiment of the *Iskolar ng Bayan* pursuing academic excellence, Drilon demonstrated a sterling performance in the University of the Philippines College of Law that merited him membership in the prestigious Order of the Purple Feather. He placed third in the 1969 Bar examination.

## **As an Executive Officer**

Drilon served as Labor Secretary, Justice Secretary and Executive Secretary during the administration of President Corazon C. Aquino, and Justice Secretary during the term of President Fidel V. Ramos.

As Labor Secretary, he was at the forefront of the promotion of industrial peace, protection of the workers' rights, and generation of jobs. As Justice Secretary, he pushed for improvements in the justice system, spearheaded the expansion of halls of justice, left an incredible record of convictions, and developed the Witness Protection Program.

## **As a Legislator**

Drilon won the trust and confidence of the Filipinos when he was elected in 1995, 2001 and 2010 to the Senate of the Philippines. Drilon relentlessly campaigned for good governance, speedy administration of justice, and protection of human rights, which reflected in various bills he introduced and steered into law in the Senate. For championing advocacies that have meaningful impact on the nation and by displaying a unique leadership style,

he earned the respect not only of his countrymen, but of his colleagues who elected him as the Upper House's leader four times in the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Congresses.

Drilon's focus is not only on legislation, he has also embarked on various programs that addressed the needs of the country. Among these are the construction of 1,600 school buildings throughout the country, the repair and upgrading of public hospitals and the construction of Jalaur River Multi-Purpose Project Stage-II, and clean-up of the Iloilo River.

# RALPH G. RECTO

SENATE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Ralph Gonzalez Recto is a dependable legislator. A friend to his first constituents in Batangas, he has won over the Filipino voter who gave him two opportunities to continue public service in the Senate.

In the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, he was elected as the Senate President Pro Tempore. He also chairs the Committee on Science and Technology and is Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Finance.



In the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, he chaired the Committees on Ways and Means, and Government Corporations and Public Enterprises. He was also co-chairman of the Oversight Committees on the Proper Implementation of the National Internal Revenue Code and the Official Development Assistance.

The Senator continues to advocate for GSIS members' rights, more jobs, expanded health coverage, tax relief, mass transit, responsive education program, and a vibrant agriculture sector. He has come out in defense of Juan de la Cruz in consumer issues like oil prices, power costs, water fees and transportation fare.

He proves his genuine embrace of the Common Good in his efforts to counter rice price hikes and smuggling, MRT fare increase, electricity rate hikes and other issues that hurt consumers most. He shows a long-range vision for future generations of Filipinos with his inputs on educational reforms, including strengthening State Science High Schools.

Recto advocated for GOCCs to focus on their core mandates and allow incomes to fund health services, education, national security and lower electricity rates subject to the usual budgeting process for transparency and accountability.

He is the principal author of RA 10638, which extended the corporate life of the Philippine National Railways for another 50 years. He has authored several laws in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress including the Kto12 and the Kindergarten Education Acts, GOCC Governance Act, National Electrification Administration Reform Act and Common Carrier's Tax Exemption. He also sponsored bills institutionalizing the rights of GSIS members, increasing

SSS pension, granting tax relief to families, and incentives to alternative fuel vehicles, among others.

He recommended the inclusion of a Rehabilitation Fund in the 2014 Budget for the reconstruction of Zamboanga, Bohol and typhoons Santi–and Yolanda–damaged areas.

As Chairman of the Committee on Science and Technology, he is advocating for more benefits for science and technology personnel; a modernized PAGASA to ensure its capability to meet the increasing demands of disaster risk reduction; the establishment of science laboratories and the utilization of Information and Communication technology in public schools to promote a “knowledge-based economy” where education drives growth, increases productivity and creates jobs.

He is also pushing for the provision of free wi-fi access in public buildings, parks, and national roads in NCR and for a minimum internet speed to allow access to critical information anytime and improve productivity.

His scholarship program helped 1,056 students for 2011-2012, while 1,965 students availed of scholarships for 2012-2013. Congressional funds of ₱31 million in government hospitals benefited more than 5,000 indigent patients.

Senator Recto is at the forefront of disaster preparedness, management and relief efforts. He constantly provides assistance, either through Congressional budgetary allocations or even from his personal funds, to victims of natural calamities and disasters. He also provided financial and relief goods assistance to victims of Typhoon Yolanda in Leyte, Iloilo, Cebu, Bohol; as well as the victims of Typhoon Habagat in Marikina City, Pasig City, Rizal, Laguna, Pampanga, Bulacan and Bataan; earthquake victims in Bohol; and Typhoon Pablo victims in Cagayan de Oro City, Iligan City, Davao Oriental and Compostela Valley.

Funding for roads, bridges, school buildings and health centers enjoy budgetary priority for the Senator.

Senator Recto relentlessly crafts and lends his support to measures that empower the government to propel the country to growth and prosperity. In addition to economic nationalism, he adheres to the principles of inclusive growth where the poor can share the responsibility and fruits of development.

# ALAN PETER COMPAÑERO S. CAYETANO

MAJORITY LEADER

*Naniniwala si Senator Alan na hindi makakamtan ng bansa ang tunay na kaunlaran habang hindi nasusugpo ang katiwalian sa pamahalaan. At ang kaunlaran, para maging tunay at makabuluhan, ay dapat maramdaman ng lahat ng Pilipino at hindi ng iilan lang.*

Senator Alan Peter S. Cayetano has been in public service for the most part of his life. He started his career in politics at a very young age, owing to a proximate role model he found in his father, the late Senator Renato “Compañero” Cayetano, who is an accomplished lawyer and a respected Statesman.



One of the early displays of Senator Alan’s political idealism was when he ran and won as a councilor in the University Student Council (USC) in UP Diliman while he was a political science student there. He then pursued a degree in Law at the Ateneo de Manila University where he graduated as Silver Medalist and with a Second Honourable Mention. He was later admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1998.

It was while he was in law school that he began his journey as a public servant when he won as the number one councilor in Taguig at a very young age of 21, earning the distinction as the youngest to do so in his generation.

And the rest, as the cliché goes, is history.

From then on, Senator Alan has built his entire political career as a sworn enemy of graft and corruption in government all throughout his rich and meaningful experience in public service.

And at almost every turn in his political life, he was among the youngest public servants in his sphere:

- At 21, Senator Alan was the Youngest Councilor of the country during his time;
- At 24, Senator Alan was the Youngest Vice-Mayor of the Municipality (now City) of Taguig;
- At 27, Senator Alan was the Youngest Representative in the 11th Congress;
- At 37, Senator Alan has been the youngest Chair of the high-profile Senate Blue Ribbon Committee;

- At 39, Senator Alan has been one of the youngest contenders for the Senate presidency;
- At 39, Senator Alan is the youngest Minority Leader in the history of the Philippine Senate; and
- At 39, Senator Alan was recognized for his exemplary work in government and public service when he was awarded as one of the “Top Outstanding Young Men” in 2010.

One of the turning points of Senator Alan’s crusade against corruption was when he was elected as Senator in 2007 where, because of his strong anti-graft stance, he was chosen to chair the Blue Ribbon Committee. Under his stewardship of the anti-corruption panel, the graft-ridden NBN-ZTE deal was probed and scrapped. He also steered the continuation of the inquiries into the high-profile Fertilizer Scam and the Cash-giving Scandal in Malacañang Palace.

It was also this time that he chaired the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, where he pushed for more funding for basic and tertiary education, and for better compensation for public school teachers. Also, barely nine months after he assumed post, Republic Act 9500 or the University of the Philippines Charter Act of 2008 was passed.

During his successful re-election campaign where he placed number 3 in the 2013 elections, Senator Alan advocated for a better life for poor Filipinos. He pushed for Presyo, Trabaho, Kita (PTK) as his platform to reduce prices, create more and better jobs and raise income so families may feel the benefits of the growing economy.

Chosen as the new Senate Majority Leader during the first session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, Senator Alan aims to steer the members of the majority bloc into approving legislative measures envisioned to help the country attain inclusive economic growth which would be felt right down to the grassroots level.

# JUAN PONCE ENRILE

## MINORITY LEADER

Juan Ponce Enrile began his career in public service in January 1966, when he was appointed Undersecretary of Finance. Shortly thereafter, he was made Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Philippine National Bank and as concurrent Acting Head of the Insurance Commission. He also served as Acting Commissioner of Customs until December 1968. While he was in the Finance Department, he was appointed Acting Secretary and concurrent Chairman of the Monetary Board of the Central Bank of the Philippines.



In December 1968, Enrile was appointed Undersecretary in the Department of Justice where he served until February 9, 1970. Thereafter, he was appointed Secretary of National Defense where he served until August 1971 when he resigned to run for the Philippine Senate. He was re-appointed Secretary of Defense in January 1972.

In 1986, he led the historic EDSA People Power Revolution.

His first term in the Philippine Senate was from 1987 to 1992, where he served as the lone member of the Minority. He also served in the House of Representatives from 1992 to 1995, as the Representative of the First District of Cagayan. His second term in the Senate was from 1995 to 2001.

In 2004, he sought to run for senator once again and was elected to the 13th Congress. When the Third Regular session began, Enrile assumed the chairmanship of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

In the Fourteenth Congress, Enrile was elected as Chairman of the Committee on Finance. Backed by the support and trust of his peers in the chamber, Enrile became the Senate President on 17 November 2008. Under his leadership, the Senate passed vital pieces of legislation, and institutional reforms were also implemented to improve the conduct of business by the institution and to improve the welfare of its officers and employees.

Under his leadership, the Senate collaborated with the House of Representatives on two historical milestones. First was in December 2009 to

take up Proclamation No. 1959, declaring a state of martial law and suspending the writ of habeas corpus in the province of Maguindanao, while the second was in May 2010, when Congress convened to constitute itself as the national canvassing board to canvass the votes for president and vice president.

Upon the opening of the Fifteenth Congress on 26 July 2010, Senator Enrile was re-elected unanimously by his peers to the Senate Presidency.

Enrile, without fear or favor, took on the role of Presiding Officer of the Senate sitting as an Impeachment Court to try and decide on the impeachment case of then Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato C. Corona. At the age of 88, he presided over the impeachment court with the same level of legal astuteness, brilliance, and thoroughness as he did as a trial lawyer in his younger days.

In September 2012, Enrile launched his autobiography entitled “*Juan Ponce Enrile: A Memoir*” which, he says, is a humble rendition of his life story.

# SONNY M. ANGARA

Juan Edgardo “Sonny” Angara is among the newly elected senators of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, having received more than 16 million votes in May 2013. He strongly believes in the potential of every Filipino to succeed, so long as they are given the right opportunities in life, as encapsulated in his campaign slogan “Angara ng Pinoy.”



Senator Angara has vowed to push for policies and measures that aim to provide opportunities and empower people primarily through access to quality education and employment generation. And true to his word, he has filed the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Higher and Technical Education (UNIFAST) Act, which seeks to strengthen, harmonize and refocus the existing the student financial assistance programs to make them more responsive to the needs of the poor given the persistent income poverty and inequity, as among his top priority bills.

He also filed the Bill of Rights for New Graduates which seeks to assist each new graduate with employment and business opportunities, and the Financial Literacy Act which aims to equip young Filipinos with the knowledge to manage their resources through financial literacy programs in schools.

Senator Angara currently chairs the Senate Committees on Ways and Means, and Games, Amusement and Sports.

Among the tax reforms he is pushing are the reduction of the individual and corporate income tax, the adjustment of the 13<sup>th</sup> month pay ceiling, and the inclusion of college tuition as one of the tax deductions.

He was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2004 to represent the Lone District province of Aurora. He was re-elected in 2007 and 2010 to the same position, and served as Deputy Majority Leader, and as Chairman of the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education.

During his time as a congressman, he authored and sponsored more than 50 measures of national significance, such as the law for free universal

kindergarten education, the law that increased the salaries of public school teachers, the Universal Healthcare Law, the Expanded Senior Citizens Law, the Tourism Act and many others.

For his achievements, he was recognized by various publications as an outstanding legislator, and in 2010, was awarded as one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) of the Philippines.

Senator Sonny Angara was born in 1972 to former University of the Philippines President and Senate President Edgardo J. Angara and schoolteacher Gloria Manalang.

He finished his elementary and high school in Xavier School. He earned his undergraduate degree in international relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science, graduating with honors.

He is a lawyer by profession, a graduate of the UP College of Law where he obtained his Bachelor of Laws degree, and of Harvard Law School in Cambridge Massachusetts, where he obtained his Master of Laws degree. He used to teach law and to write columns for various publications.

He is happily married with three children.

# PAOLO BENIGNO “BAM” AQUINO IV

Senator Bam Aquino is the youngest senator of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Republic of the Philippines and is a world-renowned social entrepreneur. He currently chairs the Senate Committee on Trade, Commerce, and Entrepreneurship, and the Senate Committee on Youth.



In 1999, he graduated with *summa cum laude* honors from the Ateneo de Manila University with a degree in Management Engineering. He was also the class valedictorian and student council president.

In 2003, Bam became the youngest head of a government agency when, at 25, he was appointed as the Chairperson of the National Youth Commission, the primary national policy-making body for Filipino youth.

After his stint in government service, Bam co-founded the social enterprise The Hapinoy Program that helps lift Filipinos out of poverty through micro-finance and micro-enterprise support. For their innovative work with the poor, it has received numerous awards, both locally and globally.

In 2008, Bam was awarded a scholarship to the Executive Education Program on Public Policy and Leadership of the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.

Because of his work, he has been named a Young Global Leader of the World Economic Forum in 2006, one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Philippines in 2010, one of the Asian Social Entrepreneurs of the Year in 2011, and one of the Ten Outstanding Young Persons of the World in 2012.

Bam has dedicated his entire career to empowering the youth and the poor, helping thousands of Filipinos improve their lives through access to opportunities and crucial support systems.

In the Senate, he has filed bills and resolutions on creating an environment where micro and small entrepreneurs can grow their businesses, consumers are protected and youth unemployment is addressed.

On June 11, 2014, the Go Negosyo Act, the first pro-poor and inclusive growth bill, and the Philippine Lemon Law, a measure that will further protect consumer rights, were ratified by both Senate and the House of Representatives. He was the first neophyte senator in the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress who had measures adopted by both houses of the Philippine Congress.

# MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy Sombillo Binay is the eldest daughter of Vice President Jejomar C. Binay and former Makati City Mayor Dr. Elenita S. Binay.



At present, she is the chairperson of the Senate Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development, which has jurisdiction on all matters relating to rural development and welfare, and the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution on social justice. As chairperson, she conducted public hearings with stakeholders concerning the Magna Carta of Workers in the Informal Economy, Social Welfare and Development Agencies, Social Value Act and the Centenarians Act. Nancy has submitted for Senate approval Committee Report No. 54, dealing with the Centenarians Act.

Senator Nancy attended all sessions and hearings during the First Regular Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress. Notwithstanding her outstanding attendance, Nancy also filed bills and resolutions relating to her advocacies primarily concerning women and children, the elderly and housing concerns. At the end of the First Regular Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, she has filed a total of 158 bills and resolutions. In particular, Nancy filed Senate Resolution No. 415 which was adopted by the Senate as Resolution No. 33 commending the soldiers of the 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion deployed to Guiuan, Eastern Samar in recognition of their incredible acts of bravery in the wake of typhoon Yolanda.

Nancy, as she is fondly called, grew up constantly exposed to the world of politics and public service. At 25, she became directly involved in the city government affairs during her mother's term from 1998-2001.

Prior to her election as senator, she assisted Vice President Jejomar Binay on housing matters. Her duties included serving as liaison between the Office of the Vice President (OVP) and Shelter Agencies under the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), and between the OVP and local government units on housing concerns. She also assisted the Vice President in monitoring the implementation of programs of the Shelter Agencies under HUDCC.

Aside from her experience in government and public service, the lady senator completed her primary and secondary education at St. Scholastica's College Manila. Nancy obtained her Bachelor's degree in Tourism at the University of the Philippines-Diliman in 1997.

Born on May 12, 1973, Nancy is married to Jose Benjamin Raymundo Angeles, a businessman. They have four children, namely; Jose Benjamin Jejomar Angeles, 13 years old; Maria Elenita Faustina Angeles, 11 years old; and 5 years old twins, Juan Benedicto Adelio Angeles and Juan Benito Alejandro Angeles.

In between performing her roles as wife, mother, and her official functions, Nancy has managed to pursue her ardent advocacy for children through her involvement with several charitable organizations.

She continues to serve in the following capacities: Member, Board of Trustee of Brighthalls Children's Foundation; Executive Director and Member, Board of Trustees, Bigay Pagmamahal Foundation; Member, Board of Trustees, STF Serbisiyong Tunay Foundation, Inc.; and Member, Board of Trustees, JCB Foundation.

# PIA S. CAYETANO

## Pinay In Action

Senator Pia S. Cayetano stands tall as a champion of women's rights and staunch advocate of health. The youngest woman elected in the history of the Philippine Senate, she continues to prove that there is no limit to what Filipino women can achieve.



Armed with the training of a lawyer, discipline of an athlete, and heart of a mother, Senator Pia excelled in her first term as legislator and was re-elected to a second term in 2010.

In her ten years of public service, she has pushed for the passage of several measures benefitting women, children and the elderly, while also working to improve public health and social services for the poor and marginalized.

Most recently, Senator Pia worked for the passage of two landmark laws. She sponsored the Reproductive Health Law (RA 10354), which provides women with access to information and health care services to realize their reproductive health rights, after the bill languished in Congress for 14 years. She also fought for the Sin Tax Reform Act (RA 10351) which generates additional revenue for the country's healthcare system, while also discouraging Filipinos from the unhealthy behaviors of smoking and excessive drinking.

Her growing list of legislative accomplishments includes the Act Amending the National Health Insurance Act (RA 10606), Foster Care Act (RA 10165), Mandatory Infants and Children Health Immunization Act (RA 10152), Expanded Breastfeeding Promotion Act (RA 10028), Establishment of Persons with Disability Affairs Office Act (RA 10070), Expanded Senior Citizens Act (RA 9994), Food and Drugs Administration Act (RA 9711), Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710), Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act (RA 9502), National Anti-Rabies Act (RA 9482), and the Environmental Awareness and Education Act (RA 9512), among others.

As an international parliamentarian, Senator Pia was the first Filipina and Asian in the history of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) to be elected

president of the Committee of Women Parliamentarians, a position she held from 2008-2010.

Outside the Senate halls, Senator Pia promotes her advocacies through Pinay In Action (women empowerment), Bike for Hope (environment and healthy lifestyle), and Gabriel's Symphony Foundation, which helps children with disabilities and special needs. She actively joins local and international marathons, duathlons, triathlons, and Ironman competitions.

A mother, triathlete, entrepreneur, and public servant, Pia is driven by the same passion that has made her among the country's most accomplished leaders. The daughter of the late Senator "Compañero" Rene L. Cayetano has come into her own, making her mark as the Senate's "Pinay In Action."

# MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago became globally famous with her courageous and brilliant crusade against corruption in the Philippines. She is considered as the most awarded Filipino public official today. She was named one of “The 100 Most Powerful Women in the World” by *The Australian* magazine. She was chosen as laureate of the Magsaysay Award for Government Service, known as the Asian equivalent of the Nobel Prize. She was cited “for bold and moral leadership in cleaning up a graft-ridden government agency.”



She was also the recipient of The Outstanding Young Men Award for law by the Philippine Jaycees; The Outstanding Woman in the Nation’s Service Award for Law by the Philippine Lions Club; and the Professional Award in law by the University of the Philippines Alumni Association.

Miriam’s record of public service remains unsurpassed. She has served in all three branches of government as senator, regional trial court judge, immigration commissioner, and agrarian reform secretary.

In 2008, she was the Philippine nominee, supported by all the member states of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations or the ASEAN, for the International Court of Justice.

She obtained the highest number of votes from states parties during the 2011 election of judges of the International Criminal Court. If not for health reasons causing her to step down from the world court, she would have been the first Asian from a developing country to serve in the ICC.

Miriam earned the degrees Bachelor of Arts, *magna cum laude*; and Bachelor of Laws, *cum laude*, from the University of the Philippines. She then earned the graduate degrees of Master of Laws and Doctor of the Science of Jurisprudence, from the University of Michigan. She finished the academic requirements for the degree Master of Arts in Religious Studies, at the Maryhill School of Theology.

She is considered as one of the country’s leading experts in constitutional law and in international law. She was a law professor in U.P. and many of her

former students are now high-ranking public officials. She has authored some 30 books, and is listed in the United Nations roster of eminent and highly qualified experts in international law.

Santiago is hailed as the most hardworking senator of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth Congress for filing the most number of bills and resolutions. She is the author of several significant laws such as the Reproductive Health Act, the Sin Tax Law, the Biofuels Law, the Renewable Energy Act, the Magna Carta of Women, the Anti-Photo and Video Voyeurism Act, the Climate Change Act, and the Philippine Act on Crimes Against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide, and Other Crimes Against Humanity, among others.

Feisty and independent-minded, Miriam's advocacy of politically precarious causes is a testament to her adherence to human rights and her nonpolitical, counter-majoritarian viewpoint. She is the principal author and co-sponsor of the Reproductive Health Act, and the author of the Sin Tax Law in the Senate. She is also the author of the Freedom of Information bill, the Anti-Political Dynasty bill, the Anti-Billboard Blight bill, and the Anti-Premature Campaigning bill. She recently authored the Magna Carta for Internet Freedom, which aims to overhaul the infamous Cybercrime Law.

Throughout her three terms as senator, Miriam has always put environmental protection and sustainable development in her legislative agenda. As former chair of the Senate energy committee, she sponsored the Biofuels Law of 2007 and the Renewable Energy Act of 2008, landmark legislations to reduce the country's overdependence on imported oil and utilize clean and "green" sources of energy. Recently, she filed the Anti-Plastic Bag bill, which aims to completely eliminate the use of single-use carry out bags. The senator has also coordinated with the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) in crafting a bill that will address the health and welfare of captive animals and increase the penalties for animal cruelty.

Miriam, who chairs the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, successfully defended and secured Senate concurrence to the ratification of 22 important treaties, among them the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, and the mutual legal assistance treaties with Spain, Korea, and the ASEAN. Santiago also spearheaded the Senate concurrence on the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

She has been fearless in exposing and naming criminal suspects in legislative investigations, such as those related to the multi-billion illegal jueteng industry, the ₱60 billion road users tax, the ₱218 million infomercials, and the ₱7 million euro generals scandal.

Miriam's wit, humor, and intelligence continue to make her a press favorite for interviews. Dubbed as "Darling of the Press," she has also charmed the youth with her funny but endearing "pick-up" lines. She is a sought-after speaker for graduations and other school events.

Through the years, Miriam continues to be a shining beacon of moral passion and integrity in the country's political landscape. She has triumphed over attempts on her life, political persecution, electoral fraud, and black propaganda to emerge as one of the most outstanding and principled leaders in the nation's history.

Miriam has turned into a cult figure, and fans consider her a living legend in Philippine politics. She creates a stir when she appears in shopping malls or trade exhibits, provoking fans to whip out cellphones and go on a photo and autograph frenzy. No other politician in the country, despite wealth or popularity, has received the universal admiration she evokes as a brilliant, principled politician with a wicked sense of humor. She remains feisty and controversial, as she weaves her unique brand of what media calls "Miriam Magic," the noble appeal to idealism in the hurly-burly world of politics in a developing country.



# JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

Senator JV Ejercito carried out his duties as a neophyte lawmaker. In his first year alone, he filed 129 bills and 25 resolutions, the most number among the new legislators of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress.

As the Chairman of the Committee of the Economic Affairs, and Urban Planning, Resettlement and Housing, Senator JV is seeking to legislate landmark reforms on local housing, economic affairs, education system, job generation and youth welfare. He is also tenacious in pursuing the truth behind the ₱10-billion housing scam involving Globe Asiateque and Pag-IBIG, and to the almost 1,500 victims who were robbed of their hard-earned money.



Among Senator JV's most notable measures are classifying Rice Smuggling as Economic Sabotage, Freedom of Information bill, Installation of Speed Limiters and CCTVs in Public Utility Vehicles, Review of the EPIRA Law, Sanguniang Kabataan Reform Act, and the Anti-Dynasty bill.

Senator JV Ejercito was born on December 26, 1969 in Manila. He is the son of San Juan City Mayor Guia Gomez and former Philippine President and now Manila Mayor Joseph Ejercito Estrada. He is married to Ma. Hyacinth Lotuaco, and is father of two boys, Julio Jose and Jose Emilio.

