

# Committee Daily Bulletin



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## BICAMERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Bicameral Conference Committee	HB 5636 & SB 1592	Rep. Cua and Sen. Recto	Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Act	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-chaired by Quirino Rep. Dakila Carlo Cua, Chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means, and Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara, Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, will deliberate further on the disagreeing provisions of HB 5636 and SB 1592 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Other conferees who were present during the bicameral conference committee meeting on December 1, 2017 were the following: On the part of the House, Deputy Speaker Romero "Miro" Quimbo (2nd District, Marikina City), Minority Leader Danilo Suarez (3rd District, Quezon), Reps. Xavier Jesus Romualdo (Camiguin), Gus Tambunting (2nd District, Parañaque City), and Aurelio "Dong" Gonzales Jr. (3rd District, Pampanga); On the part of the Senate, Senate President Pro-Tempore Ralph Recto and Senators Loren Legarda and Juan Miguel Zubiri.</p>

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Basic Education and Culture	Substitute Bill to HBs 2733, 3292, 3706, 4029, 4307, 3333, 4386 & 6039	Reps. Gonzales (A.D.), Villarin, Romualdez, Belaro, Robes, Noel, Herrera-Dy, and Villafuerte	Institutionalizing the alternative learning system (ALS) in the basic education for out-of-school children, youth and adults, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and other marginalized sectors of society, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ramon "Red" Durano VI (5th District, Cebu), approved the Substitute Bill to the eight bills and the corresponding Committee Report.
	HB 4463	Rep. Garcia (J.E.)	Creating the Bataan High School for the Arts and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved HB 4463 and the corresponding Committee Report, subject to style and amendment.
	HBs 2448, 5274, 5924 & 6304	Reps. Yap (A.), De Venecia, Vargas, and Nieto	Providing for artists' welfare protection	The Committee agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to consolidate the four bills.
Energy	Substitute Bill to HB 4892 and HR 384	Rep. Batocabe	Establishing the Virtual One Stop Shop for the purpose of streamlining the permitting process of power generation projects	The Committee, chaired by Marinduque Rep. Lord Allan Jay Velasco, approved the Substitute Bill to HB 4892 and HR 384 subject to style and amendment.

Continuation... Energy	HB 1222	Rep. Umali	Declaring power infrastructure projects as projects of national significance, amending for the purpose certain provisions of RA 9136, otherwise known as the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001	<p>The Committee agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to fine-tune the bill. The TWG will be chaired by Rep. Batocabe.</p> <p>Department of Energy's (DOE) Investment and Promotions Office (IPO) Chief Lisa Go apprised the body of the issuance of Executive Order (EO) 30 series of 2017 creating the Energy Investment Coordinating Council (EICC) which shall streamline the regulatory procedures affecting energy projects.</p> <p>Go, along with some of the resource persons present, recommended that HB 1222 be integrated with HB 4892.</p> <p>However, Rep. Reynaldo Umali (2nd District, Oriental Mindoro), author of HB 1222, disagreed with the recommendation given that his bill has a different objective which is to address the high retail electricity rate in the country.</p> <p>The Secretariat was directed to include representatives from local government units as members of the TWG.</p>
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Information and Communications Technology (Technical Working Group)	HB 3817	Rep. Defensor	Prohibiting the interception and disclosure of oral, wire, or electronic communications and other violations of the right to privacy of communication	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Ranier Alvarado, will deliberate further on HB 3817 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Arthur Defensor Jr. (3rd District, Iloilo), author of HB 3817, said that his bill intends to replace RA 4200 or the Anti-Wiretapping Law, which was enacted way back in 1965, and thus covered only the technology existing then.</p> <p>Atty. Emerson Bañez, professor at the University of the Philippines (UP) Law Center, opined that the bill may overlap with RA 10173, otherwise known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012, relative to the acquisition of sensitive personal information. There may also be difficulty in harmonizing the exceptions provided under RA 10173 and HB 3817, he added.</p> <p>Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Legal Officer Simon Simon suggested that the term "electronic communication" be clearly defined in the bill to avoid possible confusion as to its coverage.</p> <p>On the query of Rep. Defensor whether it is legal to conduct surveillance in the internet, Bañez explained that RA 10175 or the Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012 allows law</p>