## **SJVE FAST FACTS**

### **I. Political Background**

- Mayor, San Juan City-2001 to 2010 (three terms)
- Representative, Lone District of San Juan-2010 to 2013
  - Chairman of House Committee on Metro Manila Development
  - Vice Chairman of House Committee on Labor and Employment
  - Vice Chairman of House Committee on Local Government
- Senator of the Republic of the Philippines-2013 to present
  - Chairman of Senate Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Resettlement
  - Chairman of Senate Committee on Economic Affairs

- Affiliation-Junior Chamber International-Philippines
  - 1998 JCI National President
  - JCI Senator

## II. **Top Achievements**

- Ten outstanding Young Men for Public Service and Governance in 2007
- Fifteen Most Outstanding Congressman in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress
- Among the Ninth Most Prolific Lawmaker in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress
- Spearheaded San Juan City's economic growth with revenue increase from ₱300-Million in 2001 to ₱1.2-Billion in 2010.
- Converted San Juan into a highly urbanized city under his term in June 2007
- Most Outstanding National Jaycee President for Asia Pacific in 1998

# FRANCIS JOSEPH “CHIZ” G. ESCUDERO

Francis Joseph G. Escudero, Chiz to most Filipinos, is currently serving his second six-year term in the Philippine Senate, having served and completed his first from 2007-2013.



In the current 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, Chiz heads the Committee on Finance where he instituted reforms in crafting the national budget. This has been reflected in the budget for fiscal year 2014, where he sponsored, to date, the most detailed budget proposal in the country's history. He espoused high transparency through line item budgeting, removing the infamous Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) system that authorizes a government agency to incur obligations not exceeding a given amount during the specified period. He also promoted citizen's active participation in the crafting of the people's budget.

In the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, he chaired two major committees, the Committee on Justice and Human Rights where he passed all 281 bills on additional trial courts, and the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources where all 300 bills and resolutions filed were heard and acted upon.

He authored and sponsored the following laws: RA 9504 (Tax Exemption for Minimum Wage Earners and Increased Tax Exemptions); RA 9576 (Increased Maximum Deposit Insurance Coverage to ₱500,000); RA 9514 (Revised Fire Code of the Philippines); RA 10158 (Decriminalized Vagrancy); RA 10353 (Anti-Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance Act) and RA 9745 (Anti-Torture Act).

Chiz was a law professor at the University of the Philippines and a litigation lawyer prior to his entry into Philippine politics. He made his first bid for public office and won in 1998, as the Representative of the First District of Sorsogon. He served three terms during which he served as Assistant Majority Floor Leader and House Minority Floor Leader.

He is a recipient of numerous prestigious awards like the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) for youth leadership in 2005. He was the only Filipino to be named in 2007 as Asia News Network's Asia's Idols. The World Economic Forum honored him as one of the world's Young Global Leader in 2008. In

2012, the Rotary Golden Wheel Award was bestowed on him in recognition of his contributions in political governance and the legislative field.

Chiz was born on October 10, 1969, the second of three children of the late Agriculture Minister and former Congressman Salvador Escudero and Sorsogon First District Representative Evelina G. Escudero.

# JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

## “Anak ng Masa”

Former Senate President Pro Tempore Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, the eldest son of former Philippine President and now Manila City Mayor Joseph Estrada and former Senator Dra. Luisa Pimentel Estrada, is not new in the world of public service having dedicated more than 25 years of his life in giving service to the public.



Unknown to many, he finished his primary and secondary education in the Ateneo de Manila University and earned a degree in A.B. Economics from the University of the Philippines. He took up Law for four years at the Lyceum of the Philippines while serving as Vice-Mayor of the then Municipality of San Juan at a young age of 25. In 1992, he became the youngest ever elected-Local Chief Executive in the entire nation. During his tenure, San Juan gained the reputation of being the most progressive and peaceful municipality in the Philippines.

In 1998, he was sworn into office as the National President of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines where he effectively and efficiently harnessed the potential of the local government units as reliable partners of the national government in nation building.

In 2004, he was elected to the Senate with the ardent support of the Filipino masses. He became the Chairman of the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development that passed at least nine landmark labor legislations with him as principal sponsor. Among these are the Batas Kasambahay, Expanding the Coverage of the Special Program for the Employment of Students, Strengthening the Migrant Workers Act, and laws strengthening the workers' labor and constitutional rights.

He also became the youngest ever elected Senate President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

Currently in the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, he proved to be a prolific lawmaker as he filed 544 bills and resolutions as principal author, ranking him second among the 24 senators in terms of number of legislation submitted.

Further, Senator Estrada consistently chalked up perfect attendance – never absent, never late – during the previous Congresses, a rare feat accomplished only by a very few lawmakers in the entire history of the Philippine Senate.

In the May 2010 automated elections, an overwhelming 18 million Filipino people has once again placed their trust in him and made him one of the topnotchers in the senatorial race.

Senator Estrada was conferred the Most Outstanding Government Service Award by the Guillermo Mendoza Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc., for his “invaluable service to the government and the Filipino people and his untainted record and meaningful projects throughout his political term”. He was also cited as a Distinguished Alumnus by the University of the Philippines Alumni Association and was included in the roster of “Men Who Matter” in 2012 for his exemplary performance as a legislator and as a public servant.

*For more information about Sen. Jinggoy Estrada, visit his official website [www.senjinggoyestrada.com](http://www.senjinggoyestrada.com).*

# TEOFISTO “TG” L. GUINGONA III

Any other senator would have fixed his gaze in securing a reelection. He would have been a proud member of the Senate’s Committee of Silence and mastered Dale Carnegie’s “How to Win Friends and Influence People.” Moreover, he could easily be a political darling ready to compromise principle for favors.



But this senator chose otherwise: he hit the ground running. For an opening salvo, he assumed the chairmanship of the Blue Ribbon Committee, a high-profile body dreaded by the powerful and corrupt. In advocating for transparency and reforms in the national budget system, good governance, and peace and progress in Mindanao, this senator never rests.

His name is Teofisto Guingona III. People simply call him TG.

With an Ateneo de Manila degree in Economics and Law, TG embarked on a political career after taking care of family business. He was bent on upholding civil liberties, democratic ideals, and a progressive economy.

As Chair of the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee, TG believes that his task is to bring issues of good governance to the consciousness of the masses, not just by words but through actions. This committee has awakened people to the reality of corruption in the highest places: the plea bargain scandal involving former AFP comptroller Maj. Gen. Carlos Garcia, the AFP *pabaon* scandal, the PNP chopper scam, the Euro generals scandal, and the PCSO scam involving former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, no less, and lately the controversial pork barrel scam.

TG was barely 19 years of age when he led the Ateneo student government in a mass action against the dictatorship. They protested the massive cheating in the 1978 Interim Batasan Pambansa elections, in which imprisoned Benigno “Ninoy” Aquino, Jr., was the most popular but losing candidate. It led to TG’s arrest and incarceration at Bicutan Center where he shared a prison cell with his father, Teofisto Guingona Jr., and mother, Ruth de Lara, along with other political personalities such as Sen. Joker Arroyo, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr., Sen. Lorenzo Tañada Sr. and Sen. Soc Rodrigo.

To TG, this was a humbling experience that fired up a courage and dedication to his country.



## GREGORIO B. HONASAN II

Senator Gregorio B. Honasan was born on March 14, 1948 in Baguio City to Colonel Romeo Honasan and Alice Ballesteros of Sorsogon. His elementary years were spent at San Beda College in Manila and the Dominican School in Taipei, Taiwan. He graduated with honors at Don Bosco High School in Mandaluyong and for the first two years of college, he took up Bachelor of Science in Economics at the University of the Philippines. He then entered the Philippine Military Academy where he attained the title of a “Class Baron”, the institution’s highest leadership award. In 1981, he took up a Masters Degree in Business Management at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) and finished the course with distinction.



As a soldier, he saw action in Mindanao where he garnered several medals and commendations for bravery and dedication to duty including recognition as one of the Ten Most Outstanding Young Men given by the Philippine Jaycees. In 1986, he was one of the principal players of the EDSA revolution that ousted a dictator and was awarded the Philippine Government Medal by then President Corazon C. Aquino.

He became Senator in 1995, the first independent candidate in Philippine history to have won a seat in the Senate. He was re-elected in 2001 and again in 2007.

In the hundreds of bills and resolutions that he has filed, Senator Honasan’s advocacies focus on the environment, social reforms, national security, good governance, education, youth and sports.

He is the author of the landmark legislation, the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999 and co-author of the Solid Waste Management Act of 2000. He also shepherded the CARP Extension with Reforms or the CARPER Law which has recently ended and the Philippine Disaster Risk Management Act of 2009.

His other notable accomplishments also include a better Fire Code, improvement of the promotion system of the Philippine National Police, across-the-board increase for public sector employees, and stiffer penalties for illegal and unlawful possession and manufacture of firearms and explosives.

Senator Honasan is currently the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Agrarian Reform and its oversight committee. He likewise vice-chairs the committees on: Environment and Natural Resources and Public Order and Dangerous Drugs. He is a member of 22 major permanent committees and 10 oversight committees.

He is married to Jane Umali of Pagsanjan, Laguna. They have five children, and presently, five grandchildren.

# MANUEL “LITO” M. LAPID

A man is measured not by his words but how he breathes life to his words. A true man of action, Senator Manuel “Lito” M. Lapid would rather be felt not for eloquent mutterings but by deeds that truly move the voiceless that he represents. Like an action star that he is on silver screen, bowing down to all the cynical remarks and criticisms on his competence was never an option. Inspired by the millions of Filipinos whose rights and welfare he has sworn to uphold, he remained focused on his duties as a senator, never wavering on his efforts to be a top-performing legislator in terms of resolutions passed and bills filed, and as a widely loved public servant to the thousands upon thousands of *little people* whose lives he has touched.



As a leader, Senator Lapid has as much accomplishments as any other member of the august chamber where he presently serves. He was afforded the opportunity to exhibit his mettle as the father and Governor of the province of Pampanga during its dark days when it was practically transformed into a ghost town with the eruption of Mount Pinatubo. His charismatic appeal and extraordinary sense of responsibility earned him the trust of his *cabalens* whom he rallied to believing that their devastated province shall rise again and be one of the most developed and industrialized areas in the archipelago that it is now.

His election as a Senator of the Republic did not only afford him the exquisite prospect of sharing his life-taught wisdom but it provided him the occasion to further his learning, as he was then exposed to working with the renowned lawmakers and public servants. With his exhibited dedication, propensity to learn, and hunger for knowledge, he slowly earned the respect of his peers as he shared meaningful concepts and ideals that would later on translate into legislative measures, a number of them aimed at bridging the great divide between the rich and the marginalized. Most known is the *Lapid Law* or the “Free Legal Assistance Act of 2010 (Republic Act No. 9999)” which is touted to afford a poor and marginalized citizen the services of high caliber and hard-hitting lawyers of the country.

A true gentleman that he is, Senator Lapid remains to be one of the most loved and revered senator and public servant. Guided by his principle in life

not to miss out on every opportunity to do good to others, Senator Lapid seeks to propagate a culture of helping among Filipinos particularly in times of crisis and calamities. He knows too well the rigors of life in distress being a disaster victim himself during the Mount Pinatubo crisis and this experience inspired him to pay it forward by not only assisting in actual crisis situations, but more importantly in crafting measures that would reinforce the crisis prevention and disaster mitigation programs of the government.

The warrior in him continues to push Senator Lapid to tap his fullest potentials as a public servant. He remains steadfast and will never renege on his oath to the marginalized that he will be the protector and prime mover of their rights and welfare. He will continue to live up to his moniker as the “Bida ng Masa” and commit himself to pursue more avenues so as to ensure that those who have less in life will truly have more in law.

# LOREN B. LEGARDA

For the past three decades, Senator Loren Legarda has dedicated her work to serve the Filipino people, primarily by promoting the sustainable and equitable use of our natural resources; advancing programs on building community resilience; advocating for social justice, human rights, peace and cultural diversity; and initiating measures for quality and accessible education, decent employment and livelihood opportunities.



As the only woman to become Majority Leader, Legarda is chiefly responsible for the passage of the following laws, which she authored and co-authored: the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010 (RA 9994); Barangay Kabuhayan Act (RA 9509); Magna Carta for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (RA 9501); Agri-Agra Reform Credit Act (RA 10000); Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act (RA 9262); Magna Carta of Women (RA 9710); Anti-Child Labor Law (RA 9231); Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act (RA 10364); Philippine Ear Research Institute Act (RA 9245); Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Act of 2009 (RA 9709); Food and Drugs Administration Act of 2009 (RA 9711); Philippine Tropical Fabric Law (RA 9242); Eidul Fitr Holiday Law (RA 9177); Tourism Act of 2009 (RA 9593); Clean Air Act (RA 8749); Environmental Awareness Education Act (RA 9512); Renewable Energy Act (RA 9513); Solid Waste Management Act (RA 9003); Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act (RA 10121); Climate Change Act (RA 9729); People's Survival Fund Law (RA 10174); Domestic Workers Act (RA 10361); Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013 (RA 10533); and National Health Insurance Act (RA 10606), among many vital pieces of legislation.

In 2013, the University of the Philippines recognized her as its Distinguished Alumna for Environmental Protection and Climate Change Adaptation. She is also a United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) laureate, the UN Regional Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaption for Asia-Pacific, and a Hero of Resilience of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction. In 2000, the World Economic Forum in Davos named her as one of the Global Leaders for Tomorrow (GLT).

For her outstanding work for the cause of Muslims, Sen. Legarda was bestowed the title of *Bai a labi* (Honorary Muslim Princess) by the Marawi Sultanate league way back in 1992.

A UP cum laude and National Defense College of the Philippines topnotcher, Legarda is the only Senator who is both an awardee of the Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) and The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS). She is a reserve officer in the Armed Forces of the Philippines with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

She is a recipient of the Benigno Aquino Award for Journalism among over 30 awards when she was a practising journalist for 20 years before entering politics.

Senator Legarda is the only female senator who topped the Senate race twice, with more than 15 million and 18.4 million votes in 1998 and 2007, respectively. In the 2013 Senatorial Elections, she placed second with 18.66 million votes.

Now on her third term as senator, Legarda chairs the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources, Climate Change, and Cultural Communities.

Senator Legarda was born in Malabon and was raised by an Ilocana *yaya* whom she fondly calls *nanay*. Her father Antonio Cabrera Legarda is from San Pablo City, Laguna and her mother Bessie Gella Bautista is from Pandan, Antique. She is a loving and devoted mother to her two sons.

# FERDINAND “BONGBONG” R. MARCOS, JR.

Ferdinand “Bongbong” Romualdez Marcos, Jr. is a Senator of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Republic of the Philippines. He is presently Chairman of the Senate Committee on Local Government and the Senate Committee on Public Works; and Vice Chairman of the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization, the Committee on Cooperatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations.



## **Track Record of Public Service**

Sen. Bongbong Marcos has been in public service for 34 years.

He started at the young age of 23 when he won as Vice-Governor of Ilocos Norte. After one term as Vice-Governor, he ran and won for Governor in 1983. In 1992, he ran for Congress and won a seat in the Lower House, representing the Second District of Ilocos Norte.

In 1998, he made a comeback as Governor of Ilocos Norte and completed three terms. He returned to Congress in 2007 and was elected Deputy Minority Leader.

In 2010, he ran for the Senate and won, receiving over 13 million votes. He was Chairman of the Committee on Local Government, and the Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement during the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress.

## **Ilocos Norte**

Under the leadership of then-Governor Bongbong Marcos, Ilocos Norte was transformed from a third class to a first class province.

Agricultural output grew exponentially. After stabilizing the price of rice, the local government improved levels of rice production from 145,000 Metric Tons to almost 200,000 Metric Tons. Livestock production also grew, with swine production doubling from 5,000 Metric Tons to almost 10,000 Metric Tons. Today, Ilocos Norte boasts of a surplus in production of both rice and corn.

The province has also become a model for public health care, with all residents provided with health insurance. Improvements in infrastructure

helped transform Ilocos Norte, especially the town of Laoag, into a major tourist destination.

The province is now also at the forefront of developments in energy. Aside from the fact that Ilocos Norte is one of the few provinces that can boast of 100% electrification in all of its 557 barangays, it is also the first province to develop wind electricity. Bangui, Ilocos Norte is home to the first wind farm in Southeast Asia.

## **Congress**

Believing in the importance not only of educating but also of empowering the youth, Bongbong Marcos authored the law creating the Philippine Youth Commission. He is also responsible for the mandate to adopt English as the principal language of instruction in the Philippine educational system, and as a tool for Filipino competitiveness in education.

Inspired by the improvements in tourism in Ilocos Norte, he also initiated movements to use Philippine tourism as major strategy for economic development. Aware that marketing alone will not achieve this, he has pursued laws for the adoption of a comprehensive infrastructure modernization program as key to full economic development.

Recognizing the country's territorial integrity, Bongbong Marcos was also responsible for the passage of the Philippine Baselines Act, which defines the boundaries of the national territory according to international law while retaining the country's claims to lands under dispute with other nations.

Aware of the importance of human capital, he has also initiated laws for the upgrading of the Filipino overseas workers program, which was initiated by his father, the late President Ferdinand Marcos.

Sen. Bongbong Marcos is presently Chairman of the Committee of Public Works in the Senate. He is leading efforts for the relief and rehabilitation of areas and victims affected by Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda), as well as investigations for government accountability in the application of relief and rehabilitation funds.

## **Education**

Sen. Bongbong Marcos earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Philosophy, and Economics in 1978 from Oxford University in England. He earned his Master's in Business Administration at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in the United States.

His primary and secondary education diplomas are from De La Salle Greenhills and the Worth School in England.

### **Family**

“Bongbong”, as he is fondly called by family and friends, is the only son of the late President Ferdinand Edralin Marcos and Rep. Imelda Romualdez Marcos.

He has two sisters Irene Marcos-Araneta and Imee R. Marcos, who is now Governor of Ilocos Norte.

He is married to lawyer Louise Cacho Araneta, with whom he has three sons: Ferdinand Alexander III, Joseph Simon and William Vincent.

Sen. Bongbong Marcos was born on September 13, 1957, in Manila.



## SERGIO R. OSMEÑA III

*“Helping the poor escape from proverty.”*

Of Cebuano-Negrense-Ilonggo ancestry, Senator Sergio Osmeña III takes pride that his family has had the honor to have contributed three generations of direct ascendants to the Philippine Senate. Both his grandfathers—Sergio Osmeña, Sr. and Esteban dela Rama—and his father, Sergion Osmeña, Jr., served as senators.



Senator Osmeña won his first term as a senator during the senatorial elections in 1995, and was re-elected in 2001. He won again in the 2010 elections as an independent candidate. Osmeña is currently the Chairman of the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies, and the Committee on Energy.

Senator Osmeña’s legislative efforts have been focused on measures that would transform Philippine society into one that is kinder and gentler to all Filipinos, especially those who have less in life. He seeks to promote inclusive economic growth and help the poor escape from poverty through the creation of more jobs, lowering the costs of doing business in the Philippines, and reducing the bureaucratic logjam.

Senator Osmeña has authored and/or sponsored numerous economic reform measures, such as the Act allowing the full entry of foreign banks in the Philippines, the new Insurance Code, the new NEA charter, the new Rural Banks Act which allows foreign capital infusion in rural banks, the Anti-Money Laundering Law, the Retail Trade Liberalization Act, the Government Procurement Act, the Securities Regulations Code, and the Electric Power Industry Reform Act, among others.

Senator Osmeña, reputed to be the Senate’s “fearless fiscalizer”, is zealously independent. He has exposed numerous graft and corruption cases, among others, the highly questionable awarding of the ₱17 billion Mactan-Cebu International Airport (MCIA) expansion and improvement project to the Megawide-GMR consortium, the ₱112 billion spent for imported overpriced steel bridges under the President’s Bridges Program (BPP), the many behest loans granted by the Development Bank of the

Philippines (DBP), the IMPSA-CBK, the PIATCO-Frapport Terminal 3 scam, and the Marconi Radar and Casecan power contracts, saving tens of billions of pesos for the Filipino people.

Senator Osmeña is a farmer and businessman by training and was educated at Harvard College, Georgetown University, and the University of the Philippines.

## AQUILINO “KOKO” L. PIMENTEL III

*The child is the father of the man.* As a child, Aquilino Martin de la Llana Pimentel III, more popularly known by his nickname “Koko”, saw the cycle of suffering and vindication in the life of his father. He learned that principles are worth fighting for, no matter the dangers and difficulties.

Thus was born his belief in the principle that *“Pag nasa tama ka, never give up!”*

This principle was tested in his life when in 2007, Koko decided to throw his hat into the national political ring by running as a candidate in the May 2007 Senatorial Elections under the Partido Demokratiko Pilipino - Lakas ng Bayan (PDP LABAN) political party. He won the people’s mandate but he was robbed of victory when the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) decided to accept rigged votes from the Province of Maguindanao and other places.

Believing in the justness of his cause, Koko filed an election protest challenging this travesty of justice. After more than four long years of struggle and sacrifice, Koko won his election protest before the Senate Electoral Tribunal which, on August 11, 2011, proclaimed him, as the legitimate winner of the 12<sup>th</sup> senatorial seat in the May 2007 Senatorial Elections with a lead of 258,166 votes over his adversary. Koko formally assumed office as Senator of the Republic of the Philippines on August 15, 2011. In Koko’s view, justice was finally achieved not really for himself but for the millions of Filipinos who gave him their mandate.

Senator Koko Pimentel is the son of former Senate President Aquilino Pimentel, Jr. of Cagayan de Oro City, Misamis Oriental and Batac, Ilocos Norte, and Lourdes de la Llana Pimentel of Zambales. He completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics at the Ateneo de Manila University in 1985 and pursued his Bachelor of Laws at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, where he graduated in 1990.

He placed number one in the 1990 Philippine Bar Examinations with a grade of 89.85% and was admitted to the Philippine Bar in 1991. He immediately began practicing his profession as a lawyer in 1991 as a partner in his father’s law firm. He also got a taste of government service when President



Fidel V. Ramos appointed him as Commissioner representing Mindanao of the National Youth Commission.

A strong believer in education as a pillar of progress and nation building, Senator Koko Pimentel has shared his knowledge as a professor of law in various law schools like the Adamson Law School, the MBA-JD Consortium of De La Salle Professional Schools and Far Eastern University Institute of Law, and in the University of the East College of Law. He also established the annual Senator Koko Pimentel Free Last Minute Bar Lecture Series, the only free lecture of its kind in the country today.

He also shares his knowledge through the use of mass media and currently co-hosts the radio program *May Bagong Pag-Asa* with Cesar Chavez in DZRH. Previously, he co-hosted the radio program *Bantay OFW* with Susan “Toots” Ople in DZXL which championed the welfare of Overseas Filipino Workers.

Senator Koko Pimentel is and has been an active member of various professional and non-governmental organizations like the Junior Chamber International Philippines (formerly, Philippine Jaycees), Junior Chamber International Manila (formerly, Manila Jaycees), Junior Chamber International Cagayan de Oro (formerly, Oro Jaycees), East-West Center Philippines Alumni Association, Philippine Eagles (Cagayan de Oro Chapter), Integrated Bar of the Philippines, and the Rotary Club of Manila Bay, where he served as Club President from 2005 to 2006.

Senator Koko Pimentel is currently the President of his political party, the PDP LABAN. He also has a Doctorate in Humanities, *Honoris Causa*, from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

Senator Koko Pimentel ran for re-election in the May 2013 Senatorial Elections and won, with an overwhelming mandate coming from more than fourteen million Filipinos, on the campaign message of being the *Kalaban ng Pandaraya*.

Senator Koko Pimentel has dedicated his 2013-2019 term in the Senate to fighting all forms of injustice and to ensuring that the sacred right of the Filipino people to choose their leaders in periodic elections is protected. In addition to these, he also intends to focus his legislative energies on improving local autonomy, empowering the youth and senior citizens, securing the welfare of OFWs, strengthening disaster preparedness, promoting quality education, protecting the environment, enhancing agricultural productivity, and achieving lasting peace and economic progress in Mindanao.

Currently, Senator Koko Pimentel is the Chairman of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights and of the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation. He also chairs the Select Oversight Committee on the Local Government Code of 1991 and heads the Senate Panel of the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on the Automated Election System. In addition, Senator Koko Pimentel is a member of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) and the Commission on Appointments (CA).

Senator Koko Pimentel is the proud and loving father of two sons, Aquilino "Martin" Emmanuel L. Pimentel VI and Aquilino Justo "Akio" L. Pimentel VII.



## GRACE L. POE

Barely a year in office, Senator Grace Poe has managed to rack up an impressive list of accomplishments in the Senate. She has authored/co-authored a total of 107 measures, comprised of 34 bills and 74 resolutions. She has sponsored five bills to date, the most significant of which is the **People's Freedom of Information Act** (Senate Bill No. 1733) that has been approved on Third Reading last March 10, 2014. The FOI Act seeks to promote greater transparency and accountability in government by granting the Filipino public wider access to information.



Two of Senator Poe's bills are expected to be approved on Second Reading when session resumes this July, namely:

- **Film Tourism Act** (Senate Bill No. 2271) which seeks to promote/market the country as a prime shooting destination for foreign movies and TV programs, which will generate free publicity and, in the process, create more livelihood opportunities for Filipinos.
- **Closed-Caption System bill** (Senate Bill No. 2239) which mandates local television networks to incorporate closed-captioning systems in their TV programs to allow deaf and hard-of-hearing Filipinos equal access to information.

Moreover, President Aquino recently signed into law a bill principally authored by Senator Poe—**Republic Act No. 10639**, otherwise known as the “Free Mobile Texts During Disasters Act,” that seeks to establish an early warning system (via SMS text message) to alert Filipinos of impending danger in times of typhoons and natural calamities. Another Poe bill that has been signed into law is **Republic Act No. 10640**, which seeks to amend the onerous “Three-Witness Rule” of the Dangerous Drugs Act governing the seizure of illegal drugs.

Aside from enacting policy, the lady senator also made her presence felt during plenary debates and committee investigations in the Senate, most notably during the Napoles PDAF scam, rice smuggling scam, and the Cebu Airport controversy. Her maiden privilege speech on the “Hello Garci” scandal served as a clarion call for the Senate Committee on Electoral Reform to commence its hearings on pending electoral reform measures such as:

- Increasing the prescriptive period for election offenses from 5 to 10 years,

- Review of the Anti-Wiretapping Law (S. Resolution 670), specifically by including electoral fraud as one of the offenses in which a court could legally issue a wire-tap order, and
- Omnibus Review of the Electoral Code (S. Resolution 679) to examine whether the current law is attuned to current developments in IT (information technology) to prevent the occurrence of another “high-tech Garci.”

### **Moving Forward: Senator Poe’s Other Legislative Advocacies**

In the upcoming Second Regular Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, Senator Poe intends to continue her work in the Senate with the same intensity and determination that she displayed during her first year in office. Foremost in her list of priorities are the following legislative measures:

- “Sustansiya sa Batang Pilipino” Act (Senate Bill No. 79)
- Whistleblowers’ Protection Act
- Corporate Farming Act (Senate Bill No. 2089)
- “Tulong sa Kabataan sa Agrikultura” Act (Senate Bill No. 1282)
- “Bakod Central Visayas” bill (Senate Bill No. 1987)
- Assistance for Indigent Cancer Patients Act (Senate Bill No. 1283)
- Credit Assistance for OFWs bill (Senate Bill No 1421)
- Plain Writing for Public Service Act (Senate Bill No. 1092)

As she enters her second year in the Senate, Grace Poe is now more confident in pursuing her various advocacies to uplift the lives of our underprivileged countrymen and policy measures to bring about “inclusive growth” in our country. Drawing inspiration from the more than 20 million Filipinos who voted for her in the last 2013 elections, Senator Poe vows to continue to serve our people tirelessly and to fight for reforms in government.

### **Brief Biographical Sketch**

Grace Poe is the daughter of the “King of Filipino Movies” Fernando Poe, Jr. and veteran actress Susan Roces. She took up AB Development Studies at the University of the Philippines-Manila, where she was a college scholar and student leader, serving as batch representative to the University Student Council and as chair of the college freshman assembly. Poe transferred to Boston College-Massachusetts, where she eventually earned her AB Political Science degree.

Prior to emerging as the topnotcher in the last 2013 elections with more than 20 million votes, Grace Poe served as Chairperson of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB), where she instituted reforms in the ratings system being used today (e.g. from “PG” into ‘SPG’, etc.) and advocated for “intelligent media viewing” instead of “censorship.”

# RAMON "BONG" B. REVILLA, JR.

**He followed his father's footsteps but made a name for himself.**

He is Ramon "Bong" Revilla, Jr., son of former Senator and Philippine Reclamation Authority Chairman Ramon Revilla, Sr. and the late Azucena Mortel Bautista. An icon of a man of action and defender of the poor and the oppressed, this true-blooded Caviteño has brought these silver screen attributes into real life since he officially entered the field of public service in 1995 as vice governor, where supported and implemented anti-drug programs as Chairman of the Cavite Multi-Agency Anti-Drug Council (CMAC) which led to the biggest drug haul and apprehension in the Philippines at that time. His anti-drug efforts earned him a Medal of Valor and an International Award of Honor from the International Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association, Inc. He likewise supported environmental protection projects as chairman of Task Force Bantay Likas Yaman.



In 1998, he became the provincial governor and during his term the image of Cavite was transformed from being a notorious murder capital to one of the most peaceful provinces in the country. He paid attention to the improvement of facilities, equipment and manpower of the Philippine National Police and other public order agencies.

During the M/V Princess of the Orient tragedy in September 1998, he joined fisherfolks in the abrupt search and rescue operations, pulling bloated bodies from the sea. This exemplary performance of Governor Bong Revilla was given due recognition by the Department of Transportation and Communications.

He also improved social services in the entire province through various programs and projects with long term benefits such as establishment of the Cavite Rescue 161, Cavite Computer Center, Cavite-Korea Friendship Hospital, Cavite Sports Complex, and the Cavite Convention Center. The Proposed Conceptual Provincial Development Plan of Cavite or Vision 2020 was also prepared and presented during his administration.

Appointed chairman of Videogram Regulatory Board (now Optical Media Board) in 2002, he furiously fought video and music piracy, leaving

no stones unturned in running after syndicates and individuals involved in this illegal trade. Under his leadership, the VRB was able to conduct 3,480 major operations, including routine inspections throughout the country which delivered over 5 Billion pesos worth of goods seized, and convicted 21 optical disc pirates, 2 videotape pirates and 5 large-scale distributors and retailers. This accorded him an international recognition by the Motion Picture Association based in Hollywood, USA.

From executive posts, he made his way into the legislature by almost garnering the most number of senatorial votes in the 2004 elections. Though then just a neophyte lawmaker, Senator Bong Revilla headed two important committees during the 13<sup>th</sup> Congress, namely the Senate Committee on Public Information and Mass Media and the Senate Committee on Public Works. Through his chairmanship of the latter, he fought corruption in the government. He exposed over-delayed completion of infrastructure projects and recommended the sacking of irresponsible DPWH officials. Also, during said Congress, when he pushed for the lowering of amusement taxes slapped on movies which paved the way for the revival of then struggling local film industry. In his first three years in the Upper House, he was the senator who has the most number of bills passed into law.

Being a legislator did not stop his being a man of action. Rather than confining himself to legislative duties inside the walls of the Senate, he continued to reach out further to the needy especially those in the far-flung barangays nationwide through his Kalusugan Ating Pangalagaan medical assistance program and Karunungan Ating Palaguin educational assistance program. Aside from these undertakings, he also continued to conduct on-site inspections on damaged government infrastructure and relief operations, under his Kaagapay sa Araw ng Pangangailangan program, even during the darkest height of calamities and away from the spotlight. For him, services and benefits must surely be felt by the people.

During the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress, Senator Bong Revilla pushed his travel safety advocacies, both as chairman of the Senate Committees on Public Works and Public Services. Among his remarkable accomplishments then is his exposé on sex video scandal and the passage of his pet bill, the Mandatory Helmet Act, which obliged all motorcycle riders, including the backriders, to wear standard protective helmet to reduce the alarming motorcycle-related accidents in the country. Because of the said road safety measure, he was named Safety Ambassador both by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) and Suzuki Philippines Inc.

In 2010, the reelectionist senator garnered an overwhelming 19,513,521 votes based on the official count of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), which even surpassed the votes for the elected president. During the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, he pursued advocacies for social justice, travel safety, lower tax, community empowerment and infrastructure development. He also pushed for the passage of his separate bills that would grant ₱125 daily across-the-board increase in the salary of workers in the private sector and ₱6,000 wage increase for government employees.

With his outstanding accomplishments and proven track record in public administration and legislation, Senator Ramon “Bong” Revilla, Jr. devotedly broke the notion that showbiz personalities cannot become good government leaders. Because of his performance as public servant, he was conferred doctorate degrees (Honoris Causa) in Public Administration by the Cavite State University and in Humanities by the Nueva Vizcaya University.



# VICENTE “TITO” C. SOTTO III

Working for 15 years in the legislature has not jaded Senator Vicente C. Sotto III. In fact, the three-term senator still manages to surprise his colleagues. In the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, Sotto registered a perfect attendance that was only equaled by Senator Jinggoy Estrada. He accomplished this feat with clock-precision punctuality—setting a standard among his colleagues and the next Majority Leader.



First elected senator in 1992, and finishing a second term in 2004, Sotto has shown that one can never be too inexperienced, or experienced enough to take everything for granted. After a six year absence in the Senate, Sotto returned to the chamber in 2010, bringing innovative ideas and still brimming with idealism. He lives and breathes the saying, “Public service is a public trust” and anything less is a betrayal of that trust.

## **Legislative mill**

As the Majority Leader in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress Sotto was considered the “work horse” of the senators. It is a delicate balancing act, requiring panache and professionalism while preserving the sense of collegiality among senators. Sotto’s diplomatic skills were in full display during the impeachment trial of former Chief Justice Renato Corona as he steered the Senate to its fruition. Sotto played the important role of updating the Rules of Procedure on Impeachment Trial.

When Sotto was the Chairman of the Committee on Rules in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, he ensured that the legislative process did not play second fiddle. A total of 711 bills were reported out, of which 42 nationally significant bills were passed into law and 42 others are awaiting signature by President Aquino. The Committee sponsored Senate Resolutions, 145 of which were adopted by the Senate.

For his part, Sotto authored and co-authored 30 bills and 74 resolutions geared towards the welfare of the general public, such as Republic Act 10586, otherwise known as the Anti-Drunk and Anti-Drugged Driving Act of 2013. This new law removed the mandatory drug tests for those applying for or renewing driver’s licenses which had been found to be useless as well as costly for applicants. It empowered traffic enforcers to conduct mandatory drugs and liquor testing to drivers who are involved in vehicular accidents.

It was also during Sotto's term as Majority Leader in the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress that the Senate created special committees, for a more focused discussion of bills and resolutions. These included the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation, the Committee on Games & Amusements and the Committee on Amateur Sports Competitiveness. Aside from these, the following special Committees were also created: Select Oversight Committee on Suffrage, Select Oversight Committee on Local Government Code, Select Oversight Committee on Government Procurement, Oversight Committee on Bases Conversion, Special Oversight Committee on Economic Affairs, Oversight Committee on Intelligence and Confidential Funds, and the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Public Expenditure.

### **Walked the talk**

In his more than 15 years in the Senate, Sotto has sponsored and authored more than a hundred laws, making him one of the most prolific active senators around. Refusing to compromise his principles, which have guided his public career, it was inevitable that Sotto would incur his share of critics. But to this public servant, it is part of the territory that goes when one is in public service. "Man is measured, not by his successes, but by the principles he stood for, even against the odds," he said.

In 1988, public service beckoned and Sotto answered the call without hesitation. In his first try that year, he won by a landslide as Quezon City Vice Mayor. Fulfilling his vow to drive out illegal drugs, he founded and organized the Quezon City Anti-Drug Council, which had been replicated in many local government units.

The proliferation of illegal drugs has been Sotto's pet peeve and he continues to fight this vicious menace with vigor, whether as a senator or as head of other government agency. He chaired the Senate Committee on Illegal Drugs and led the Dangerous Drug Board as chair from July 2008 to November 2009. For his anti-illegal drug stance, he was twice honored by the US-based International Narcotics Enforcement Officers Association, where he is also a member.

Oath in office, oath before God. Truly, rare is a man who fulfills his oath of office. "Words are empty, if you do not back it up with hard work and action," he said. Total commitment whether in professional or personal life, is second nature to this man.

# ANTONIO “SONNY” F. TRILLANES IV

Antonio Fuentes Trillanes IV, or Sonny to his relatives and friends, was born and raised in Caloocan City. He traces his roots to Ligao, Albay in Bicol where his late father, Antonio Sr., grew up. His mother, Estelita, hails from the province of Capiz.

He studied at De La Salle University in Manila where he took up BS ECE from 1987 to 1991. He formally entered into public service in 1991 as a cadet in the Philippine Military Academy where he graduated Cum Laude in 1995.



In 2002, Sonny took up graduate studies at the University of the Philippines and got his master's degree in Public Administration major in Public Policy and Program Management. For the duration of his master's program, he received two University Scholar Awards for obtaining two semestral GPAs of 1.0 to 1.25.

After graduating from the PMA, Sonny went through all shipboard assignments starting from Mess & Supply Officer, and ultimately as Acting Commanding Officer of a patrol gunboat.

During his five-year sea duty experience, his unit apprehended dozens of smugglers, illegal loggers, poachers, human smugglers and illegal fishermen in numerous maritime law enforcement operations conducted in the waters of Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao, Scarborough, Palawan, Batanes, and the Visayas.

One of the highlights of his military profession was the daring search and rescue operation for the survivors of the ill-fated M/V Princess of the Orient at the height of a super typhoon in 1998. For this act of risking their own lives in the fulfillment of their duty, Sonny and his unit managed to rescue 32 survivors.

He was also involved in numerous naval operations in support of ground operations directed against the Abu Sayyaf and other lawless elements.

As procurement officer of the Naval Training and Education Command, Philippine Navy, Sonny reformed the procurement system, which resulted to the accumulated savings of more than ₱4 million in favor of the government.

For his meritorious service to his country, Sonny has been awarded a total of 23 assorted merit medals, campaign ribbons and badges.

Sonny, thereafter, became widely known for his prominent role in the uprisings directed against the corrupt and oppressive Arroyo regime. In 2007, he successfully launched a nationwide campaign from his prison cell as he ran and won a seat in the Philippine Senate on a shoestring budget.

Now on his second term, Sonny vows to serve his country by continuing his advocacies on peace and order, anti-corruption, and poverty alleviation. He is the Chairman of the Senate Committee on National Defense and Security and the Senate Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization. During the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress he was one of the most productive senators with a total of 1,006 bills and resolutions filed. Of these, 39 have been passed into law foremost of which are the: AFP Modernization Law; Archipelagic Baselines Law; Universal Healthcare Law; Immediate Release of Retirement Benefits of Government Employees; Salary Standardization Law 3; Pag-IBIG Fund Law; Magna Carta for Disabled Persons; Expanded Senior Citizens Act; and Anti-Bullying Act.

# CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

Cynthia Aguilar Villar earned her degree in Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of the Philippines, which recognized her as one of its Distinguished Alumni in 2004. She completed her Masters in Business Administration at the New York University.

She practiced as a financial analyst and college professor until she married former House Speaker and Senate President Manny Villar in 1975. She then helped her husband in various entrepreneurial ventures, eventually making Vista Land the biggest homebuilder in the Philippines. She managed a private development bank from 1989 to 1998.



In 2001, Cynthia Villar won in a landslide victory as Representative of Las Piñas to the Philippine's House of Representatives, where she completed three terms or nine years of service until 2010.

She was Chairman of Committee on Higher and Technical Education during the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Congress.

She was President of the Lady Legislators during the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> Congress initiating legislation benefitting women, children and family.

Cynthia Villar's social and civic concerns are wide and varied. Thus, in 1992, she founded and chaired the Villar Foundation, the programs of which include providing assistance to OFWs, environment protection and livelihood projects, which now have livelihood centers in nearly 500 locations all over the country. She served as Managing Director of the foundation until 2012. She is also an Honorary Member of the Philippine Horticultural Society.

In the 2013 Midterm Elections, Cynthia Villar won as Senator of the country. Senator Villar is the chairperson of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food as well as the Senate Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises.

Amidst all her achievements and awards, she successfully raised three well-educated children: Paolo is the President of their public company Vista Land; Mark is a Congressman representing the lone district of Las Piñas; and Camille, a former TV host in Wowowillie, has recently completed her Masters in Business Administration (MBA) at IESE Business School in Barcelona.



# SURVEY OF SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS



# **SURVEY OF SENATE ACCOMPLISHMENTS SIXTEENTH CONGRESS**

**First Regular Session  
(22 July 2013 to 13 June 2014)**

## **REPUBLIC ACTS**

**R.A. No. 10632** - AN ACT TO POSTPONE THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS ON OCTOBER 28, 2013, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES (S. NO. 1186/H. NO. 2849) [3 OCTOBER 2013]

To give way to an in-depth evaluation of the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) system and to institute reforms, the law postponed the SK elections originally set on 28 October 2013 to a date between 28 October 2014 and 23 February 2015. The law barred incumbent SK officials from retaining their positions in a holdover capacity upon the expiration of their terms last 30 November 2013. All positions shall remain vacant until new officials are elected and no appointments shall be made to the vacated positions.

**R.A. No. 10633** - AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND FOURTEEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES (H. NO. 2630) [20 DECEMBER 2013]

The General Appropriations Act (GAA) for 2014, which was enacted in record time, provides for an authorization to spend ₱2.265 trillion in public funds with special emphasis on the rehabilitation of calamity-stricken areas. The 2014 GAA establishes a Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Program, which apportions ₱20 billion to aid the victims of the most tragic natural and man-made calamities in 2013, including the typhoons Yolanda, Santi, Odette, Pablo, Sendong, Vinta and Labuyo, the 7.2 magnitude earthquake in Bohol, and the Zamboanga City siege. The national budget for 2014 also provides for a National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund of ₱13 billion and a Quick Response Fund of ₱4.8 billion to bolster the government's capacity and the people's readiness to face the effects of catastrophes. The 2014 GAA likewise allocates ₱80 billion for reconstruction and rehabilitation programs under the Unprogrammed Fund.

The biggest share of the national budget shall fund activities under Social Services, with an allotment of ₱841.8 billion or 37.2% of the total budget to support, among others, the Conditional Cash Transfer Program (₱62.6 billion),

the construction and repair of public school classrooms (₱44.6 billion), and the National Health Insurance Program (₱35.3 billion). Economic Services receives the second largest share, with an allocation of ₱593.1 billion or 26.2% of the national budget to fund, among others, the paving of national roads (₱94.3 billion), technical support services for the country's farmers (₱10.7 billion), and tourism promotion (₱5.5 billion).

In terms of distribution among agencies, the Department of Education has the largest percentage share at 27.23%, representing P309.43 billion.

**R.A. No. 10634** - AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FOURTEEN BILLION SIX HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (₱14,600,000,000.00) AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2013 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES (H. No. 3423) [26 DECEMBER 2013]

The law appropriates ₱14.6 billion to supplement the 2013 Calamity Fund by ₱11.2 billion and the 2013 Quick Response Fund of the Department of Social Welfare and Development by ₱3.4 billion. The supplemental budget shall be used for relief and rehabilitation services and for the repair, rehabilitation and reconstruction of permanent structures in areas affected by both natural and man-made disasters, particularly by the typhoons Labuyo, Odette and Yolanda, the 7.2 earthquake in Bohol, and the siege in Zamboanga City.

**R.A. No. 10635** - AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY (MARINA) AS THE SINGLE MARITIME ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF THE 1978 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON STANDARDS OF TRAINING, CERTIFICATION, AND WATCHKEEPING FOR SEAFARERS, AS AMENDED, AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS OR COVENANTS RELATED THERETO (S. No. 2043/H. No. 3766) [13 MARCH 2014]

The law establishes the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) as the single maritime administration to implement the 1978 International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW Convention), as amended. The MARINA is mandated to provide an enabling environment for the business of Philippine seafaring, establish appropriate institutional arrangements with other agencies of government and create an effective regulatory framework conducive to the efficiency, transparency and competitiveness of the Philippine seafaring industry consistent with the STCW Convention.

The MARINA shall assume all powers and functions of the Professional Regulation Commission, Commission on Higher Education, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, Department of Health, and National Telecommunications Commission on matters relating to the issuance,

validation, verification, correction, revocation or cancellation of certificates of competency, endorsement, proficiency and other documentary evidence required of all seafarers, and all matters pertaining to the implementation of the STCW Convention.

**R.A. No. 10636** - AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO ANDRAY BLATCHE (H. NO. 4084) [11 JUNE 2014]

Andray Blatche will join the Philippine Team as its naturalized player at the 2014 FIBA Basketball World Cup.

**R.A. No. 10637** - AN ACT GRANTING COTABATO LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO THE END-USERS IN THE CITY OF COTABATO AND PORTIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF DATU ODIN SINSUAT AND SULTAN KUDARAT, BOTH IN THE PROVINCE OF MAGUINDANAO (H. NO. 3187) [16 JUNE 2014]

The law grants Cotabato Light and Power Company a franchise to construct, install, establish, operate and maintain an electric distribution system to serve the power requirements of Cotabato City and portions of Datu Odin Sinsuat and Sultan Kudarat.

**R.A. No. 10638** - AN ACT EXTENDING THE CORPORATE LIFE OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS FOR ANOTHER FIFTY (50) YEARS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4156, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED "AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, AND PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR ITS OPERATION" (S. NO. 1831/H. NO. 4089) [16 JUNE 2014]

The law extends the corporate life of the Philippine National Railways (PNR) for another 50 years to enable the PNR to continue and pursue its railway modernization and expansion plans that are geared towards better connectivity and mobility of the commuting public.

**R.A. No. 10639** - AN ACT MANDATING THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDERS TO SEND FREE MOBILE ALERTS IN THE EVENT OF NATURAL AND MAN-MADE DISASTERS AND CALAMITIES (H. NO. 353) [20 JUNE 2014]

The "Free Mobile Disaster Alerts Act" requires mobile phone service providers to send out free alerts of impending storm, typhoon, tsunami or other calamities to mobile phone subscribers located near and within the affected areas. The alerts shall include relevant information on disaster preparedness and response such as evacuation areas, relief sites and pick-up

points, and the contact details of local government units and other agencies required to respond to the situation.

**R.A. No. 10640** - AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN OF THE GOVERNMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 21 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002" (S. NO. 2273/H. NO. 2285) [15 JULY 2014]

The law amends Section 21 of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 and prescribes revised procedures for the physical inventory of seized dangerous drugs, controlled precursors and essential chemicals, instruments, paraphernalia and/or laboratory equipment. The inventory of seized items shall be conducted by the apprehending team in the presence of the accused or the person from whom such items were confiscated or his/her representative or counsel, an elected public official, and a representative of the National Prosecution Service or the media. The inventory and photograph shall be conducted at the place where the search warrant is served or, in cases of warrantless seizures, at the nearest police station or at the nearest office of the apprehending officer or team, whichever is practicable. Noncompliance with the procedural requirements under justifiable grounds shall not render void and invalid such seizures and custody over the seized items, as long as the integrity and the evidentiary value of said items are properly preserved.

**R.A. No. 10641** - AN ACT ALLOWING THE FULL ENTRY OF FOREIGN BANKS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7721 (S. NO. 2159/H. NO. 3984) [15 JULY 2014]

The law would allow foreign banks to operate in the Philippines through any one of the following modes: acquisition of up to 100% of the voting stock of an existing bank, investment in up to 100% of the voting stock of a new banking subsidiary incorporated under Philippine laws, or establishment of branches with full banking authority.

The law also directs the Monetary Board to set up standards and guidelines that shall govern the entry of foreign banks in the country and to ensure that the control of at least 60% of the resources or assets of the entire banking system is held by domestic banks which are majority-owned by Filipinos.

**R.A. No. 10642** - AN ACT STRENGTHENING CONSUMER PROTECTION IN THE PURCHASE OF BRAND NEW MOTOR VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES (S. NO. 2211/H. NO. 4082) [15 JULY 2014]

The "Philippine Lemon Law" covers brand new motor vehicles purchased in the country reported by a consumer to be in nonconformity with the vehicle's manufacturer or distributor's standards or specifications within 12

months from the date of original delivery to the consumer, or up to 20,000 kilometers of operation after such delivery, whichever comes first. At any time within the Lemon Law rights period, and after at least four separate repair attempts by the same manufacturer, distributor, authorized dealer or retailer for the same complaint, and the nonconformity issue remains unresolved, the consumer may avail of the remedies under the law which include the repair, replacement or return of the motor vehicle. Disputes shall be settled through mediation, arbitration and adjudication.