<p>Continuation... Information and Communications Technology (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>enforcement authorities to listen to communications as they happen using computer systems.</p> <p>Deputy Director Ronaldo de Jesus of the Anti-Cybercrime Group (ACG) of the Philippine National Police (PNP) explained that law enforcement agencies can apply for authorization from the courts to monitor and collect data from internet service providers (ISPs). However, the information that they can gather is limited to basic information such as: origin, destination, route, time, date, size, duration, or type of underlying service.</p> <p>Gelle Baligod of the National Privacy Commission's (NPC) legal department expressed support for the bill.</p> <p>Monalisa Tabernilla, development management officer at the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), noted that there may be several existing laws pertaining to protection of information and communication that need to be reviewed and harmonized, taking into consideration the protection of the rights of the people guaranteed under the Bill of Rights of the Constitution.</p>
<p>Public Order and Safety (Technical Working Group)</p>	<p>HB 6208</p>	<p>Majority Leader Fariñas</p>	<p>Establishing the Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) and appropriating funds therefor</p>	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Leopoldo Bataoil (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Pangasinan), will deliberate further on HB 6208 in its next meeting.</p> <p>The TWG focused its discussion on whether the proposed measure will run in conflict with Section 6 Article XVI of the 1987 Constitution, which provides that "The State shall establish and maintain one police force, which shall be national in scope and civilian in character, to be administered and controlled by the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM)."</p> <p>NAPOLCOM Legal Affairs Acting Chief Chito Noel Bustonera said that the Commission interposes no objection to the bill, provided that the functions of the proposed Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) will not overlap with those of the Philippine National Police (PNP).</p> <p>Bustonera also emphasized the need to include in the bill or in its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) specific provisions that would address the interoperability and coordination between the PNP and the PLP on the following aspects: serving of subpoenas and warrants; apprehension of criminal offenders within and outside the premises of both Houses of Congress; procurement of firearms, ammunitions and equipment for use by the PLP; and the training of PLP officers.</p> <p>Officials from the Bureau of Customs (BOC), Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), and Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) discussed the functions of their respective police forces.</p>

Continuation... Public Order and Safety (Technical Working Group)				The PNP, BOC, Department of Justice (DOJ), and Civil Service Commission (CSC) were requested to submit their position paper on the bill.
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AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Basic Education and Culture	Briefing by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) on its proposal to establish a Department of Culture (DOC)	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ramon "Red" Durano VI (5th District, Cebu), listened to the briefing of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) on the details of its proposal to establish a Department of Culture (DOC).</p> <p>NCCA Deputy Executive Director Marichu Tellano said that the proposed DOC is aligned with "AmBisyon Natin 2040," the government's long-term vision for the country's development. The DOC, according to Tellano, will be mandated to preserve and promote the nation's cultural and historical heritage; protect and promote the diversity of cultural and artistic expressions and foster the development of creative industries; and ensure the widest dissemination of the artistic and cultural products across the country and overseas.</p> <p>Tellano proceeded to discuss the significant features of the DOC, including its organizational structure. She said the DOC will comprise six bureaus, and four regional offices in Luzon, four in Visayas, and three in Mindanao. She also said that the DOC will have strong cultural presence overseas through the Sentro Rizal, a center whose main purpose is the promotion of Philippine arts, culture and language throughout the world.</p> <p>Earlier, Rep. Evelina Escudero (1st District, Sorsogon) informed the Committee that her bill, HB 6113, which proposes the establishment of DOC, was primarily referred to the Committee on Government Reorganization and was taken up jointly with the Committee on Basic Education and Culture.</p> <p>On the query of Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo (2nd District, Quezon City) if the proposed DOC will have police power, NCAA Chair Virgilio Almario replied in the affirmative. Almario explained that granting police and quasi-judicial powers to the proposed DOC will allow it to effectively safeguard the heritage structures in the country.</p>