**R.A. No. 10643** - AN ACT TO EFFECTIVELY INSTILL HEALTH CONSCIOUSNESS THROUGH GRAPHIC HEALTH WARNINGS ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS (S. NO. 27/H. NO. 4590) [15 JULY 2014]

The “Graphic Health Warning Law” seeks to increase the awareness of the public on the deadly effects of smoking by requiring highly visible full-color Graphic Health Warnings on cigarette and other tobacco product packages, including inserts, onsets and any outside packaging and labeling. The Graphic Health Warnings, with an accompanying textual warning that is related to the picture, shall be printed on 50% of the principal display surfaces of any tobacco package and should occupy 50% of the front and 50% of the back panel of the packaging. Likewise, no cigarette or other tobacco product packages shall bear any number or descriptor such as, “low tar”, “light”, “ultra-light”, “mild”, “extra”, “ultra”, and similar terms in any language that claims or misleads a consumer to believe that a tobacco product or variant is healthier, safer or less harmful.

No person or legal entity shall sell or commercially distribute or display any cigarette or tobacco product without ensuring that the labels and packages, as well as any other container used in displaying the cigarette or tobacco products, meet the requirements under the law. Manufacturers, importers, retailers and distributors of tobacco products shall ensure the removal from all displays of noncompliant tobacco products manufactured, imported, distributed or sold by them eight months after the Graphic Health Warnings are required.

Noncompliant packages found in the market on display for sale or distribution shall be removed or confiscated and those responsible for such noncompliance shall be criminally liable.

**R.A. No. 10644** - AN ACT PROMOTING JOB GENERATION AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (S. NO. 2046/H. NO. 4595) [15 JULY 2014]

The “Go Negosyo Act” is aimed at promoting ease of doing business and facilitating access to services for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through the establishment of a Negosyo Center in every province,

city and municipality nationwide. The Negosyo Centers shall, among others, accept and facilitate all registration application of MSMEs; integrate a unified business process system for MSMEs; co-organize with the local chambers of commerce and business organizations a mentoring program for entrepreneurs and investors; build local support networks and establish market linkages for MSME development; encourage women entrepreneurship; facilitate access to grants and other forms of financial assistance and support for MSMEs; and conduct programs or projects for entrepreneurial development in the country aligned with the MSMEs development plan.

## **JOINT RESOLUTIONS**

**Joint Res. No. 1** - JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF APPROPRIATIONS UNDER THE CALAMITY FUND AND QUICK RESPONSE FUND, INCLUDING THOSE SOURCED FROM SAVINGS REALIGNED IN THE CURRENT YEAR, AS WELL AS ALL UNOBLIGATED ALLOTMENTS AND UNRELEASED APPROPRIATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES AND CAPITAL OUTLAYS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10352 OR THE FY 2013 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2014, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 63 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS THEREIN (H. JOINT RES-7) [26 DECEMBER 2013]

To implement aggressive and continuous relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in calamity-stricken areas due to natural and man-made disasters that struck the nation in 2013, the Joint Resolution amends Section 63 of the General Provisions of the 2013 General Appropriations Act by extending the validity of unobligated allotments and unreleased appropriations for Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses and Capital Outlays until 31 December 2014. The resolution likewise extends the validity of appropriations under the Calamity and the Quick Response Funds in the 2013 national budget, including those sourced from savings realigned in 2013.

**Joint Res. No. 2** - JOINT RESOLUTION DECLARING 27 JULY 2014 AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY TO COMMEMORATE THE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO (H. JT. RES. 12) [15 JULY 2014]

The resolution declares 27 July 2014 as a special non-working holiday to celebrate the centennial year of the Iglesia Ni Cristo's founding on 27 July 1914.

## **APPROVED ON THIRD READING BY THE SENATE/ PENDING IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**S. No. 1281** - AN ACT DECLARING AUGUST 18 OF EVERY YEAR AS “JESSE ROBREDO DAY”, A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The proposed measure declares August 18 of each year as “Jesse Robredo Day”, which shall be a special working holiday and to be celebrated in all elementary and secondary schools in the country. The Department of Education shall plan and implement activities for the holiday and encourage students to continue Jesse Robredo’s legacy of good governance and leadership.

**S. No. 1733** - AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PEOPLE’S RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL POLICIES OF FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND HONESTY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The proposed “People’s Freedom of Information Act” seeks to implement a policy of full public disclosure of all government transactions involving public interest, with appropriate safeguards on matters of national security and ample protection for the right of individuals to privacy. It likewise aims to promote the meaningful and increased participation of the people in government decision-making and public accountability.

To ensure the effective implementation of the bill, it guarantees access of every Filipino citizen to any information of public concern under the control of a government agency regardless of the physical form or format in which they are contained, subject to certain exceptions. The bill also mandates all government agencies to disclose specific information and ensure the availability of timely, true, accurate and updated key information requested by any citizen.

The proposed measure also directs all government agencies to prepare their respective Freedom of Information Manuals that will guide the public in securing the needed information. The manual shall contain, among others, the location and contact information of the offices where the public can obtain government information or submit requests, the types of information these offices generate, the procedure for the filing of requests, and the procedure for the administrative appeal of any denial for access to information.

**S. No. 2138** - AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1606, AS AMENDED

The proposed measure aims to empower the Sandiganbayan to speedily resolve cases against erring government officials and employees through the

introduction of innovations to the anti-graft court, such as the concept of justice-designate, modification in the voting requirement, and transfer of jurisdiction to the regional trial courts.

**S. No. 2226 - AN ACT PROTECTING THE AMATEUR NATURE OF STUDENT-ATHLETES IN THE PHILIPPINES BY REGULATING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT AND PROHIBITING THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF STUDENT-ATHLETES**

The proposed “Student-Athletes Protection Act” aims to protect and promote the rights of student-athletes, who are, first and foremost, students, and ensure that they attain quality education while honing their skills and reaching their full potential as athletes in an amateur sports setting. The bill seeks to regulate current practices deemed prejudicial to the interest of student-athletes, such as the imposition of an unreasonable residency requirement and grant of inordinate benefits and incentives.

The bill will ban the imposition of a residency requirement on high school student-athletes. On the other hand, residency requirement on college student-athletes shall be allowed for a maximum period of one year. It also seeks to prohibit commercialization of student-athletes by limiting the benefits and incentives to: tuition fee, miscellaneous school fees, books and other learning materials, board and lodging, uniform and equipment, a reasonable living allowance, and other similar benefits and incentives that would further enhance the student-athletes’ academic and athletic performance.

## **APPROVED ON SECOND READING**

**S. No. 1647 - AN ACT REPEALING THE CRIME OF PREMATURE MARRIAGE UNDER ARTICLE 351 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE**

With the aim of abolishing laws that serve no purpose other than to perpetuate discrimination against women, the proposed measure seeks to repeal Article 351 of the Revised Penal Code, which punishes a woman who shall marry within 301 days from the time of her husband’s death or her marriage’s dissolution, or who shall marry before delivering a child from such previous marriage.

**S. No. 2212 - AN ACT TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND FINANCIAL EDUCATION AMONG FILIPINO YOUTH**

The proposed “Youth Entrepreneurship Act” aims to promote youth entrepreneurship in all levels of education through the integration of

entrepreneurial courses in school curricula, including subjects on financial literacy and accounting, agri-entrepreneurship, agribusiness management, securing capital and borrowing, business plan conception and drafting, management, marketing, design-thinking, social entrepreneurship and community organizing. The Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall cooperate with learning organizations, non-government organizations, local government units and other concerned groups to promote the inclusion of subjects and competencies on entrepreneurship in the curricula of primary, secondary, alternative learning, and post-secondary schools.

The bill also creates the Entrepreneurship Education Committee, with the DepEd as head, and CHED, TESDA and Micro Small and Medium Enterprise Development (MSMED) Council as members. The committee shall ensure coherence and clear progression in the learning objectives and course design, study and standardize all current efforts of schools and institutions to teach entrepreneurial courses, and research current government efforts in foreign countries with the end view of applying relevant practices in our educational system.

#### **S. No. 2272 - AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE LADDERIZED INTERFACE BETWEEN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING AND HIGHER EDUCATION**

The proposed “Ladderized Education Act” seeks to create a seamless and borderless education and training system that will allow mobility in terms of flexible entry and exit between technical-vocational and college degree programs in the post-secondary school education system.

In the development of the ladderized education, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and Department of Education (DepEd) are mandated to closely coordinate and effectively implement a unified Philippine Qualification Framework that establishes equivalency pathways and access ramps allowing for easier transitions and progressions between technical-vocational education and training and higher education. The CHED, TESDA and DepEd shall likewise design harmonized guidelines and equivalency competency courses to enhance the delivery of high-quality technical-vocational and higher education courses, synchronize standards and upgrade curriculum design per discipline, and adopt a strategic implementation scheme.

**S. No. 2274 - AN ACT TO EXPAND ACCESS TO EDUCATION THROUGH OPEN LEARNING AND DISTANCE EDUCATION IN TERTIARY LEVELS OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

The proposed “Open Learning and Distance Education Act” aims to further democratize access to quality education at the tertiary level through the establishment of distance education and open learning programs under the Non-Conventional Higher Education Division of the Commission on Higher Education and the National Institute for Technical Education and Skills Development of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

Distance education pertains to a mode of educational delivery whereby the teacher and learner are separated in time and space, and the instruction is delivered through specially designed materials and methods using appropriate technologies and learning management systems and supported by organizational and administrative structures and arrangements. On the other hand, open learning refers to a philosophy of learning that is learner-centered and flexible, enabling learners to learn at a time, place and pace which satisfies their circumstances and requirements.

**S. No. 2275 - AN ACT MANDATING ALL STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO ANNUALLY CONFER AUTOMATIC ADMISSION AND PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO THE TOP TEN (10) PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OF THEIR GRADUATING CLASS, AND ALLOCATE FUNDS THEREFOR**

To be known as the “Iskolar ng Bayan Act”, the bill seeks to grant public high school students belonging to the Top Ten of their graduating class, based on the cumulative results at the final grading period, automatic admission to State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) of their choice. The admission however shall be subject to the evaluation of the school of choice with respect to the course the scholar wants to take, and the guidelines to be issued by the Commission on Higher Education.

The bill shall cover all SUCs except the University of the Philippines (UP), which enjoys institutional autonomy as the national university under its charter. Nonetheless, UP shall come up with its own scholarship programs for the top ten high school graduates from public high schools.

## PENDING ON SECOND READING

### A. PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

**S. No. 2270** - AN ACT ENSURING THE FUNDAMENTAL EQUALITY OF MEN AND WOMEN UNDER THE LAWS ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY RELATIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The proposed measure seeks to amend various provisions of the Family Code to ensure the fundamental equality of men and women in our laws on marriage and family relations. The bill removes the preference given to the decision of the husband or father, as the case may be, in case of disagreement over the matters pertaining to the administration of the community property, grant of parental consent for a child's marriage, exercise of parental authority over common children, and the exercise of legal guardianship over the property of unemancipated common children. The bill directs both spouses and parents, as the case may be, to exert earnest efforts to enter into a compromise and only upon failing such shall the court decide the case.

### B. PERIOD OF INTERPELLATION

**S. No. 12** - AN ACT PROVIDING BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY TANODS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPON NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS AND BARANGAY DAY CARE WORKERS A RETIREMENT BENEFIT

Recognizing the indispensable role of the barangay officials and employees as front liners in the delivery of basic services to the people, the proposed measure aims to grant retirement benefits to qualified Punong Barangays, members of the Sangguniang Barangay, Barangay Treasurers and Secretaries, Barangay Tanods, members of the Lupon ng Tagapamayapa, Barangay Health Workers, and Barangay Day Care Workers. To fund the benefits proposed under the bill, a Barangay Retirement Fund shall be established.

**S. No. 29** - AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCRIMINATION ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL ON THE BASIS MERELY OF AGE

The proposed "Anti-Age Discrimination in Employment Act" seeks to promote equal employment opportunity for all by eliminating discrimination in the workplace solely on the basis of age. The bill prohibits and penalizes acts of age discrimination committed by employers, labor contractors, and labor organizations against employees, such as publication by an employer

of advertisements suggesting preferences, limitations, specifications and discrimination based on age, refusal of a labor contractor to refer an individual for employment because of the latter's age, and denial by a labor group to grant membership because of age.

By way of exception, the bill allows setting of age limitations if the following conditions are satisfied: age is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary in the normal operation of the particular business, the intent is to observe the terms of a bona fide seniority system that is not intended to evade the purpose of the bill, the intent is to observe the terms of a bona fide employee retirement or a voluntary early retirement plan, and the action is duly certified by the Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment.

**S. No. 136 - AN ACT REFORMING THE NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM AND PROVIDING STANDARDS FOR THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF APPRENTICES, AND REGULATORY STANDARDS FOR ACCREDITATION OF APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS**

To boost the participation of enterprises and encourage the enrollment of youth in trainings for approved apprenticeable occupations, the proposed "Apprenticeship Training Act" aims to establish a reformed apprenticeship program that will ensure the availability of qualified manpower in critical and in-demand skills through the participation of employers and workers, and government and non-government agencies.

**S. No. 480 - AN ACT INCREASING THE QUARTERS ALLOWANCE OF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

In view of the hike in prevailing rates for the lease of houses and living quarters, the proposed measure seeks to adjust the quarters allowance given to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) officers and enlisted personnel to a reasonable level befitting their rank. The increase shall be sourced from 50% of the net government share in the proceeds of the Malampaya Fund, 20% of the annual share of the AFP Modernization Program on the income derived from the leases, joint ventures and other similar transactions on properties in Metro Manila entered into by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority, annual savings of the Department of National Defense and the AFP, and the Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Fund.

**S. No. 510 - AN ACT DECLARING THE FIFTH DAY OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL TEACHERS' DAY**

In observance of the World Teachers' Day proclaimed by UNESCO to fall on October 5 of every year, the proposed measure declares such day of each year as "National Teachers' Day", which shall be a special working holiday. All heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, government-owned and controlled corporations, local government units, and employers in the private sector shall encourage employees to participate in activities conducted within the premises of their offices in celebration of the special working holiday.

**S. No. 914 - AN ACT TO REGULATE AND MODERNIZE THE PRACTICE OF CHEMISTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 754 ENTITLED "AN ACT TO REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF CHEMISTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

In view of the vast advancements in the field of Chemistry, the proposed "Chemistry Law" seeks to update and incorporate innovations to the law governing the professional practice of Chemistry in line with the latest international practice and standards. The bill revises the definition of Chemistry, updates the scope of the professional practice, strengthens the Professional Regulatory Board of Chemistry, outlines the procedure and requirements for licensure examination and registration, and imposes heavier penalties for the practice of Chemistry without valid Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification.

**S. No. 2042 - AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, STOCKPILING, USE OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR DESTRUCTION AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

In conformity with the Philippines' obligations under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction, the proposed "Chemical Weapons Prohibition Act" aims to proscribe the development, production, manufacture, acquisition, possession, stockpiling, retention, transfer or use of chemical weapons, or engagement in any other activities prohibited under said Convention, and impose penalties for the commission of prohibited acts under the bill.

The bill establishes the Philippine National Authority for the Chemical Weapons Convention which shall, among others, liaise with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and other parties on matters relating to the Convention, conduct inspections of sites involving scheduled chemicals or other chemical production facilities, and cause or direct the investigation and prosecution of violators.

**S. No. 2055 - AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF FORESTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6239, KNOWN AS 'THE FORESTRY PROFESSION LAW', APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Considering the immense developments in the field of Forestry due to changes in the physical environment and conditions of natural resources, the proposed "Forestry Profession Act" seeks to revise the law governing the professional practice of Forestry in line with the latest global practice and standards. The bill revises the definition of Forestry, updates the scope of activities and services falling under the professional practice, strengthens the Professional Regulatory Board for Foresters, outlines the procedure and requirements for licensure examination and registration, and imposes heavier penalties for the practice of Forestry without valid Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification.

**S. No. 2103 - AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THIS PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1536, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE METALLURGICAL ENGINEERING LAW OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

To maintain the global competitiveness of our metallurgical engineers, the proposed "Metallurgical Engineering Act" aims to update the law governing the practice of Metallurgical Engineering in line with the cutting edge advancements in the field. The bill amends the definition of Metallurgical Engineering, revises the scope of activities and services falling under such professional practice, further empowers the Professional Regulatory Board of Metallurgical Engineering, outlines the procedure and requirements for licensure examination and registration, and imposes heavier penalties for the practice of Metallurgical Engineering without valid Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification.

**S. No. 2134 - AN ACT REORGANIZING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

The proposed "Cooperative Development Authority Charter Act" seeks to reorganize the Cooperative Development Authority to carry out a broader scope of functions and responsibilities, thereby consolidating those provided for under the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008 and under the bill. The proposed measure likewise provides for the establishment of the Board of Directors and the Office of the Administrator, and outlines their respective compositions, powers and functions.

**S. No. 2161** - AN ACT CREATING THE QUEZON CITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (QCDA), DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FOR ITS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND CAPITALIZATION

The proposed measure aims to address Quezon City's housing, development and urban renewal concerns through the establishment of the Quezon City Development Authority. The QCDA shall assume the assets, liabilities and projects of the Quezon City Housing and Urban Renewal Authority which shall then be dissolved.

**S. No. 2210** - AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE POVERTY REDUCTION THROUGH SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (PRESENT) PROGRAM AND PROMOTING SOCIAL ENTERPRISES WITH THE POOR AS PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS

The proposed "Poverty Reduction through Social Entrepreneurship Act" seeks to improve the position of the poor, marginalized and basic sectors through the Poverty Reduction through Social Entrepreneurship (PRESENT) Program. The PRESENT Program shall identify and develop key Social Enterprises (SEs) and resource institutions as partners in providing transactional and transformational services towards poverty reduction.

The bill strengthens the existing Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Council, which shall be renamed as the National Enterprise Development Council, and shall expand its powers, duties and functions in order to effectively spur the growth and development of SEs in the country and to carry out the policy declared under the proposed measure. The bill also establishes the Center for Social Enterprise Development, which shall be in charge of implementing policies for enterprise development. To support the capacity building and sustainability of the PRESENT Program, the bill provides for the creation of the Social Enterprise Development Fund. The bill likewise directs key government agencies to grant benefits and incentives essential to effective operations of SEs.

**S. No. 2239** - AN ACT REQUIRING ALL FRANCHISE HOLDERS OR OPERATORS OF TELEVISION STATIONS AND PRODUCERS OF TELEVISION PROGRAMS TO BROADCAST OR PRESENT THEIR PROGRAMS WITH CLOSED CAPTION OPTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

To enable persons with hearing disabilities to fully understand television programs, the proposed measure requires franchise holders or operators of television stations and producers of television programs to broadcast their programs with closed captions options.

**S. No. 2271** - AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR FILM AND TELEVISION TOURISM IN THE PHILIPPINES, MARKETING THE INDUSTRY GLOBALLY AND PROVIDING EMPLOYMENT FOR THE SECTOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The proposed “Philippine Film and Television Tourism Act” seeks to treat the film and television tourism as a special investment tool for national development through the creation of the Philippine Film and Television Tourism Authority (PFTTA). The bill likewise establishes the Inter-Agency Committee on Film and Television Committee, which shall be the governing board and policy-making body of the PFTTA.

**S. No. 2277** - AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OPEN HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

The proposed “Open High School System Act” aims to widen access to secondary education through the establishment of the Open High School System (OHSS). The alternative program shall apply to public secondary educational institutions which shall practice open learning through self-instructional materials, multi-channel learning and school-family-community partnership. The OHSS shall be open to all youth from ages 18 years and below who have finished elementary education, or have qualified for the high school level under the Philippine Educational Placement Test.

**S. No. 2278** - AN ACT MANDATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION (LAD) COMPONENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP) BY JUNE 30, 2016 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW’, AS AMENDED

The proposed measure seeks to mandate the issuance of Notices of Coverage over all remaining agricultural lands under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law within the next two years. It likewise provides for the budgetary mechanisms for the completion of the Land Acquisition and Distribution process.

**S. No. 2280** - AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 968, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PROBATION LAW OF 1976, AS AMENDED

The proposed measure aims to amend the Probation Law by making probation an available recourse for an accused who appeals a judgment of conviction imposing a non-probationable penalty and thereafter secures a

modified judgment imposing a probationable penalty. The bill also allows for the grant of reasonable transportation and meal allowances to Volunteer Probation Officers, presently known as Probation Aides.

**S. Jt. Res. No. 2** - JOINT RESOLUTION INCREASING THE SUBSISTENCE ALLOWANCE OF ALL OFFICERS AND ENLISTED PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) AND OF ALL COMMISSIONED AND NON-COMMISSIONED PERSONNEL OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) FROM NINETY PESOS (₱90.00) TO ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY PESOS (₱150.00) PER DAY

With the goal of enabling our soldiers and policemen to cope with the escalating cost of living, the resolution seeks to increase the subsistence allowance of all officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and all commissioned and non-commissioned personnel of the Philippine National Police (PNP) from ₱90.00 to ₱150.00 per day. The Department of National Defense (DND) in coordination with the AFP, and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in coordination with the PNP, shall promulgate rules and regulation to implement the provisions of the resolution and shall allocate funds chargeable to the savings of the DND and DILG for the current year.

## **ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS**

**S. Res. No. 36** - RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND (PSR-535) [4 MARCH 2014]

The resolution concurs in the ratification of the Treaty on Extradition between the Republic of the Philippines and Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which was signed by President Benigno S. Aquino III on 6 December 2013. The treaty provides for the general obligation between the parties to extradite to each other any person who is wanted for prosecution, imposition, or enforcement of a sentence in the requesting state for an extraditable offense. The treaty strengthens the bilateral cooperation between these countries in the investigation, prosecution and suppression of crimes, particularly the transnational crimes of terrorism, money laundering, corruption, human trafficking and other violations of human rights.

**S. Res. No. 37 - RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA (PSR-536) [4 MARCH 2014]**

The resolution concurs in the ratification of the Treaty on Extradition between the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Republic of India, which was signed by President Benigno S. Aquino III on 6 December 2013. The treaty provides for the general obligation between the parties to extradite to each other any person who is wanted for prosecution, imposition, or enforcement of a sentence in the requesting state for an extraditable offense. The treaty strengthens the bilateral cooperation between these countries in the investigation, prosecution and suppression of crimes, particularly the transnational crimes of terrorism, money laundering, corruption, human trafficking and other violations of human rights.

**S. Res. No. 38 - RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE TREATY ON EXTRADITION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN (PSR-537) [4 MARCH 2014]**

The resolution concurs in the ratification of the Treaty on Extradition between the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Spain, which was signed by President Benigno S. Aquino III on 6 December 2013. The treaty provides for the general obligation between the parties to extradite to each other any person who is wanted for prosecution, imposition, or enforcement of a sentence in the requesting state for an extraditable offense. The treaty strengthens the bilateral cooperation between these countries in the investigation, prosecution and suppression of crimes, particularly the transnational crimes of terrorism, money laundering, corruption, human trafficking and other violations of human rights.

PERFORMANCE  
OF THE SENATE



# PERFORMANCE OF THE SENATE

## SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

**First Regular Session**  
**(22 July 2013 – 13 June 2014)**

### SIGNED INTO LAW (15)

1. R.A. No. 10632 An Act To Postpone The Sangguniang Kabataan Elections On October 28, 2013, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 9340, And For Other Purposes (S. No. 1186/H. No. 2849) [3 October 2013]
2. R.A. No. 10633 An Act Appropriating Funds for the Operation of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines from January One to December Thirty-One, Two Thousand and Fourteen, And For Other Purposes (H. No. 2630) [20 December 2013]
3. R.A. No. 10634 An Act Appropriating The Sum Of Fourteen Billion Six Hundred Million Pesos (₱14,600,000,000.00) As Supplemental Appropriations For FY 2013 And For Other Purposes (H. No. 3423) [26 December 2013]
4. Joint Res. No. 1 Joint Resolution Extending the Validity of Appropriations Under the Calamity Fund and Quick Response Fund, Including Those Sourced From Savings Realigned in the Current Year, as Well as All Unobligated Allotments and Unreleased Appropriations for Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses and Capital Outlays Under Republic Act No. 10352 or the FY 2013 General Appropriations Act Until December 31, 2014, Amending for the Purpose Section 63 of the General Provisions Therein (H. Joint Res-7) [26 December 2013]
5. R.A. No. 10635 An Act Establishing the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) as the Single Maritime Administration Responsible for the Implementation and Enforcement of the 1978

International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification, and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, as Amended, and International Agreements or Covenants Related Thereto (S. No. 2043/H. No. 3766) [13 March 2014]

6. R.A. No. 10636 An Act Granting Philippine Citizenship To Andray Blatche (H. No. 4084) [11 June 2014]
7. R.A. No. 10637 An Act Granting Cotabato Light And Power Company, A Franchise To Construct, Install, Establish, Operate And Maintain A Distribution System For The Conveyance Of Electric Power To The End-Users In The City Of Cotabato And Portions Of The Municipalities Of Datu Odin Sinsuat And Sultan Kudarat, Both In The Province Of Maguindanao (H. No. 3187) [16 June 2014]
8. R.A. No. 10638 An Act Extending The Corporate Life Of The Philippine National Railways For Another Fifty (50) Years, Further Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 4156, As Amended, Entitled “An Act Creating The Philippine National Railways, Prescribing Its Powers, Functions And Duties, And Providing For The Necessary Funds For Its Operation” (S. No. 1831/H. No. 4089) [16 June 2014]
9. R.A. No. 10639 Mandating The Telecommunications Service Providers To Send Free Mobile Alerts In The Event Of Natural And Man-Made Disasters And Calamities [20 June 2014]
10. R.A. No. 10640 An Act To Further Strengthen The Anti-Drug Campaign Of The Government, Amending For The Purpose Section 21 Of Republic Act No. 9165, Otherwise Known As The “Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act Of 2002” (S. No. 2273/H. No. 2285) [15 July 2014]
11. R.A. No. 10641 An Act Allowing The Full Entry Of Foreign Banks In The Philippines, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 7721 (S. No. 2159/H. No. 3984) [15 July 2014]

12. R.A. No. 10642 An Act Strengthening Consumer Protection In The Purchase Of Brand New Motor Vehicles And For Other Purposes (S. No. 2211/H. No. 4082) [15 July 2014]
13. R.A. No. 10643 An Act To Effectively Instill Health Consciousness Through Graphic Health Warnings On Tobacco Products (S. No. 27/H. No. 4590) [15 July 2014]
14. R.A. No. 10644 An Act Promoting Job Generation and Inclusive Growth Through The Development Of Micro, Small And Medium Enterprises (S. No. 2046/H. No. 4595) [15 July 2014]
15. Joint Res. No. 2 Declaring 27 July 2014 As A Special Nonworking Holiday To Commemorate The Founding Anniversary Of The Iglesia Ni Cristo (H. Jt. Res. 12) [15 July 2014]

**APPROVED ON THIRD READING BY THE SENATE/  
PENDING IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (4)**

1. S. No. 1281 Declaring August 18 Of Every Year As ‘Jesse Robredo’ Day, A Special Working Holiday
2. S. No. 1733 Implementing the People’s Right to Information and the Constitutional Policies of Full Public Disclosure and Honesty in the Public Service
3. S. No. 2138 Further Amending Presidential Decree No. 1606, As Amended
4. S. No. 2226 Protecting The Amateur Nature Of Student-Athletes In The Philippines By Regulating The Residency Requirement And Prohibiting The Commercialization Of Student-Athletes

**APPROVED ON SECOND READING (5)**

1. S. No. 1647 Repealing The Crime Of Premature Marriage Under Article 351 Of Act No. 3815, Otherwise Known As The Revised Penal Code
2. S. No. 2212 Actively Promote Entrepreneurship and Financial Education Among Filipino Youth

3. S. No. 2272 Strengthening The Ladderized Interface Between Technical-Vocational Education And Training And Higher Education
4. S. No. 2274 Expand Access To Education Through Open Learning And Distance Education In Tertiary Levels Of Education
5. S. No. 2275 Mandating All State Colleges And Universities To Annually Confer Automatic Admission And Provide Scholarship Grants To The Top Ten (10) Public High School Students Of Their Graduating Class

## **PENDING SECOND READING (19)**

### **A. *Period of Amendments (1)***

1. S. No. 2270 Ensuring the Fundamental Equality of Men and Women Under the Laws on Marriage and Family Relations, Amending for the Purpose Executive Order No. 209, Otherwise Known as The Family Code of the Philippines

### **B. *Period of Interpellations (18)***

1. S. No. 12 Providing Barangay Officials, Including Barangay Tanods, Members Of The Lupon Ng Tagapamayapa, Barangay Health Workers And Barangay Day Care Workers A Retirement Benefit
2. S. No. 29 Prohibiting The Discrimination On The Employment Of Any Individual On The Basis Merely Of Age
3. S. No. 136 Reforming The National Apprenticeship Program And Providing Standards For The Training And Employment Of Apprentices, And Regulatory Standards For Accreditation Of Apprenticeship Programs
4. S. No. 480 Increasing the Quarter Allowance of Officers and Enlisted Personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines

5. S. No. 510 Declaring The Fifth Day Of October Of Every Year As The National Teachers' Day
6. S. No. 914 Regulate and Modernize the Practice of Chemistry in the Philippines, Repealing for the Purpose Republic Act No. 754 Entitled, "An Act to Regulate the Practice of Chemistry in the Philippines"
7. S. No. 2042 Prohibiting the Development, Production, Stockpiling, Use of Chemical Weapons and Providing for their Destruction
8. S. No. 2055 Regulating the Practice of Forestry in the Philippines, Repealing for this Purpose Republic Act No. 6239, Known as "The Forestry Profession Law"
9. S. No. 2103 Regulating the Practice of Metallurgical Engineering in the Philippines, Repealing for this Purpose Presidential Decree No. 1536, Otherwise Known as the Metallurgical Engineering Law of the Philippines
10. S. No. 2134 Reorganizing The Cooperative Development Authority, Repealing For The Purpose Republic Act No. 6939, Creating The Cooperative Development Authority
11. S. No. 2161 Crafting the Quezon City Development Authority (QCDA), Defining its Powers and Functions, Providing for its Organizational Structure and Capitalization
12. S. No. 2210 Institutionalizing the Poverty Reduction Through Social Entrepreneurship (Present) Program and Promoting Social Enterprises with the Poor as Primary Stakeholders
13. S. No. 2239 Requiring All Franchise Holders Or Operators Of Television Stations And Producers Of Television Programs To Broadcast Or Present Their Programs With Closed Captions Options
14. S. No. 2271 Establishing A Framework For Film And Television Tourism In The Philippines, Marketing The Industry Globally And Providing Employment For The Sector

15. S. No. 2277                      Establishing The Open High School System In The Philippines
16. S. No. 2278                      Mandating The Completion Of The Land Acquisition And Distribution (LAD) Component Of The Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) By June 30, 2016 Pursuant To Republic Act No. 6657, Otherwise Known As The 'Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law', As Amended
17. S. No. 2280                      Amending Presidential Decree No. 968, Otherwise Known As The Probation Law Of 1976, As Amended
18. S. Jt. Res. No. 2                      Increasing the Subsistence Allowance of All Officers and Enlisted Personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and of all Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Personnel of the Philippine National Police From Ninety Pesos (₱90.00) to One Hundred and Fifty Pesos (₱150.00) Per Day

## **ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS (47)**

### **A. *Resolutions Concurring in the Ratification of Treaties and/or International Agreements/Conventions (3)***

1. Res. No. 36                      Resolution Concurring in the Ratification of the Extradition Treaty Between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (PSR-535) [4 March 2014]
2. Res. No. 37                      Resolution Concurring in the Ratification of the Extradition Treaty Between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Republic of India (PSR-536) [4 March 2014]
3. Res. No. 38                      Resolution Concurring in the Ratification of the Treaty on Extradition Between the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Spain (PSR-537) [4 March 2014]

## **B. Simple Resolutions (41)**

1. Res. No. 1 Resolution Informing His Excellency, the President of the Philippines, That the Senate Has Been Organized With the Election of Its Officers and That This Body Has Entered Upon the Exercise of Its Functions For the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Congress of the Philippines (PSR-23) [22 July 2013]
2. Res. No. 2 Resolution Informing the House of Representatives that the Senate Has Been Organized With the Election of Its Officers and That This Body Has Entered Upon the Exercise of Its Functions for the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Congress of the Philippines (PSR-24) [22 July 2013]
3. Res. No. 3 Resolution Honoring and Commending the Outstanding Teachers of 2013 Awarded by the Metrobank Foundation, Inc. (PSR-207, 209, 215 & 231) [2 September 2013]
4. Res. No. 4 Resolution Congratulating and Commending the Country's Outstanding Police Officers in Service (COPS) of 2013, Awarded by the Metrobank Foundation, Inc., the Rotary Club of New Manila East, and the Philippine Savings Bank (PSBank) (PSR-210, 213 & 219) [2 September 2013]
5. Res. No. 5 Resolution Honoring and Commending the Outstanding Philippine Soldiers (TOPS) of 2013 Awarded by the Metrobank Foundation, Inc., and the Rotary Club of Makati Metro (PSR-177 & 214) [2 September 2013]
6. Res. No. 6 Resolution Amending Rule X, Section 13 of the Rules of the Senate (PSR-212) [2 September 2013]
7. Res. No. 7 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Dr. Alicia Santos for Being Conferred the Prestigious *Gawad Mabini* with the Rank of *Dakilang Kasugo* Presidential Award (PSR-176) [10 September 2013]

8. Res. No. 8 Resolution Expressing the Sense of the Senate to Join the Community of Nations and Parliaments Around the World in Commemorating the Sixth International Day of Democracy on September 15, 2013 With the Theme, “Strengthening Voices for Democracy” (PSR-256) [16 September 2013]
9. Res. No. 9 Resolution Authorizing All Committees of the Senate to Hold Meetings, Hearings or Conferences During the Recess of the Congress for the Purpose of Studying and Preparing Any Proposed Legislation or to Investigate Any Matter or Subject Falling Under Their Jurisdiction (PSR-270) [25 September 2013]
10. Res. No. 10 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Miss Philippines Megan Lynne Young for Winning the Crown and Title of Miss World 2013 (PSR-272, 273, 274, 281, 282 & 285) [14 October 2013]
11. Res. No. 11 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Mutya Johanna Fontiveros Datul for Having Been Crowned as Miss Supranational 2013 (PSR-237) [14 October 2013]
12. Res. No. 12 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Grandmaster Wesley So for Bringing Honor and Distinction to the Country by Winning the Gold Medal in the Men’s Chess Competitions of the Recently Concluded 27<sup>th</sup> Summer Universiade (World University Games) at the Kazan Equestrian Complex in Kazan, Russia, this July 2013 (PSR-99) [14 October 2013]
13. Res. No. 13 Resolution Recognizing and Commending Sgt. Freddie Demacotak, Private First Class Reynante D. Sobremonte, and Private Randy A. Ayson Who Were Wounded in Action, and 2Lt. Rostum C. Delasa, Sgt. Freddie G. Demacotak, Jr., Cpl. Noly T. Capillano, Pfc. Carlos G. Dalisay, Pfc. Ramil G. Lopez, Cpl. Israel T. Briguera, Ssgt. Abelardo P. Palomero, Pfc. Rovrando R. Romero, Pvt. Manuel T. Bunagan, Jr., Cpl. Erwin B. Pili, Pfc. Joseph R. Villanueva, Pfc. Reynante

D. Sobremonte, Pfc. Pablito D. Endaya, Jr., Pvt. Jeffrey B. Doctolero and Pvt. Randy P. Ayson, Members of the Marine Battalion Landing Team-3 (MBLT3) of the Philippine Marine Corps, for Their Bravery and Dedication in Defending and Upholding the Peace Situation in Mindanao During the Encounter of the Government Forces with the Abu Sayyaf in Indanan, Sulu on 16 March 2009 (PSR-284) [14 October 2013]

14. Res. No. 14 Resolution Waiving and Abandoning the Use of the Remaining 2013 Senate Priority Development Assistance Fund and Expressing the Sense of the Senate for the President to Utilize the Savings Created by Such Abandonment to Augment the Calamity Fund (PSR-302 & 305) [22 October 2013]
15. Res. No. 15 Resolution Extending the Term of the Special Oversight Committee on Economic Affairs Until Otherwise Terminated by the Chamber (PSR-318) [23 October 2013]
16. Res. No. 16 Resolution Expressing the Full Support and Active Participation of the Senate in the Observance of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2013 (PSR-374) [26 November 2013]
17. Res. No. 17 Resolution Congratulating and Commending the People's Champ and Sarangani Congressman Manny "Pacman" Pacquiao for Winning the World Boxing Organization International Welterweight Title At the Venetian Macao in Macau Special Administrative Region on 24 November 2013 (PSR-379, 380, 382, 384, 385 & 392) [27 November 2013]
18. Res. No. 18 Resolution Expressing the Gratitude and Appreciation of the Senate to All Philippine Government Agencies, Private Institutions, NonGovernment Organizations, Civic Groups, Foreign Governments and International Organizations, Including Foreign Humanitarian

Organizations, for the Responsive Relief and Assistance Operations in the Philippines Due to the Catastrophic Damage Caused by Typhoon Yolanda (PSR-383 & 391) [27 November 2013]

19. Res. No. 19 Resolution Expressing the Full Support and Active Participation of the Senate in the Observance of the National Volunteer Month in December 2013 (PSR-394) [3 December 2013]
20. Res. No. 20 Resolution Expressing the Condolences and Sympathies of the Senate of the Philippines on the Death of Former South Africa President Nelson Mandela (PSR-412) [10 December 2013]
21. Res. No. 21 Resolution Creating a Select Oversight Committee on Intelligence and Confidential Funds (PSR-361) [21 January 2014]
22. Res. No. 22 Resolution Commending the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police for the Heroic Performance of Their Sworn Constitutional Duty as Protectors of the People and the State, and as Sentinels of Peace and Order in the Zamboanga Crisis (PSR-283) [22 January 2014]
23. Res. No. 23 Resolution Expressing Gratitude to the Members of the International Community for Their Humanitarian Response in the Aftermath of Super Typhoon Yolanda (PSR-427) [22 January 2014]
24. Res. No. 24 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Overseas Filipino Worker Rose “Osang” Fostanes for Being Named the First Winner of the X Factor Israel on 14 January 2014 in Tel-Aviv, Israel (PSR-448, 454 & 457) [22 January 2014]
25. Res. No. 25 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Bea Rose Santiago for Honoring the Philippines with the Prestigious Miss International 2013 Title in Tokyo, Japan on 17 December 2013 (PSR-419, 420 & 433) [22 January 2014]

26. Res. No. 26 Resolution Acknowledging and Commending the Artistic Achievements, Philanthropy and Education Advocacy Campaign of Mr. Allan “apl. de.ap” Pineda (PSR-58) [29 January 2014]
27. Res. No. 27 Resolution Commending Maria Susana “Toots” Ople for Having Been Conferred by the Government of the United States of America the Global Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Hero Award for 2013 for Her Persistent and Unyielding Effort to Curb Human Trafficking (PSR-130) [29 January 2014]
28. Res. No. 28 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Veteran Filipino Actor Joel Torre for Winning the Best Actor Award in the 17th Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival (PIFAN) Held in Bucheon Gymnasium, Jung-Dong, Gyeonggi-Do, South Korea on July 18, 2013 (PSR-181) [29 January 2014]
29. Res. No. 29 Resolution Commending and Congratulating the Filipino Members of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons for Being Part of the Team that Won a Nobel Peace Prize for 2013 (PSR-328) [January 29, 2014]
30. Res. No. 30 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Maria Lourdes “Malou” C. Mangahas, Jarius Y. Bondoc, and Rodrigo Jiggy D. Manicad, Jr. for Being Named the 2013 Journalists of the Year (JOY) (PSR-355) [29 January 2014]
31. Res. No. 31 Resolution Congratulating and Commending the Recipients of “The Outstanding Young Men” (TOYM) of the Philippines 2013 Award (PSR-421 & 451) [29 January 2014]
32. Res. No. 32 Resolution Creating a Select Oversight Committee on Barangay Affairs (PSR-123) [4 February 2014]
33. Res. No. 33 Resolution Commending the Soldiers of the 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion Deployed to Guian, Eastern

Samar in Recognition of their Incredible Acts of Bravery in the Wake of Typhoon Yolanda (PSR-415) [19 February 2014]

34. Res. No. 34 Resolution Congratulating And Commending Michael Christian Martinez For Being The First Filipino and Southeast Asian Figure Skater To Qualify For The Winter Olympics And For His Inspiring Performance in the 2014 Winter Olympics Held In Sochi, Russia (PSR-505, 511,513,514,515,517 & 529) [26 February 2014]
35. Res. No. 35 Resolution Congratulating And Commending Filipina Beauty Ariella Arida For Being Crowned Third Runner-Up In The 2013 Miss Universe Pageant Held At Crocus City Hall In Moscow, Russia On 10 November 2013 (PSR-348 & 368) [26 February 2014]
36. Res. No. 39 Resolution Congratulating and Commending Angeli Dione Barbas Gomez for Honoring the Philippines with the Miss Tourism International 2013-2014 Title in Putrajaya, Malaysia on 31 December 2013 (PSR-559) [11 March 2014]
37. Res. No. 40 Resolution Congratulating And Commending The 2013 Awardees Of The Outstanding Women In The Nation's Service (TOWNS) Conferred By The Metrobank Foundation, Inc. And Metrobank Card Corporation (PSR-376) [6 May 2014]
38. Res. No. 41 Resolution Commending the 2014 Recipients of the Soroptimist Unsung Women Heroes Awards For Their Tireless Dedication and Service in Uplifting the Welfare of Disadvantaged Women in Their Communities (PSR-628) [14 May 2014]
39. Res. No. 42 Resolution Congratulating Nonito Donaire Jr. for Winning the May 31, 2014 World Boxing Association (WBA) Featherweight Championship Title At the Cotai Arena of the Venetian Resort in Macau (PSR-688, 689 & 692) [11 June 2014]

- 40. Res. No. 43 Resolution Declaring as Read and Approved the Journal of the 83<sup>rd</sup> Session of the Senate (PSR-710) [11 June 2014]
- 41. Res. No. 44 Resolution Authorizing the Production and Distribution of One Hundred Fifty (150) Printed and Digital Copies Each of the Journal and the Record of the Senate for the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Congress of the Philippines (PSR-711) [11 June 2014]

**C. Concurrent Resolutions (3)**

- 1. Ct. Res. No. 1 Concurrent Resolution Providing for the Senate and The House of Representatives to Hold a Joint Session to Hear the Message of the President of the Republic of the Philippines (H. Ct. Res. No. 2) [22 July 2013]
- 2. Ct. Res. No. 2 Concurrent Resolution Creating a Joint Committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives to Notify the President of the Philippines that Congress, Now Convened for Its First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Congress of the Philippines, Is Ready to Hear His State of the Nation Address in a Joint Session of Both Houses (S. Ct. Res. No. 1) [22 July 2013]
- 3. Ct. Res. No. 3 Concurrent Resolution Providing for the Legislative Calendar for the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Congress of the Philippines (S. Ct. Res. No. 3/H. Ct. Res. No. 3) [7 August 2013]

# CUMULATIVE STATISTICAL DATA SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session  
(July 22, 2013 to June 13, 2014)

<b>Signed into law</b>	<b>15</b>
Approved on Third Reading by the Senate/ Pending in the House of Representatives	4
<b>Approved on Second Reading</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pending Second Reading (Special Order)</b>	<b>19</b>
Period of Amendments	1
Period of Interpellation	18
<b>Adopted Resolutions</b>	<b>47</b>
Treaties	3
Simple Resolutions	41
Concurrent Resolutions	3

ADDITIONAL LAWS IN  
THE 15<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS



## **ADDITIONAL LAWS IN THE FIFTEENTH CONGRESS**

The following are the laws signed by the President after the 15th Congress adjourned sine die on June 6, 2013:

1. R.A. No. 10607      An Act Strengthening The Insurance Industry, Further Amending Presidential Decree No. 612, Otherwise Known As “The Insurance Code”, As Amended By Presidential Decree Nos. 1141, 1280, 1455, 1460, 1814 And 1981, And Batas Pambansa Blg. 874, And For Other Purposes (HBN-4867/SBN-3280) [August 15, 2013]
  
2. R.A. No. 10608      An Act Creating Two (2) Additional Branches Of The Regional Trial Court In The Eleventh Judicial Region To Be Stationed At The Municipality Of Polomolok, Province Of South Cotabato, Further Amending For The Purpose Batas Pambansa Blg. 129, Otherwise Known As “The Judiciary Reorganization Act Of 1980”, As Amended, And Appropriating Funds Therefor (SBN-3020/HBN-6743) [August 22, 2013]
  
3. R.A. No. 10609      An Act Protecting the Right of Students Enrolled in Courses Requiring Professional Licensing Examinations to Enroll in Review Centers of Their Choice and Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof (HBN-3546) [August 23, 2013]
  
4. R.A. No. 10610      An Act Providing For The Construction Of A Fish Port In The Municipality Of San Vicente, Province Of Northern Samar And Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-3080) [August 23, 2013]
  
5. R.A. No. 10611      An Act To Strengthen The Food Safety Regulatory System In The Country To Protect Consumer Health And Facilitate Market Access Of Local Foods And Food Products, And For Other Purposes (SBN-3311/HBN-6474) [August 23, 2013]
  
6. R.A. No. 10612      An Act Expanding The Coverage Of The Science And Technology (S&T) Scholarship Program

And Strengthening The Teaching Of Science And Mathematics In Secondary Schools And For Other Purposes (SBN-3400/HBN-6860) [August 23, 2013]

7. R.A. No. 10613 An Act Increasing The Minimum Bed Capacity Of The Zamboanga City Medical Center From Two Hundred Fifty (250) To Five Hundred (500), Amending For The Purpose Section 2 Of Republic Act No. 7272 (HBN-425) [August 28, 2013]
8. R.A. No. 10614 An Act Increasing the Bed Capacity of Region I Medical Center in Dagupan City, Pangasinan From Three Hundred (300) to Six Hundred (600), Authorizing the Increase of its Medical Personnel, Upgrading its Services, Facilities and Professional Health Care and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-3840) [August 28, 2013]
9. R.A. No. 10615 An Act Providing for the Construction of a Fish Port in Barangay Hagnaya, Municipality of San Remigio, Province of Cebu and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-3208) [August 28, 2013]
10. R.A. No. 10616 An Act Providing for the Establishment of a Fish Port in the City of Dagupan, Province of Pangasinan and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-4445) [August 28, 2013]
11. R.A. No. 10617 An Act Providing for the Establishment of a Fish Port and Cold Storage Facility in the Municipality of Dapa, Province of Surigao Del Norte and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-4697) [August 28, 2013]
12. R.A. No. 10618 An Act Establishing Rural Farm Schools As Alternative Delivery Mode Of Secondary Education And Appropriating Funds Therefor (SBN-3228/HBN-6050) [September 3, 2013]
13. R.A. No. 10619 An Act Amending Republic Act No. 6876, Entitled An Act Establishing a Municipal Hospital in Barangay Si-It, Municipality of Tanudan, Province of Kalinga-Apayao, to Be

- Known as the Tanudan Municipal Hospital, and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-5396) [September 3, 2013]
14. R.A. No. 10620 An Act Providing For Toy And Game Safety Labeling, Appropriating Funds Therefor (SBN-3367/HBN-6529) [September 3, 2013]
  15. R.A. No. 10621 An Act Providing for the Establishment of a Fish Port and Cold Storage Facility in the Municipality of Sasmuan, Province of Pampanga and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-) [September 6, 2013]
  16. R.A. No. 10622 An Act Changing the Name of Lazi National Agricultural School in Barangay Tigbawan, Municipality of Lazi, Province of Siquijor Into Lazi Technical Institute (HBN-2697) [September 6, 2013]
  17. R.A. No. 10623 An Act Amending Certain Provisions Of Republic Act No. 7581, Entitled An Act Providing Protection To Consumers By Stabilizing The Prices Of Basic Necessities And Prime Commodities And By Prescribing Measures Against Undue Price Increases During Emergency Situations And Like Occasions And For Other Purposes (HBN-4801) [September 6, 2013]
  18. R.A. No. 10624 An Act Providing for the Construction of a Fish Port in Barangay Sabang, Municipality of Calabanga, Province of Camarines Sur and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-201) [September 6, 2013]
  19. R.A. No. 10625 An Act Reorganizing The Philippine Statistical System, Repealing For The Purpose Executive Order Numbered One Hundred Twenty-One, Entitled “Reorganizing And Strengthening The Philippine Statistical System And For Other Purposes” (HBN-6229) [September 12, 2013]
  20. R.A. No. 10626 An Act Upgrading the Cotabato Subdistrict Engineering Office Into a Regular District Engineering Office to Be Known as the

Cotabato City District Engineering Office and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-2522) [September 12, 2013]

21. R.A. No. 10627 An Act Requiring All Elementary And Secondary Schools To Adopt Policies To Prevent And Address The Acts Of Bullying In Their Institutions (HBN-5496) [September 12, 2013]
22. R.A. No. 10628 An Act Providing for the Construction of Fish Ports in the Municipalities of Tongkil, Tapul, Lugus, Kalingalan Caluang and Siasi, Province of Sulu and Appropriating Funds Therefor (HBN-5009) [September 26, 2013]
23. R.A. No. 10629 An Act Providing For The Retention By The Protected Area Management Board Of Seventy-Five Percent (75%) Of The Revenues Accruing To The Integrated Protected Areas Fund (IPAF), Amending For The Purpose Section 16 Of Republic Act No. 7586, Otherwise Known As The National Integrated Protected Areas System Act Of 1992 (HBN-5996) [September 26, 2013]
24. R.A. No. 10630 An Act Strengthening The Juvenile Justice System In The Philippines, Amending For The Purpose Republic Act No. 9344, Otherwise Known As The Juvenile Justice And Welfare Act Of 2006 (SBN-3324/HBN-6052) [October 3, 2013]
25. R.A. No. 10631 An Act Amending Certain Sections Of Republic Act No. 8485, Otherwise Known As “The Animal Welfare Act Of 1998” (SBN-3329/HBN-6893) [October 3, 2013]

THE SENATE  
COMMITTEES



## **The Senate Committees: Responding to the Nation's Needs**

In response to Senate President Franklin M. Drilon's call on the Chamber to be "a Senate that feels the pulse of the people," the various standing committees began work as soon as they were organized in the First Regular Session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress. The committees conducted public hearings and technical working group meetings to consider bills that sought to, among others, address the national government budget, provide further health and educational benefits to the people, boost local trade and commerce, strengthen the delivery of justice, and enhance transparency in governance. Through the work of the committees, the Senate resolved to, and did, perform its constitutionally mandated task to enact laws notwithstanding the public outcry against the alleged misuse of the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) by some lawmakers, government officials and private individuals. The PDAF controversy, which began at the close of the 15<sup>th</sup> Congress, lowered the people's trust and confidence in the Legislature.

The Senate committees' accomplishments in the recently concluded first regular session of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress was the result of the senators' individual and collective hard work and commitment to regain the people's faith in the Senate.

What follows is a report on what the Senate committees have done—in the words of Senate President Drilon—"to be a sensitive and responsive Senate...A Senate that is tireless in pursuing reforms to propel our beloved country to greater economic, political and social heights."

### **Committee Reports Filed**

For the first regular session 55 Committee Reports were filed. These are:

- **CR-1: Postponement of the SK Elections**  
Filed on September 3, 2013 by Local Government, Electoral Reforms and Peoples Participation  
Signed into law as R.A. 10632 on October 3, 2013
- **CR-2: People's Freedom of Information Act of 2013**  
Filed on September 24, 2013 by Public Information and Mass Media, Civil Service and Government Reorganization, Finance
- **CR-3: Quarters Allowance of Officers and Enlisted Personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines**  
Filed on October 14, 2013 by National Defense and Security, Finance

- **CR-4: Subsistence Allowance of All Officers and Enlisted Personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines**  
Filed on October 14, 2013 by National Defense and Security, Public Order and Dangerous Drugs, Finance
- **CR-5: General Appropriation FY 2014**  
Filed on November 18, 2013 by Finance  
Signed into law as R.A. 10633 on December 20, 2013
- **CR-6: Extending the Validity Under the Calamity Fund and Quick Response Fund**  
Filed on December 3, 2013 by Finance  
Joint Resolution No. 1 December 26, 2013
- **CR-7: Supplemental Appropriations for FY 2013**  
Filed on December 4, 2013 by Finance  
Signed into law as R.A. 10634 on December 26, 2013
- **CR-8: Chemical Weapons Prohibition Act**  
Filed on December 11, 2013 by National Defense and Security, Finance
- **CR-9: Maritime Industry Authority (Marina)**  
Filed on December 16, 2013 by Civil Service and Government Reorganization, Public Services, Finance  
Signed into law as R.A. 10635 on March 13, 2014
- **CR-10: Go Negosyo Act of 2013**  
Filed on December 17, 2013 by Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship, Local Government, Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies , Ways and Means, Economic Affairs, Finance  
Signed into law as R.A. 10644 on July 18, 2014
- **CR-11: Metallurgical Engineering Act of 2014**  
Filed on February 5, 2014 by Civil Service and Government Reorganization, Finance
- **CR-12: Forestry Profession Act of 2013**  
Filed on February 5, 2014 by Civil Service and Government Reorganization, Finance
- **CR-13: Chemistry Law of 2013**  
Filed on February 5, 2014 by Civil Service and Government Reorganization, Finance
- **CR-14: Cooperative Development Authority Charter Act**  
Filed on February 20, 2014 by Cooperatives, Civil Service and Government Reorganization, Finance

- **CR-15: Sandiganbayan**  
Filed on February 24, 2014 by Justice and Human Rights
- **CR-16: RP-Uk of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**  
Filed on February 25, 2014 by Foreign Relations
- **CR-17: RP-India Extradition Treaty**  
Filed on February 25, 2014 by Foreign Relations
- **CR-18: RP-Spain Extradition Treaty**  
Filed on February 25, 2014 by Foreign Relations
- **CR-19: Picture-Based Warnings on Tobacco Products**  
Filed on February 26, 2014 by Health and Demography , Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship  
Signed into law as R.A. 10643 on July 18, 2014
- **CR-20: Free Mobile Alerts**  
Filed on March 5, 2014 by Public Services  
Signed into law as R.A. 10639 on June 20, 2014
- **CR-21: Cotabato Light and Power Company**  
Filed on March 5, 2014 by Public Services  
Signed into law as R.A. 10637 on June 16, 2014
- **CR-22: Extending the Corporate Life of the Philippine National Railways**  
Filed on May 5, 2014 by Government Corporations and Public Enterprises, Public Services  
Signed into law as R.A. 10638 on June 16, 2014
- **CR-23: Philippine Fisheries Code**  
Filed on May 6, 2014 by Agriculture and Food, Environment and Natural Resources, Finance
- **CR-24: Poverty Reduction Through Social Entrepreneurship**  
Filed on May 6, 2014 by Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship, Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development, Ways and Means, Finance
- **CR-25: Philippine Lemon Law of 2014**  
Filed on May 6, 2014 by Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship  
Signed into law as R.A. 10642 on July 18, 2014
- **CR-26: Youth Entrepreneurship Act**  
Filed on May 7, 2014 by Youth, Education, Arts and Culture, Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship, Finance
- **CR-27: Philippine Citizenship to Andray Blatche**  
Filed on May 7, 2014 by Justice and Human Rights  
Signed into law as R.A. 10636 on June 11 2014

- **CR-28: Zest Airways Inc. (Franchise)**  
Filed on May 13, 2014 by Public Services
- **CR-29: Student-Athletes Protection Act of 2014**  
Filed on May 14, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture, Games, Amusement and Sports
- **CR-30: Government Disaster Relief Projects**  
Filed on May 21, 2014 by Public Works
- **CR-31: Barangay Workers**  
Filed on May 21, 2014 by Local Government, Finance, Ways and Means, Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development
- **CR-32: Closed Caption Broadcasting of Television Programs**  
Filed on May 26, 2014 by Public Information and Mass Media
- **CR-33: Foreign Banks**  
Filed on May 28, 2014 by Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies  
Signed into law as R.A. 10641 on July 18, 2014
- **CR-34: Internal Auditing Act**  
Filed on May 28, 2014 by Finance
- **CR-35: Government Procurement Reform Act**  
Filed on May 28, 2014 by Finance
- **CR-36: Rehabilitation Fund for Victims of Calamity/Disaster**  
Filed on May 28, 2014 by Finance
- **CR-37: National Apprenticeship Program**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development
- **CR-38: Anti-Age Discrimination in Employment**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development
- **CR-39: Omnibus Election Code**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by Electoral Reforms and Peoples Participation
- **CR-40: AFP Modernization Act**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by National Defense and Security
- **CR-41: Fundamental Equality of Men and Women Under the Laws on Marriage**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by Women, Family Relations and Gender Equality, Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes
- **CR-42: Crime of Premature Marriage**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by Women, Family Relations and Gender Equality

- **CR-43: Philippine Film and Television Tourism Act of 2014**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by Public Information and Mass Media, Tourism, Ways and Means, Finance
- **CR-44: Ladderized Education Act of 2014**  
Filed on June 3, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture, Finance
- **CR-45: Amending the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act**  
Filed on June 4, 2014 by Public Order and Dangerous Drugs  
Signed into law as R.A. 10640 on July 18, 2014
- **CR-46: Open Learning and Distance Education Act of 2014**  
Filed on June 4, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture, Finance, Ways and Means
- **CR-47: Iskolar Ng Bayan Act of 2014**  
Filed on June 4, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture, Finance
- **CR-48: Founding Anniversary of the Iglesia Ni Cristo**  
Filed on June 4, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture
- **CR-49: Jesse Robredo Day**  
Filed on June 4, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture
- **CR-50: National Teacher's Day**  
Filed on June 4, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture
- **CR-51: Open High School System**  
Filed on June 9, 2014 by Education, Arts and Culture, Finance
- **CR-52: Carp Land Acquisition and Distribution (LAD)**  
Filed on June 10, 2014 by Agrarian Reform
- **CR-53: Probation Law**  
Filed on June 11, 2014 by Justice and Human Rights
- **CR-54: Filipino Centenarians**  
Filed on June 11, 2014 by Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development, Ways and Means, Finance
- **CR-55: Quezon City Development Authority (QCDA)**  
Filed on June 11, 2014 by Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement

### **Committee Meetings and Public Hearings**

The different Senate Committees (including the oversight/joint committees and subcommittees) conducted a total of 324 (309 by the standing committees and 15 by the oversight committees) public hearings, technical working group meetings (TWGs) and bicameral conference meetings for the period July 22, 2013 to June 18, 2014. The hearings and meetings on 806 bills and resolutions probed and threshed out issues of national importance in aid of legislation.

Below are the bills or resolutions considered by the committees during the First Regular Session and the dates they conducted public hearings:

### **Committee on Accountability of Public Offices and Investigations**

- **P.S. Res. Nos. 41, 133, 192, 204, 254 & 518**  
Alleged Ten Billion Pesos Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) Scam involving the Janet Lim-Napoles Group.  
*Dates of Hearings:* 03/06/2014; 02/13/2014; 01/30/2014; 11/07/13; 09/26/13; 09/24/13; 09/12/2013; 09/05/13; 08/29/13
- **P.S. Res. No. 133**  
Inquiry on the sense of the Senate that the Priority Development Assistance Fund should be halved in 2014, the remaining sum to be halved again in 2015, thus phasing out the pork barrel in 2016.  
*Dates of Hearings:* 03/06/2014; 02/13/2014; 01/30/2014; 11/07/13; 09/26/13; 09/24/13; 09/12/2013; 09/05/13; 08/29/13
- **P.S. Res. No. 196**  
Appointing a Special Independent Investigator in the person of former Sen. Panfilo M. Lacson to look into the allegations of corruption in the use and implementation of the Priority Development Assistance Fund.  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/13/2014; 01/30/2014; 11/07/13; 09/26/13; 09/24/13; 09/12/2013; 09/05/13; 08/29/13
- **P.S. Res. No. 204**  
Urging His Excellency, President Benigno Simeon Aquino III, to create an independent commission to investigate the misuse of the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) based on the findings of the Commission on Audit.  
*Dates of Hearings:* 03/06/2014; 02/13/2014; 01/30/2014; 11/07/13; 09/26/13; 09/24/13; 09/12/2013; 09/05/13; 08/29/13
- **P.S. Res. No. 254 & 518**  
Inquiry on the alleged misuse of the Priority Development Assistance Fund to include the grant and release of public funds by national government agencies, local government units (LGU's), Government-Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCC's); and their subsidiaries to Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) / People's Organizations (PO's).  
*Dates of Hearings:* 03/06/2014; 02/13/2014; 01/30/2014; 11/07/13; 09/26/13; 09/24/13; 09/05/13; 08/29/13
- **P.S. Res. No. 99**  
Sex-for-Flight Scheme.  
*Dates of Hearings:* 08/15/2013 & 08/29/13

- **P.S. Res. No. 11**

Sexual Exploitation of OFW's by selected Philippine Embassy Officials/  
Staff

*Dates of Hearings:* 08/15/2013 & 08/29/13

### **Committee on Agrarian Reform**

- **S. No. 2188**

Land, Acquisition and Distribution component of the Comprehensive  
Agrarian Reform Program

*Date of Hearing:* 05/21/2014

### **Committee on Agriculture & Food**

- **P. S. Res. No.238**

Inquiry on the present policies and practices on the importation of garlic  
and onions vis-à-vis claims of monopolization of the distribution of onions  
and garlic.

*Dates of Hearings:* 09/26/13; 10/30/13

- **P.S. Res. No. 262**

Inquiry on the reported anomalous importation dealings in the Bureau  
of Plant Industry (BPI) allegedly allowing for a monopoly of garlic  
importation in the country.

*Dates of Hearings:* 09/26/13; 10//30/13

- **P.S. Res. No. 233**

Inquiry on the claims of certain groups and agencies concerning the actual  
state of rice supply in the country.

*Dates of Hearings:* 09/16/13; 01/22/2014; 02/24/2014; 03/11/2014

- **S. Nos. 233, 592, 824 & 1229**

Strengthening the development of the sugar cane industry.

*Dates of Hearings:* 11/14/13; 01/28/2014; 02/03/2014

- **P.S. Res. No. 244**

Inquiry on the reported claims that the cost of the National Food Authority's  
(NFA) latest rice importation from Vietnam was disadvantageous to the  
government by ₱457 Million.

*Dates of Hearings:* 01/22/2014; 02/24/2014; 03/11/2014

- **S. No. 455 & P.S. Res. No. 1 & 30**

Plight of Coconut Farmers

*Date of Hearing:* 02/06/2014

- **S. Nos. 294, 312, 1130 & 1885**

Philippine Halal Policies and Regulations

*Date of Hearing:* 04/03/2014

- **S. Nos. 138, 536, 961, 1271, 1374, 1971, 2115, & P. S. R. No. 158**  
Amendments to the “Fisheries Code of 1998”  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 576**  
Investigation on the infestation of coconut trees in the CALABARZON by the Coconut Scale Insect (CSI) and Coconut Leaf Beetle and inquire on the measures being undertaken by the Philippine Coconut Authority to address the problem.  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/12/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 115**  
Continuous Rise of Global Food Prices  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/03/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 233**  
Supply and Price of Rice.  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/03/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 238**  
Policies and Practices on the Importation and Distribution of Onion and Garlic.  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/03/2014.
- **P.S. Res. No. 262**  
Reported Anomalous Dealings in the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) resulting to monopoly of garlic importation.  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/03/2014
- **S. Nos. 138, 536, 961, 1271, 1374, 1971, 2115, & P. S. R. No. 158**  
Amendments to the “Fisheries Code of 1998”  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 04/30/2014
- **S. Nos. 233, 592, 824, 1229, & 2088**  
Sugar Cane Industry Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 06/17/2014
- **S. Nos. 294, 312, & 1130**  
Halal Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 06/26/2014
- **S. No. 1885**  
Halal Food Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 06/26/2014
- **S. No. 2207**  
Amending the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 06/26/2014

## **Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies**

- **S. No. 2159**  
Liberalizing the entry and scope of operations of foreign banks in the Philippines  
*Dates of Hearing: 05/15 & 22/2014*
- **S. Nos. 447, 780, 2090, 2142 & H. No. 3785**  
Amending RA No. 3844, otherwise known as the “Agricultural Land Reform Code”  
*Date of Hearing: 05/15/2014*
- **S. Nos. 1430, 2169 & H. No. 3617**  
Voluntary Student Loan Program Act  
*Date of Hearing: 05/15/2014*
- **H. No. 3984**  
Allowing full entry of foreign banks in the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing: 05/22/2014*
- **Disagreeing provisions of S. No. 2159 & H. No. 3984 re:**  
“Foreign Banks in the Philippines”  
*Date of Bicam Meeting: 06/09/2014*

## **Committee on Civil Service & Government Reorganization**

- **S. No. 118**  
Penalizing Influence Peddling  
*Date of Hearing: 09/05/2013*
- **S. No. 549**  
Penalizing the act of moneylending interest by salary disbursing officers in public and private entities  
*Date of Hearing: 08/28/13*
- **P. S. Res. No. 211**  
Inquiry and investigation on the recent mishap involving the collision between M/V St. Thomas Aquinas and the cargo vessel M/V Sulpicio Express 7 outside the central port of Cebu  
*Date of Hearing: 10/14/13*
- **S. No. 1689**  
Salary Standardization Law  
*Date of Public Hearing: 10/16/13*
- **S. No. 1645**  
14<sup>th</sup> Month Pay Law  
*Date of Hearing: 10/16/13*

- **S. No. 1708**  
Establishing the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) as the Single Maritime Administration Responsible for the Enforcement of International Agreements/Covenants Governing Maritime Global Professionals.  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/10/13
- **S. Nos. 672 & 1011**  
Metallurgical Engineering Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/27/2014
- **S. Nos. 699 & 1004**  
Philippine Plumbing Engineering Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/27/2014
- **S. No. 914**  
Regulate and modernize the practice of Chemistry 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/27/2014
- **S. No. 2054**  
Radiologic Technology Act of 1992  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/27/2014
- **S. No. 2055**  
Forestry Profession Law  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/27/2014
- **S. No. 701**  
Philippine Accountancy Act of 2004  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/11/2014
- **S. No. 875**  
Speech Pathology Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/11/2014
- **S. No. 906**  
Philippine Food Technology Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/11/2014
- **S. No 907**  
Philippine Occupational Therapy Law  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/11/2014
- **S. No. 1174 & 2012**  
Philippine Civil Service Code of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/11/2014
- **S. No. 1179**  
Philippine Midwifery Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/11/2014

- **S. Nos. 54 & 1297**  
Anti-Signage of Public Works Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/12/2014
- **S. No. 1092**  
Plain Writing for Public Service Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/12/2014
- **S. No. 897**  
Career Executive Service Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/12/2014
- **S. No. 17**  
Government Projects named after government official, as unlawful.  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/12/2014
- **S. No. 1010**  
Survivorship Benefits to the Surviving Spouse of the deceased retired OSG member  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/02/2014
- **S. No.1005**  
Continuing Professional Education Act of 201  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/02/2014
- **S. No. 655**  
National Capital Commission for Capital Relocation  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/02/2014
- **S. No. 161**  
Security of Tenure for Casual and Contractual Employees  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/02/2014
- **S. Nos. 688 & 2040**  
Amending Sections 1,2 of R.A. No. 6850 (Civil Service Eligibility to Government Employees)  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/02/2014
- **H. No. 4123**  
Promoting the development of entrepreneurship skills among government employees  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/02/2014]
- **S. No. 118**  
Penalizing Influence Peddling.  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 09/26/2013

- **S. No. 549**  
Penalizing the act of moneylending with interest by salary disbursing officers in public or private entities.  
*Dates of TWG Meetings: 09/12 & 26/2013*
- **S. No. 1689**  
Adopting an omnibus compensation and position classification of civilian personnel and the base pay schedule of military and uniformed personnel in the government  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 11/28/2013*
- **P.S. Res. No. 3**  
Resolution directing the Committees on Civil Service & Government Reorganization and on Finance to conduct a review, in aid of legislation, of the Compensation Schedule of government officials and employees, with the end in view of increasing salary, thereby ensuring that it is responsive to the prevailing economic conditions.  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 11/28/2013*
- **S. No. 897**  
Career Executive Service Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/19/2014*
- **S. Nos. 1418 & 2054**  
Radiologic Technology Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/19/2014*
- **S. No. 1092**  
Plain Writing for Public Service Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/19/2014*

### **Committee on Cooperatives**

- **S. Nos. 89, 263, & 424, H. Nos. 276, 463, 493, 1219, 2391 & 2665**  
Cooperative Development Authority Charter Act  
*Dates of Hearings: 12/05/2013; 10/24/2013*
- **S. Nos. 89, 263, & 424**  
Cooperative Development Authority  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 01/15/2014*

### **Committee on Cultural Communities**

- **S. No. 534**  
Ethnic Origin Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 05/19/2014*
- **S. No. 669**  
Traditional Property Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act  
*Date of Hearing: 05/19/2014*

- **S. No. 534**  
Ethnic Origin Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 07/17/2014
- **S. No. 669**  
Traditional Property Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 06/17/2014

### **Committee on Economic Affairs**

- **S. No. 1424**  
Foreign Investment Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 298**  
Philippine Government's Development Program for Mindanao  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. No. 1424**  
Amending R.A. No. 7042, as amended by R.A. No. 8179, otherwise known as the Foreign Investments Act of 1991  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 03/05/2014

### **Committee on Education, Arts & Culture**

- **S. Nos. 82, 179, 191, 377, 475, 935, 1042 & 1307**  
Special Education.  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/16/13
- **S. Nos. 196, 1363, & 1624**  
Creating and establishing the Philippine High School for Sports.  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/19/13
- **S. Nos. 6, 58, 60, 62, 93, 175, 199, 215, 270, 283, 298, 508, 511, 563, 637, 662, 827, 862, 1319, 1423, 1458, 1475, 1480, 1561, and 1613 Re:**  
Scholarship, Student Loan, and Educational Support  
*Date of Hearing:* 10/21/13
- **S. No. 2166**  
Providing for the Magna Carta of Student-Athletes  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/10/2014
- **S. No. 1252**  
Regulating certain conduct of sports agents to the signing of contracts with student athletes  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/10/2014

- **S. Nos. 141, 2154, and H. No. 3575**  
Ladderized Education  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 140, 275, 639, 1414, 1340, 1889, 2155, and 2156**  
Open Learning / Distance Education (Post-Secondary) [  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 332, 485 & H. No. 1641**  
National Children's Day/Month  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. No. 510**  
National Teachers' Day  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. No. 707**  
National Students' Day  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. Nos. 868, 1016, 2221, 2224, S. Jt. Res. No. 7, 8 & H. Jt. Res. No. 12**  
Iglesia ni Cristo  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. No. 1281**  
Jesse Robredo Day  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **H. No. 1841**  
Changing the name of Batasan Hills National High School in Barangay Batasan Hills, City of Quezon to Corazon C. Aquino National High School  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- Discussion / deliberation on the ongoing implementation of the K to 12 (**RA No. 10533**) Education Program of the government  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/08/2014]
- **S. Nos. 6, 33, 58, 60, 62, 93, 175, 199, 215, 270, 283, 298, 508, 511, 563, 637, 662, 827, 862, 1319, 1423, 1458, 1475, 1480, 1561, 1613, 1776, 1802, 1896, 1960, 1976, 2025, & P.S. Res. No. 388**  
Scholarship for Qualified Students (Re: Scholarship, Student Loan, and Educational Support)  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 10/24/2013; 01/29/2014; 02/13/2014]
- **S. Nos. 82, 179, 191, 246, 377, 475, 935, 1042, 1307, 1670, & 1690**  
Special Education  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 10/24/2013; 09/30/2013

- **S. No. 2166**  
Providing for the Magna Carta of Student-Atheletes  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 04/30/2014*
- **S. No. 1252**  
Regulating certain conduct of sports agents to the signing of contracts with student athletes  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 04/30/2014*

### **Committee on Electoral Reforms & People's Participation**

- **P. S. Res. No. 223**  
“Resolution Directing the Senate Committee on Electoral Reform and People’s Participation to Conduct an Inquiry in Aid of Legislation, on the Allegations that the Commission on Elections is still Printing Ballots Months after the 2013 Elections in Violation of Republic Act No. 8436”  
*Date of Hearing: 12/10/2013*
- **S. No. 1797**  
“An Act Establishing the Presidential Debate Commission”  
*Date of Hearing: 12/10/2013*
- **P.S. Res. No. 341**  
Vote-buying that reportedly took place during the 2013 Barangay Elections  
*Date of Hearing: 02/17/2014*
- **S. No. 971**  
Protection from Involuntary Collection Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/17/2014*
- **S. Nos. 38, 1099 & 1916**  
Political Party System  
*Date of Hearing: 02/17/2014*
- **S. Nos. 185, 1447, & 1694**  
Synchronized Election Law  
*Dates of Hearings: 02/17 & 20/2014*
- **S. Nos. 886 & 1721**  
Code of Conduct of AFP  
*Dates of Hearings: 02/17 & 20/2014*
- **S. Nos. 71 & 739**  
People’s Participation  
*Dates of Hearings: 02/17 & 20/2014*
- **S. Nos. 1675 & 1719**  
Comprehensive COMELEC Report Act  
*Dates of Hearings: 02/17/2014; 03/04/2014*

- **S. Nos. 869, 874, 996, 1146, 1291, 1527, 1659, 1716, 1996, & 2026**  
Omnibus Election Code  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/17/2014; 03/04/2014
- **S. Nos. 924, 1224, 1440, & 2022**  
Voter's Registration  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/17 & 20/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 320**  
Automated Election System  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/20/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 497**  
Inquiry on the feasibility of conducting overseas registration and voting via Internet or electronic mail  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/13/2014
- **S. Nos. 55, 1580, and 1906**  
Prohibiting the establishment of political dynasties  
*Dates of Hearings:* 05/13, & 22/2014
- **S. Nos. 1449, 1482, and 1904**  
Amending RA No. 7941, otherwise known as the Party-list System Act  
*Dates of Hearings:* 05/13, & 22/2014
- **S. Nos. 869, 966, 1146, 1291, 2026, & 2178**  
Amending Article XXII, Section 261 (DD) and (W) and 69 of BP 881, otherwise known as the Omnibus Election Code  
*Dates of Hearings:* 05/13, & 22/2014
- **H. No. 4111**  
Identifying other persons criminally liable for election offenses and increasing the penalties for election-related offenses  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/22/2014
- **H. No. 4112**  
Declaring the Tuesday immediately after the second Monday of May 2016 and every three (3) years thereafter a Non-Working Holiday  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/22/2014
- **S. Nos. 1449, 1482 and 1904**  
Party-List System  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014
- **S. Nos. 38, 1099 and 1996**  
Political Party Development Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014
- **S. Nos. 71 and 739**  
Right of the People to Participatory Governance  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014

- Privilege Speech of Sen. Grace Poe, delivered on May 28, 2014, entitled, **“On the 10th Anniversary of ‘Hello Garci’”**  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 670**  
Anti-Wire Tapping  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 679**  
Election Fraud  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **S. Nos. 874, 1527, 1716 and 1659**  
Amendments to Omnibus Election Code  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014

### **Committee on Energy**

- **P. S. Res. No. 21**  
Review and assess R.A. No. 9136, otherwise known as the “Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA)”  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/22/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 411**  
Inquiry on the planned big-time increase in the generation cost charged by the Manila Electric Company (MERALCO) and to determine and validate the reasons given to justify the same; as well as on the status of the implementation of the “Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA)”  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/22/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 416**  
Review of the EPIRA Law, propose necessary amendments and conduct investigation regarding the abrupt increase of power generation costs for the purpose of protecting the interest of the consumers and the general public  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/22/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 455**  
Directing the Senate Committee on Energy to Conduct an Inquiry, in Aid of Legislation, on the Increase in the Generation Rate Charged by Various Distribution Utilities in Luzon Due to the Malampaya Gas Pipeline Shutdown  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/22/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 2059**  
Amending R.A. 9136, otherwise known as the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/22/2014

## **Committee on Environment & Natural Resources**

- **S. Nos. 7, 63 & 150**  
Instituting a National Land Use Policy in the country  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/10/2014
- **S. Nos. 604, 786, 1101 & 1900**  
Providing for the delineation of the specific forest limit of the public domain in the country  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/10/2014
- **S. No. 1901**  
Protected Areas Declaration Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* May 12, 2014
- **S. No. 697**  
Declaring the Taal Volcano Island National Park, Province of Batangas, Island of Luzon, and its watershed areas, a protected area under the category of protected landscape and providing for its management and for other purposes  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/12/ 2014
- **S. No. 1901**  
Protected Areas Declaration Act of 2013  
*Dates of Hearings:* 07/08 & 09/2014
- **S. No. 321**  
Bessang Pass Natural Monument/Landmark (BPNML) Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/08/2014]
- **S. No. 322**  
Lidlidda-Banayoyo Protected Landscape Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/08/2014]
- **S. No. 1048**  
Agoo-Damoris Protected Seascape and Landscape of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/08/2014
- **S. Nos. 329 & 762**  
Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/09/2014
- **S. No. 324 – El Nido**  
Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/09/2014
- **S. No. 1046**  
Sinarapan Sanctuary  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/09/2014

- **S. No. 1049**  
Apo Reef Natural Park (ARNP) Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/09/2014
- **H. No. 4418**  
Pamitinan Cave Protected Landscape  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/09/2014
- **S. Nos. 7, 63, & 150**  
National Land Use Act (NALUPA) of 2013  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 06/09; & 07/02/2014]

### **Committee on Finance**

- **S. No. 1938**  
Appropriating the sum of Fourteen Billion Five Hundred Million pesos (₱14,500,000,000.00) as Supplementary Appropriation for FY 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 11/28/2013
- **S. No. 1917**  
Appropriating the amount of Fifty Billion Pesos (₱50,000,000,000.00) for the creation of a National Calamity Recovery, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Fund  
*Date of Hearing:* 11/28/2013
- **S. No. 1907**  
Appropriating the amount of Fifteen Billion Pesos (₱15,000,000,000.00) for the assistance, relief, rehabilitation, home building financing subsidy, livelihood and employment services, public infrastructure rebuilding, and heritage structures and tourism sites restoration, for the victims of October 15, 2013 devastating earthquake, establishing the Central Visayas Earthquake Relief and Rehabilitation Commission  
*Date of Hearing:* 11/28/2013
- **S. Jt. Res. No. 5**  
Extending validity of appropriations under Calamity Fund, including those sourced from savings realigned in the current year, as well as all unobligated/unreleased allotments for calamity related projects covering appropriations for Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) and Capital Outlays under R.A. No. 10352 or the FY 2013 General Appropriations Act, until December 31, 2014, amending for the purpose Section 63 of the General Provisions thereof.  
*Date of Hearing:* 11/28/2013
- **S. Nos. 404, 661, 779 & 1834**  
Budget Impoundment Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014

- **S. No. 626**  
Fiscal Responsibility Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. No. 627**  
Government Indebtedness Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. Nos. 844 & 1070**  
People's Fund Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. Nos. 784, 1864, & 1511**  
Budget Reform Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. No. 1539**  
Transparency in Expropriation Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. No. 876**  
Foreign Borrowing Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. No. 1653**  
Swiss Challenge or Price Matching Scheme  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. No. 1987**  
Bakod Central Visayas Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **S. Nos. 75 & 1285**  
Institutionalizing the participation of civil society organizations in the preparation and authorization process of the annual national budget  
*Date of Hearing: 03/17/2014*
- **S. No. 466**  
Providing additional funds for the revised AFP Modernization Program  
*Date of Hearing: 03/17/2014]*
- **S. No. 467**  
Further amending P.D. No. 1146, as amended, expanding and increasing the coverage and benefits of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) to include elected and appointed barangay officials  
*Date of Hearing: 03/17/2014*
- **S. Nos. 1509 & 1657** – Amending R.A. No. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act  
*Date of Hearing: 03/17/2014*

- **S. No. 2049**  
Authorizing the use of the Special Fund to finance the maintenance, rehabilitation, and replacement of energy infrastructure  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 39**  
Inquiry on the status of the Philippine Privatization Program by the Privatization Council and the Privatization Management Office  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 195**  
Inquiry on the Regulation and use of non-government organizations and foundations in questionable government transactions identified recently by the Commission on Audit (COA)  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 198**  
Inquiry on the Commission on Audit (COA) Special Audits Office (SAO) Report No. 2012 -03 on the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) and various infrastructures  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 239**  
Inquiry on the alleged irregularities in the use of public funds by the Corregidor Foundation, Inc.  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 363**  
Inquiry on the need for transparency and accountability with regard to incoming foreign and local aid for the victims of super typhoon Yolanda  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 366**  
Urging the President of the Republic of the Philippines to take actions necessary to allocate a portion of the proceeds of the Malampaya Natural Gas Project for the Year 2014, as well as the so called Coconut Levy Fund  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 494**  
Looking into the financial absorptive capacity of the Department of Transportation and Communication in relation to its budgetary allocation for various projects under the annual General Appropriations Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/17/2014; 04/07/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 554**  
Special Allotment and Release Orders (SARO's), DBM  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014

- **P.S. Res. No. 569**  
Special Audit of the Department of Agriculture's "Organic Agricultural Fund"  
*Date of Hearing: 05/27/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 287**  
2011 Disbursement Acceleration Program  
*Date of Hearing: 05/27/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 635**  
Salary Standardization Laws  
*Date of Hearing: 05/27/2014*
- **S. No. 2130**  
Fiscal and Monetary Policies Disclosure Act of 2014  
*Date of Hearing: 05/27/2014*
- **S. No. 467**  
Government Service Insurance System (Expanding and increasing the coverage and benefits)  
*Date of Hearing: 05/27/2014*
- **S. Nos. 406 & 1488**  
Government Funding, Accountability and Transparency Act  
*Date of Hearings: 03/17/2014 & 05/27/2014*
- **S. No. 466**  
Providing additional funds for the Revised AFP Modernization Program  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/13/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 363**  
Inquiry on the need for transparency and accountability with regard to incoming foreign and local aid for the victims of Super Typhoon Yolanda  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/13/2014*
- **S. No. 1509**  
Government Procurement Reform Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/03/2014*
- **S. No. 1511**  
Line Item Budgeting Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/03/2014*
- **S. No. 1653**  
Swiss Challenge or Price Matching Scheme  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/03/2014*

- **S. Nos. 75 and 1285**  
Civil Society Organizations' Participation in the National Budget Process Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/03/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 195**  
Regulation and Use of NGOs  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/03/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 198**  
Audit Report on the Priority Development Assistance Fund  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/03/2014*
- **S. Nos. 406 & 1488**  
Government Funding, Accountability and Transparency Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/18/2014*
- **S. Nos. 404, 661, 779 & 1834**  
Budget Impoundment Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/18/2014*
- **S. No. 1539**  
Transparency in Expropriation Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/18/2014*
- **S. Nos. 844 & 1070**  
People's Fund Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/25/2014*
- **S. No. 876**  
Foreign Borrowing Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/25/2014*
- **S. No. 627**  
Government Indebtedness CAP Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/25/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 39**  
Status of the Philippine privatization Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/25/2014*
- **S. No. 2049**  
Special Fund to finance the maintenance, rehabilitation and replacement of Energy Infrastructures  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 06/25/2014*

## **Committee on Foreign Relations**

- Extradition Treaty between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland  
*Date of Hearing: 02/20/2014*
- Extradition Treaty between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Spain  
*Date of Hearing: 02/20/2014*
- Extradition Treaty between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Republic of India  
*Date of Hearing: 02/20/2014]*

## **Committee on Games, Amusement & Sports**

- **P.S. Res. 178**  
27<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Games  
*Date of Public Hearing: 10/22/13*
- **S. Nos. 96 & 921**  
Strengthening the cash and other non-monetary benefits and incentives to national athletes, coaches and trainers, amending for this purpose certain provisions of R.A. No. 9064, otherwise known as National Athletes, Coaches and Trainers Benefits and Incentives Act of 2001  
*Date of Public Hearing: 10/22/13*
- **S. No. 575**  
Granting and Olympic Gold Medal of Valor to Filipino Olympic Gold Medalists  
*Date of Public Hearing: 10/22/13*
- **S. No. 1043**  
Mandating the inclusion of athletes with disability or differently-abled athletes in the granting of cash and other non-monetary benefits and incentives, amending for the purpose R.A. No. 9064.  
*Date of Public Hearing: 10/22/13*
- **P. S. Res. Nos. 301 & 430**  
Inquiry on the current state of sports development in the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing: 02/06/2014*
- **S. Nos. 96, 575, 921 & 1043**  
Granting of cash and other non-monetary benefits and incentives to national athletes, coaches and trainers  
*Date of Hearing: 02/06/2014*

- **S. No. 649**  
Creating the Department of Sports  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/06/2014
- **S. No. 2019**  
Creating the National Academy of Sports  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/06/2014
- **P. S. Res. No. 301**  
State of Philippine Sports  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **H. No. 4292**  
Establishing the Misamis Occidental Sports Academy in the capital city of Oroquieta.  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **S. No. 96**  
Strengthening the cash and other non-monetary benefits and incentives to national athletes, coaches and trainers, amending for the purpose certain provisions of republic act numbered ninety hundred and sixty-four, otherwise known as ‘national athletes, coaches and trainers benefits and incentives act of 2001  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 03/19/2014
- **S. No. 575**  
Granting an olympic gold medal of valor to Filipino olympic gold medalists  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 03/19/2014
- **S. No. 921**  
Expanding the scope of republic act no. 9064, otherwise known as ‘national athletes, coaches and trainers benefits and incentives act of 2001’ by including athletes with disability, adding other international competitions and strengthening the cash and non-monetary benefits granted  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 03/19/2014
- **S. No. 1043**  
Mandating the inclusion of athletes with disability or differently-abled athletes in the granting of cash and other non-monetary benefits and incentives, amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 9064  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 03/19/2014

## **Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises**

- **P. S. Res. No. 294**  
Inquiry on the mandate, powers and responsibilities of the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) under its charter, rules and regulations and other issuances.  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/11/2014; 03/03/2014
- Privilege Speech of Sen. Villar, delivered on October 16, 2013, entitled, **“Reclaiming the People’s Right to Balanced and Healthful Ecology.”**  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/11/2014; 03/03/2014
- **S. No. 1831**  
Extending the Corporate Life of the Philippine National Railways for another fifty (50) years, further amending for this purpose RA No. 4156  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/29/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 294**  
Inquiry on the mandate, powers and responsibilities of the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) under its charter, rules and regulations and other issuances  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 03/26/2014; & 04/08/2014
- Privilege Speech of Sen. Villar, delivered on October 16, 2013, entitled, **“Reclaiming the People’s Right to Balanced and Healthful Ecology.”**  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 04/08/2014

## **Committee on Health & Demography**

- **S. No. 2047**  
The Philippine Blood Disease and Transfusion Center Act  
*Dates of Hearings:* 01/22/2014; 01/28/2014
- **S. Nos. 27 & 499**  
The Picture-based Health Warning Law  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/22/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 470**  
Universal Health Care and the National Health Insurance Program  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/11/2014
- **S. No. 711**  
Alis TB Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/20/2014
- **S. No. 712**  
Amending Expanded Senior Citizens Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/20/2014

- **S. No. 1873**  
Breast and Cervical Cancer Protection Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/20/2014
- **S. No. 712**  
Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 05/28/2014
- **Disagreeing provisions of S. No. 27 & H. No. 3881 re:**  
“Picture-based Health Warning Law.”  
*Date of Bicam Meeting:* 06/10/2014

### **Committee on Justice & Human Rights**

- **S. No. 429**  
National Bureau of Investigation Charter  
*Dates of Hearings:* 08/28/2013 & 09/25/2013
- **S. Nos. 468, 474, & 586**  
Office of the Government Corporate Counsel  
*Dates of Hearings:* 08/28/13 & 09/25/2013
- **S. Nos. 165, 189, 425, 1286, 1614, & 1932**  
Whistleblower Protection Act  
*Dates of Hearings:* 09/25/13; 09/25/2013; and 05/14/2014]
- **S. Nos. 77 & 1295**  
Plea Bargaining Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/25/2013
- **S. No. 1136**  
Witness Confidentiality Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/25/2013
- **S. No. 470**  
Amending Presidential Decree No. 1606  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/13/2014; 12/04/2013
- **S. No. 472**  
Streamlining the Jurisdiction of the Sandiganbayan and Increasing the Number of Sandiganbayan Associate Justices and Divisions  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/13/2014; 12/04/13
- **S. Nos. 396 & 1148**  
Ombudsman Act  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/13/2014; 12/17/2013

- **S. Nos. 605, 1606, 1725 & 1162**  
Forfeiture Law (Fixed Percentage of the value of Forfeited Properties / Funding for the Office of the Ombudsman  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/13/2014; 12/17/2013
- **S. No. 343**  
Restoring the Final Decisions, Order or Resolutions of the Civil Service Commission from the Court of Appeals to the Supreme Court, Amending for the Purposes Section 9 (3) of Batas Pambansa Blg. 129  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/11/2014
- **S. Nos. 433, 1600**  
Exempting affected members of the Judiciary as may herein be qualified from the continuous service requirement  
*Date of Hearings:* 02/13/2014; 02/11/2014
- **S. No. 1732**  
Granting the Supreme Court the Power to Reassign Trial Court Judges to Other Branches of the Same Level  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/13/2014; 02/11/2014]
- **S. No. 585**  
Repealing R. A. No. 5180, Prescribing a Uniform System of preliminary investigation by provincial and city fiscals and their assistants, and by state attorneys or their assistants  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/11/2014
- **S. No. 753**  
Strengthening the public trust and accountability by ensuring impartiality in the investigation and prosecution of certain cases involving impeachable public officials and their relatives within the sixth civil degree of consanguinity or affinity  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/11/2014
- **S. No. 495**  
Enhancing the transparency and ethics in the judiciary by establishing an office of the inspector general for the judicial branch  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/11/2014
- **S. Bill No. 434, 581, 1287**  
Banning the re-appointment of a regular member of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) who has already served the full term  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/11/2014
- **S. No. 694, 705, & 797**  
Creation of a board of claims under the Department of Justice for victims of unjust imprisonment or detention and victims of violent crimes  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/11/2014

- **S. No. 1623**  
Best Practices Against Trafficking in Persons Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. No. 351**  
National Missing Children Recovery Program Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 81 & 1757**  
Parents in Jail Act of 2013  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/12/2014; 02/26/2014
- **S. Nos. 375, 938, & 1194**  
Seniors Safety Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. No. 444**  
Parents Empowerment Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. No. 1758**  
National Child Abuser Registration Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. No. 1957**  
Bill of Rights for Children Victims Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 345**  
Human Trafficking  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 470 & 472**  
Sandiganbayan: Amendments to P.D. 1606  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 953, 1305, & 1669**  
Penalizing obstruction of apprehension and prosecution of criminal offenders (Amendments to P.D. 1829)  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. Nos. 686 & 2031**  
Professionalization of Prison Management Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 1191**  
Pag-asa ng Paglaya sa Pagbasa Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 1505**  
Former Prisoner's Employment Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014

- **S. No. 1514**  
Bureau of Corrections Technical Institute Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 1551**  
Superior Responsibility Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 1734**  
Community Corrections Development Centers Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 1755**  
Medical Parole Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 1759**  
No Frills Prison Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 1967**  
Reparation to Wrongly Jailed Individuals  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 54& 65**  
Inmates at Bureau of Jail Management and Penology Facilities  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 75**  
Jail Systems  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 146**  
Bureau of Jail Management and Penology  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 492**  
Philippine National Police (and possibility of other law enforcement agencies)  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 2108 & H. No. 4084**  
Granting Citizenship to Andray Blatche  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/01/2014
- **S. Nos. 127, 149, 210, 245, 2128 & 2146**  
Decriminalizing Libel and Defamation  
*Dates of Hearings:* 03/06/2014; and 05/14/2014

- **S. Nos. 1218, 1387 & 1962**  
Abolishing the imprisonment penalty for libel cases  
*Dates of Hearings:* 03/06/2014; and 05/14/2014
- **S. No. 1503**  
Prescribing different penalties for political and private libel  
*Dates of Hearings:* 03/06/2014; and 05/14/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 57**  
Inquiry on the alleged due process violations against Davao Journalist, Alexander Alexis Adonis  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/14/2014]
- **S. Nos. 1086, 2033, & H. No. 4146**  
Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. Nos. 595, 1448 1935 & H. No. 4147**  
Probation Law  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. Nos. 468, 474, 586, & 1727**  
Office of the Government Corporate Counsel Charter  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 10/22/2013
- **S. No. 470**  
Amending Presidential Decree No. 1606  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 12/04/2013 & 12/17/2013; 02/13/2014
- **S. No. 472**  
Streamlining the Jurisdiction of the Sandiganbayan and Increasing the Number of Sandiganbayan Associate Justices and Divisions  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 12/04/2013 & 12/17/2013; 02/13/2014
- **S. Nos. 396, 605, 1148, 1162, 1606, & 1725**  
Ombudsman Act and Forfeiture Law  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 02/13/2014
- **S. Nos. 443 & 1732**  
Lateral Transfer of Judges  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 02/13; & 07/09/2014
- **S. Nos. 492 & 1902**  
National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) Charter  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 07/09/2014

## **Committee on Labor, Employment & Human Resources Development**

- **S. Nos. 21, 673, & 1861**  
Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/03/2013
- **S. Nos. 24, 679, 721, 1147 & 1235**  
OWWA Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/03/2013
- **S. Nos. 507, 1278 & 1421**  
Overseas Workers Credit Assistance  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/03/2013
- **S. No. 136**  
Apprenticeship Training Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/25/2014
- **S. No. 1386**  
Public Employment Service Office  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/25/2014
- **S. No. 129**  
Race Horse Jockeys Retirement Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/25/2014
- **S. Nos. 515 & 1506**  
Indigenous Cultural Communities  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/25/2013
- **S. Nos. 21, 673, 1861, & 1986**  
Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 12/10/2013
- **S. Nos. 24, 679, 721, 1147, & 1235**  
OWWA Act of 2013  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 02/18/2014; 03/25/2014

## **Committee on Local Government**

- **S. No. 68**  
Strengthening and reforming the Sangguniang Kabataan, amending for that purpose certain provisions of R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991  
*Dates of Hearings:* 09/03/13;10/01/2013;10/21/2013

- **S. No. 1090**  
Establishing the Liga ng Bayaning Kabataan (LBK), amending for that purpose certain provisions of R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.  
*Dates of Hearings:* 09/03/13;10/01/2013;10/21/2013
- **S. No. 663**  
Changing the term of office of the barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan officials from three (3) years to five (5) years  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/03/13
- **S. No. 1186**  
Postponing the Sangguniang Kabataan Elections on October 28, 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/03/13
- **S. Nos. 12, 124, 540, 1007, 1166, 1684, & 1956**  
Barangay Health Benefits  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **S. No. 2045**  
Share in National Taxes of Local Government Units  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **H. No. 3750**  
Separating the City of Batangas from the Second Legislative District of the Province of Batangas to constitute the Lone Legislative District of the City of Batngas  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/26/2014
- **S. No. 922**  
Amending Sections 443, 454, AND 463 of R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/08/2014
- **S. No. 2093**  
Mandating the appointment of Municipal Agriculturist in municipalities where agriculture is a significant industry, amending for the purpose Sections 443 & 482 of R.A. No. 7160, as amended, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/08/2014
- **S. Nos. 1390, 1491 and H. No. 3593**  
Annual Income Requirement for Conversion of a Municipality into a City  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014
- **H. No. 3917**  
Increasing the number of members of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Biñan from ten (10) to twelve (12) and separating it from the First Legislative district of the Province of Laguna to constitute the Lone

Legislative District of the City of Biñan

*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014

- **Briefing with the Department of the Interior and Local Government to discuss the review of the 1991 Local Government Code**

*Date of Hearing:* 07/08/2014

- **S. No. 68**

Strengthening and reforming the Sangguniang Kabataan amending for that purpose certain provisions of R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991

*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 11/26/2013; 12/04/2013; 01/21/2014; 02/11, 19 & 26/2014)

- **S. No. 1090**

Establishing the Liga ng Bayaning Kabataan (LBK) amending for that purpose the pertinent provisions of R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991

*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 11/26/2013; 12/04/2013; 01/21/2014; 02/11,19 & 26/2014)

## **Committee on National Defense & Security**

- **S. No. 1456**

Prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling, use of chemical weapons and providing for their destruction.

*Date of Hearing:* 10/14/13

- **S. No. 819**

Establishing the Emergency Management Agency (EMA).

*Date of Hearing:* 09/05/13

- **S. Jt. Res. No. 2**

Increasing the Subsistence Allowance of all officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and of all commissioned and non-commissioned personnel of the Philippine National Police (PNP)

*Date of Hearing:* 08/28/13

- **S. No. 480**

Increasing the Quarters Allowance of all officer and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)

*Date of Hearing:* 08/28/13

- **S. No. 1830**

Providing for the increase in the standing force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines through the Recruitment and Special Enlistment of Provisional Enlisted Personnel

*Date of Hearing:* 01/27/2014

- **P. S. Res. Nos. 300 & 393**  
 Inquiry on the true cause of the attack in Zamboanga City by the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) which triggered a crisis resulting to the loss of hundreds of lives and the destruction of, and/or damage to, homes, establishments and properties and the displacement of more than a hundred twenty thousand (120,000) people  
*Date of Hearing: 02/06/2014*
- **S. No. 1658**  
 Amending Section 4 (B) of R.A. No. 7898, otherwise known as AFP Modernization Act  
*Date of Hearing: 03/10/2014*
- **S. Nos. 166, 638, 1169, 1429, 20135, 2127**  
 Standardizing / upgrading the benefits for military veterans and their dependents and providing for the payment of arrears in the veteran's pensions and benefits Act  
*Date of Hearing: 03/10/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 623**  
 Inquiry on the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) recently signed by the Philippines and the United States of America  
*Date of Hearing: 05/13/2014*
- **S. Nos. 1151, 1466, and H. No. 1222**  
 Office of the Veterans Affairs  
*Date of Hearing: 06/02/2014*
- **S. No. 1180**  
 Fixed Terms for the Chief of Staff of the AFP  
*Date of Hearing: 06/02/2014*
- **S. No. 2119**  
 Code of Military Justice for the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine Coast Guard  
*Date of Hearing: 06/02/2014*
- **S. No. 2201**  
 Articles of Military Justice in the AFP  
*Date of Hearing: 06/02/2014*
- **S. No. 1456**  
 Prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling, use of chemical weapons and providing for their destruction  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 10/24/2013*

- **S. No. 819**  
Establishing the Emergency Management Agency (EMA)  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 09/26/2013*
- **S. Jt. Res. No. 2**  
Increasing the Subsistence Allowance of all officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and of all commissioned and non-commissioned personnel of the Philippine National Police (PNP)  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 09/12/2013*
- **S. No. 480**  
Increasing the Quarters Allowance of all officers and enlisted personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 09/12/2013*

### **Committee on Public Information & Mass Media**

- **S. Nos. 18, 36, 44, 64, 74, 217, 514, 1219 & P.S. Res. No. 102**  
Freedom of Information  
*Dates of Hearings: 09/04/2013; 09/18/13*
- **S. No. 78**  
Philippine Tourism Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 02/12/2014*
- **S. Nos. 271, 349 & 1656**  
Closed-caption of News Programs  
*Date of Hearing: 02/12/2014*
- **S. No. 1936**  
Amending Section 22, Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities  
*Date of Hearing: 02/12/2014*
- **S. No. 2044**  
Philippine Press Freedom Day  
*Date of Hearing: 02/12/2014*
- **S. Nos. 532, 859, 978, P.S. Res. Nos. 453, 472, 476, 479, & 522**  
Cyber Pornography  
*Date of Hearing: 05/20/2014*
- **P.S. Res. Nos. 507 & 533**  
Media Killings  
*Date of Hearing: 05/20/2014*

## **Committee on Public Order & Dangerous Drugs**

- **P.S. Res. No. 82; S. Nos. 982 & 1038**  
Proliferation of Illegal Firearms and Anti-look alike Firearms Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 94 & 154**  
Theft Cases involving ATM Machines  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 275** – Procurement of Firearms and Protective Gears for the Optical Media Board  
*Date of Hearing: 02/26/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 585**  
Gun Registration  
*Date of Hearing: 05//21/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 600**  
Gun Licensing Procedures  
*Date of Hearing: 05//21/2014*
- **S. Nos. 2, 3, 67, 206, 213, 287, 794, 838, 1399, 1493, 1691, 1700, 1702, 1769, & 2139, and P.S. Res. Nos. 26, 340, 424, & 465**  
Drug Measures  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- Privilege Speech of Sen. Vicente C. Sotto III, delivered on February 19, 2014, re: **Medical Marijuana**  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **S. Nos. 131 & 917**  
Public Safety  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **S. No. 360**  
Philippine National Police Modernization Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- Review of Republic Act No. 10591 otherwise known as the “Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act” and the Process of Its Implementation  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/29/2014*

## **Committee on Public Services**

- **H. No. 3187**  
Cotabato Light and Power Company  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/19/2014; 02/24/2014
- **H. No. 353**  
Free Mobile Disaster Alerts Act  
*Dates of Hearing:* 02/19/2014; 02/24/2014
- **H. Jt. Res. No. 10**  
Air Asia Incorporated  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/19/2014; 02/24/2014]

## **Committee on Public Works**

- **S. Nos. 446, 611, & 621**  
Creating the Special Mass Transit System Support Fund  
*Date of Hearing:* 10/17/13
- **S. Nos. 593 & 928**  
Amending Sections 6 & 7 of R.A. No. 8794, otherwise known as the “Motor User’s Charge Act of 2000”  
*Date of Hearing:* 10/17/13
- **S. No. 14**  
Mandating the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) to Accelerate National Irrigation Development Program  
*Dates of Hearings:* 09/26/13; 02/04/2014
- **S. No. 34**  
Promoting Rural Development by Providing for a Six-Year Accelerated Irrigation Program for the Construction and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Projects  
*Dates of Hearings:* 09/26/13; 02/04/2014
- **P. S. Res. No. 6**  
Inquiry on the Viability of the Approved Over-all Master Plan on Flood Management in the National Capital Region, with the End in View of Ensuring a Comprehensive and Cost-Efficient Solution to the Flooding Problem and Would Immediately Bring Relief to the Public  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/26/13
- **S. Nos. 410 & 1928**  
Philippine Green Building Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/12/13

- **P.S. Res. No. 439**  
Investigating the alleged substandard and overpriced bunkhouses built for the survivor of surer typhoon “Yolanda” in the Visayas region  
*Dates of Hearings:* 01/29/2014; 02/06/2014; 02/13/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 436**  
Government Disaster Relief Projects and International Aid  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/13/2014
- **S. No. 430**  
National Building Code of the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/18/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 143**  
Geologic Hazards on the structural integrity of houses and buildings  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/18/2014
- **S. No. 459**  
Encouraging more Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Projects, creating the Public-Private Guaranty Fund, and for other purposes, thereby amending R.A. No. 6957, as amended by R,A, 7118, Otherwise known as the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) Law  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014
- **S. No. 1653**  
Swiss Challenge or Price Matching Scheme  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/18/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 31**  
Inquiry on the reported delays in the release of motor vehicle license plates, stickers and tags by the Land Transportation Office  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/11/2014
- **S. Nos. 410, 1928 & 2133**  
National Green Building Code  
*Date of Hearing:* May 08, 2014
- **S. No. 430**  
Strengthening PD No 1096, by mandating a comprehensive nationwide inspection of buildings and imposing stiff penalties against building officials who violate the pertinent provisions of the said Code  
*Date of Hearing:* May 08, 2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 143**  
Revisiting RA 6541 (Building Code of the Philippines) and PD 1586, and other pertinent laws in light of growing public concerns on the impact of geologic hazards on the structural integrity of houses and buildings in the country  
*Date of Hearing:* May 08, 2014

- **S. No. 459**  
Build–Operate–Transfer (BOT)  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. Nos. 2145 & 2180**  
Procedure for Acquisition of Right-of-Way  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/27/2014
- **S. Nos. 410, 1928, & 2133**  
National Green Building Code  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 07/01/2014
- **S. No. 430 & P.S. Res. No. 143**  
National Building Code of the Philippines  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 07/01/2014
- **S. No. 593**  
Amending Sections 6 of R.A. No. 8794  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 07/09/2014

### **Committee on Science & Technology**

- **S. Nos. 11, 126, 248, & 249**  
Amending/repealing the Cybercrime Preventions Act of 2012  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/03/2014
- **S. Nos. 53 & 1091**  
Establishing the Magna Carta for Philippine Internet Freedom  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/03/2014
- **S. Nos. 358, 818 & 1234**  
Creating the Department of Information and Communications Technology  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/03/2014
- **S. No. 1467**  
Creating the National Council for Information Technology and Development  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/03/2014
- **S. No. 1358**  
Hazard Allowance for All S&T Personnel in the Government  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014
- **S. No. 539**  
Science Laboratory for Basic Education Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014

- **S. No. 2124**  
ICT Education Act of 2014  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014
- **S. No. 2232**  
Free Metro Manila WiFi Act of 2014  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014
- **S. Nos. 10, 158, 842, 955, 1160, 1937 and 2097**  
PAGASA Modernization Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/03/2014

### **Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

- **S. Nos. 722 & 1934**  
Social Welfare and Development Agencies (SWDAS) Act of 2013  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/11/2014; 03/05/2014
- **S. No. 1029**  
Philippine Social Value Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/05/2014
- **S. No. 449**  
Honoring and granting additional benefits and privileges to Filipino centenarians, declaring the 25th of September as National Respect for Centenarians Day  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/05/2014
- **S. Nos. 441, 2015, 1153, & 1941**  
Magna Carta of Workers in the Informal Sector / Economy  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **S. Nos. 722 & 1934**  
Social Welfare and Development Agencies (SWDAS) Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 04/08/2014
- **S. No. 449**  
Honoring and granting additional benefits and privileges to Filipino centenarians, declaring the 25th of September as National Respect for Centenarians Day  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 04/08/2014
- **S. Nos. 722 & 1934**  
Establishing a comprehensive system for registration and licensing of Social Welfare and Development Agencies and accreditation of social welfare and development programs and services  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 05/28/2014

- **S. No. 449**  
Honoring and granting additional benefits and privileges to Filipino Centenarians, declaring the 25th of September as National Respect for Centenarians Day  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/28/2014*
- **S. No. 1029**  
The Philippine Social Value Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/28/2014*

### **Committee on Tourism**

- **S. No. 899**  
Travel Agents Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 02/18/2014*
- **S. No. 990**  
National Scenic Byways Program of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 02/18/2014*
- **S. No. 1339**  
Small Community Visioning Improvement Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/18/2014*
- **S. No. 1697**  
Responsible Tourism Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/18/2014*
- **S. No. 1805**  
Visit Philippines Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/18/2014*
- **S. No. 1989**  
On-line Travel Safety Act  
*Date of Hearing: 02/18/2014*

### **Committee on Trade, Commerce & Entrepreneurship**

- **S. No. 253**  
Jobs Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 10/22/13*
- **S. No. 615**  
Expanding Coverage of Micro-Enterprises  
*Date of Hearing: 10/22/13*

- **S. No. 1028**  
Go Negosyo Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 10/22/13
- **S. No. 1254**  
Magna Carta for Small Enterprises  
*Date of Hearing:* 10/22/13
- **S. No. 1593**  
BOSS Center Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 10/22/13
- **P.S. Res. No. 191**  
Inquiry on the ASEAN Economic Community Integration  
*Dates of Hearings:* 09/18 & 25/2013
- **S. No. 1026**  
Ordaining the promotion of social enterprises to alleviate poverty, establishing for the purpose the Poverty Reduction through Social Entrepreneurship (PRESENT)  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/11/2013
- **P.S. Res. No. 100**  
Inquiry on the National Convergence Strategy and Policy  
*Date of Hearing:* 09/02/2013
- **P. S. Res. No. 243**  
Electronic Commerce Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 08/16/13
- **P.S. Res. No. 768**  
Internet and Online Sales Promotions  
*Date of Hearing:* 08/16/2013
- **S. Nos. 126, 307, 1030 & 1484**  
Microenterprises Development Institutions Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 11/12/2013
- **S. No. 1832**  
Microfinance Code of the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing:* 11/12/2013
- **S. No. 1359**  
Allowing foreign vessels to engage in coastwise trade in the country  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/09/2014

- **S. No. 1380**  
Amending Chapter V, Section 14 of R.A. No. 9295, otherwise known as the “Domestic Shipping Development Act of 2004”  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/09/2014
- **S. Nos. 306 and 1068**  
Strengthening Consumer Protection in the Purchase of Brand New Motor Vehicles  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/03/2014
- **S. No. 41**  
Creating the Fair Trade Commission  
*Dates of Hearing::* 02/18/2014; 03/12/2014
- **S. No. 473**  
Competition Policy Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/18/2014; 03/11/2014
- **S. No. 492**  
Economic Sabotage  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/18/2014; 03/12/2014
- **S. No. 1027**  
Establishing the Philippine Fair Competition Commission  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/18/2014; 03/12/2014
- **S. No. 1210**  
Anti-Trust Act of the Philippines  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/18/2014; 03/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 1293 & 1453**  
Fair Competition Law  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/18/2014; 03/12/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 564**  
Investigation on the alleged proliferation of uncertified and substandard steel products and the rampant smuggling of imported steel products  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/07/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 620**  
Impact of Slow and Expensive Internet Connection  
*Date of Hearing:* 05/28/2014
- **S. No. 2218**  
Credit Surety Fund Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/09/2014

- **S. No. 2215**  
Community Disaster Warehouse  
*Date of Hearing:* 07/09/2014
- **S. No. 1026**  
Ordaining the promotion of social enterprises to alleviate poverty, establishing for the purpose the Poverty Reduction through Social Entrepreneurship (PRESENT)  
*Dates of TWG Meetings:* 11/04/2013; 11/13/2013
- **P.S. Res. No. 100**  
Inquiry on the National Convergence Strategy and Policy  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 09/19/2013
- **S. No. 253**  
Jobs Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 11/26/2013
- **S. No. 615**  
Expanding Coverage of Micro-Enterprises  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 11/26/2013
- **S. No. 1028**  
Go Negosyo Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 11/26/2013
- **S. No. 1254**  
Magna Carta for Small Enterprises  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 11/26/2013
- **S. No. 1593**  
BOSS Center Act of 2013  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 11/26/2013
- **S. Nos. 306 and 1068**  
Strengthening consumer protection in the purchase of brand new motor vehicles  
*Date of TWG Meeting:* 03/06/2014
- Disagreeing provisions of S. No. 2046 & H. No. 4595 re: **“Go Negosyo”**  
*Date of Bicam Meeting:* 06/09/2014
- Disagreeing provisions of S. No. 2211 & H. No. 4082 re: **“Lemon Law”**  
*Date of Bicam Meeting:* 06/10/2014

## **Committee on Urban Planning, Housing & Resettlement**

- **S. Nos. 541, 658, & 1481**  
Creating the Local Housing Board (LHB)  
*Dates of Hearings:* 11/27/2013; 02/19/2014
- **S. No. 1945**  
Extending the rent control period of residential units until December 31, 2017  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/17/2013
- **S. No. 665**  
Regional Housing One-Stop Shops  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/19/2014
- **P. S. Res. No. 446**  
Socialized Medium-Rise Housing  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/19/2014
- **H. No. 395**  
Instituting reforms in the Subdivision and Condominium Buyer's Protective Decree  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/12/2014
- **H. No. 3515**  
Prescribing the mechanisms to facilitate the disposition of idle government-owned lands for socialized housing  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/12/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 572**  
Inquiry on the Pag-ibig – Globe Asiatique Housing Projects  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/08/2014
- **S. Nos. 754 & 836**  
Teacher's Housing Program  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **S. No. 2161**  
Charter of the Quezon City Development Authority  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014
- **P. S. Res. No. 446**  
Socialized Medium-Rise Housing Program  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/10/2014

- **S. Nos. 541, 658 & 1481**  
Local Housing Board Act  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/27/2014*
- **S. No. 665**  
Regional Housing One-Stop Shops  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/27/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 446**  
Socialized Medium-Rise Housing  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 05/27/2014*

### **Committee on Ways & Means**

- **S. No. 35**  
The Investments and Incentives Code of the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing: 10/23/13*
- **S. No. 987**  
Harmonizing the grant and administration of fiscal and non-fiscal incentives.  
*Date of Hearing: 10/23/13*
- **S. Nos. 2763, 2764, 2998, 3249 & H. No. 5727**  
Excise Tax on Alcohol & Tobacco Products  
*Date of Hearing: 09/20/13*
- **S. No. 453**  
Excluding overtime pay from the computation of taxable income  
*Date of Hearing: 12/17/13*
- **S. No. 256**  
₱75,000.00 cap for income tax exemption of the 13th month pay/Christmas bonus  
*Date of Hearing: 12/17/13*
- **S. No. 452**  
Excluding 13th month pay from the computation of taxable income  
*Date of Hearing: 12/17/13*
- **S. No. 1838**  
National Internal Revenue Code (Cap on the amount of 13th month pay and other benefits)  
*Date of Hearing: 12/17/13*

- **S. No. 1213**  
Excluding performance-based bonus from the computation of taxable income  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/17/13
- **S. No. 1356**  
People's Fund Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/17/13
- **S. No. 163**  
Additional Relief to Families Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/17/13
- **S. No. 257**  
Family Care Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/17/13
- **S. Nos. 1155 & 1905**  
Tax deductions to parents and legal guardians of children with special needs  
*Date of Hearing:* 12/17/13
- **S. No. 168**  
Customs and Tariff Modernization Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **S. Nos. 442, 456, 741 & 882**  
Anti-Smuggling Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 444**  
Inquiry on the study conducted by the Federation of Philippine Industries which found that the government lost more than ₱1.33 Trillion in revenue from 2002 to 2011 due to technical smuggling through the country's ports  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **S. Nos. 469 & 1187**  
Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 35, 987 & 2048**  
Investments and Incentives Code of the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014
- **S. Nos. 716 & 1942**  
Adjusting the levels of net taxable income and nominal tax rates for purposes of computing the individual income tax  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014

- **S. No. 1272**  
Creating a tax free minor's deposit account  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014
- **S. No. 1489**  
Increasing the estate tax exemptions  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014
- **S. Nos. 2028 & 2102**  
Amending Sections 86 (A) (6 and 4) of R.A. No. 8424, as amended, otherwise known as the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014
- **S. No. 1468**  
Encouraging, promoting and allowing private companies and individuals to donate Information Technology Equipment (ITE) to educational and/or research institutions  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 241**  
Inquiring on the reported tax evasion committed by self-employed professionals costing the Philippines about ₱388 Billion in uncollected potential revenues  
*Date of Hearing:* 03/04/2014
- **S. Nos. 164, 255, & 2151**  
Electric, Hybrid and other Alternative Fuel Vehicles Incentive Act of 2013 (05/21/2014)
- **S. No. 2163**  
Amending Sections 27 & 28 (National Internal Revenue Code)  
*Date of Hearing:* 05//21/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 544**  
Revenue Collection of the Bureau of Internal Revenue  
*Date of Hearing:* 05//21/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 560**  
Shame Campaign Advertisements of the Bureau of Internal Revenue  
*Date of Hearing:* 05//21/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 563**  
BIR Revenue Memorandum Circular (RMC) No. 7-2014  
*Date of Hearing:* 05//21/2014

- **P.S. Res. No. 241**  
Tax Evasion Committed by Self-Employed Professionals  
*Date of Hearing: 05//21/2014*
- **S. Nos. 35, 987 & 2048**  
Consolidated Investments and Incentives Code of the Philippines Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 05//21/2014*
- **S. Nos. 469 & 1187**  
Tax Incentives and Transparency Act  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **S. Nos. 35, 987 & 2048**  
Consolidated Investments and Incentives Code of the Philippines Act of 2013  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 544**  
Revenue Collection of the Bureau of Internal Revenue  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 560**  
Shame Campaign Advertisements of the Bureau of Internal Revenue  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 241**  
Tax Evasion Committed by Self-Employed Professionals  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **S. Nos. 168, 442, 456, 741, 882 & 2082**  
Customs and Tariff Modernization Act and Anti-Smuggling Bills  
*Date of Hearing: 05//28/2014*
- **S. No. 2163**  
Amending Sections 27 & 28 (National Internal Revenue Code)  
*Date of Hearing: 06/04/2014*
- **S. Nos. 716, 1942 and 2149**  
Amending Section 24 of the National Internal Revenue Code (Adjusting the individual income tax bracket)  
*Date of Hearing: 06/04/2014*
- **P.S. Res. No. 241**  
Tax Evasion Committed by Self-Employed Professionals  
*Date of Hearing: 06/04/2014*

- **P.S. Res. No. 544**  
Revenue Collection of the Bureau of Internal Revenue  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/04/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 560**  
Shame Campaign Advertisements of the Bureau of Internal Revenue  
*Date of Hearing:* 06/04/2014

### **Committee on Women, Family Relations & Gender Equality**

- **S. Nos. 773, 1260, 1751, 1982, & 2072 and P.S. Res. No. 441**  
Amendments to E.O. No. 209 (Family Code of the Philippines) and R. A. No. 386 (Civil Code of the Philippines)  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/18/2014; 02/26/2014
- **S. Nos. 1543, 1647, 1648, & 1771**  
Amendments to Act No. 3815 (Revised Penal Code)  
*Dates of Hearings:* 02/18/2014; 02/26/2014; & 04/08/2014
- **S. No. 773**  
Psychological incapacity as a ground of annulment  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/08/2014
- **P.S. Res. No. 441**  
Law with provisions which are considered as discriminatory to women  
*Date of Hearing:* 04/08/2014

### **Committee on Youth**

- **S. No. 848**  
Establish the National Youth Center of the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **S. No. 1478**  
Strengthen the Youth Development Program by Creating Local Youth Development Councils in Every City and Municipality  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **S. No. 1679**  
Establish a Youth Center in the Fifteen (15) Regions of the Philippines  
*Date of Hearing:* 01/28/2014
- **S. Nos. 147, 153, 1032, 1192, 1327, & 1713**  
Entrepreneurial and Financial Literacy Education  
*Date of Hearing:* 02/12/2014

- **S. Nos. 147, 153, 201, 1032, 1192, 1327, & 1713**  
Youth Entrepreneurial and Financial Literacy Education  
*Date of TWG Meeting: 03/04/2014*

### **Treaties**

In addition, the Senate adopted three resolutions on various treaties, conventions and agreements. They are:

- Res. No. 36 on the Extradition Treaty between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland [PSR 535]
- Res. No. 37 Extradition Treaty between the Government of the Republic of the Philippines and the Government of the Republic of India [PSR 536]
- Res. No. 38 Treaty on Extradition between the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Spain. [PSR 537]

### **Bicameral Conference Committee Meetings**

A total of six bicameral conference committee meetings were conducted:

- Disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 2630 (FY 2014 General Appropriations Bill);
- Disagreeing Provisions of Senate Bill No. 2159 and House Bill No. 3984 Re: Entry of Foreign Banks in the Philippines;
- Bicameral Conference Committee Meeting on the Disagreeing Provisions of Senate Bill No. 27 re: “The Picture-Based Health Warning Act of 2014” and House Bill No. 4590 re: “Graphic Health Warning Law”;
- Bicameral Conference Committee on the Disagreeing Provisions of SBN 1186 and HBN 2849 (Postponement of SK Elections);
- Bicameral Conference Committee on the Disagreeing Provisions of Senate Bill No. 2046 and House Bill No. 4595 (Go Negosyo); and
- Bicameral Conference Committee on the Disagreeing Provisions of Senate Bill No. 2211 and House Bill No. 4082 (Lemon Law)

By and large, the First Regular Session has been a productive period for the Senate committees. As aptly described by the Senate President in his *sine die* adjournment speech, the Senate has shown a strong resolve to fulfill its duty to the nation, with fervor and determination. “Never have we neglected our obligation to the people, despite our present difficulties,” he added.

The Senate, through committee work, did indeed endeavor to restore the people’s trust and confidence in the Senate as a democratic institution.

**MEMBERS OF THE SENATE  
SIXTEENTH CONGRESS**

**First Regular Session  
(July 22, 2013 to June 11, 2014)**

<b>Sonny M. Angara</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Alan Peter Compañero S. Cayetano</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Pia S. Cayetano</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Miriam Defensor Santiago</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Franklin M. Drilon</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Joseph Victor G. Ejercito</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Juan Ponce Enrile</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Francis “Chiz” G. Escudero</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Teofisto “TG” Guingona III</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Gregorio B. Honasan II</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Manuel “Lito” M. Lapid</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Loren B. Legarda</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Ferdinand “Bongbong” R. Marcos Jr.</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Sergio R. Osmeña III</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Aquilino “Koko” L. Pimentel III</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Grace L. Poe</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Ralph G. Recto</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Ramon Bong Revilla Jr.</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Vicente C. Sotto III</b>	<b>2010–2016</b>
<b>Antonio F. Trillanes IV</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>
<b>Cynthia A. Villar</b>	<b>2013–2019</b>

