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COMMITTEE MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Energy	HB 942	Rep. Tiangco	Removing the allowable systems loss from private utility companies and reducing the cap of recoverable system losses of rural electric cooperatives from 14% to 5%, amending for the purpose RA 7832, as amended	<p>The Committee, chaired by Marinduque Rep. Lord Allan Jay Velasco, agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to fine-tune the bills.</p> <p>The TWG will be chaired by Rep. Carlos Roman Uybarreta (Party-List, 1-CARE).</p>
	HB 2297	Rep. Rodriguez (M.)	Prohibiting private electric utilities from collecting system losses from the consumers and reducing the cap of recoverable system losses of rural electric cooperatives to a maximum of 5%, amending for the purpose RA 7832, as amended	<p>In today's meeting, various electric cooperatives presented their respective profiles and cost benefit analysis on reducing system loss.</p> <p>Energy losses take place during the process of supplying electricity to consumers due to technical and non-technical causes. Republic Act 7832, as amended, allows private electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives to recover such losses from the consumers but established a cap on the recoverable rate and also removed from the computation the loss of energy due to pilferage.</p>
	HB 6341	Rep. Batocabe	Prohibiting power distribution utilities (DUs) from collecting system losses from consumers, amending for the purpose RA 7832, as amended	<p>Noel Vedad, general manager of the Aurora Electric Cooperative, Inc. (AURELCO), and Renato Esguerra, division head of the Technical Services Division of the Marinduque Electric Cooperative (MARELCO), appealed to the Committee not to reduce the existing maximum recoverable rate of system loss allowed for electric cooperatives as it will affect their financial condition. Both also said that rural electric cooperatives lack funds to improve their distribution systems through huge capital expenditures (Capex), being non-profit distribution utilities created by law.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Anna Marie Tabligan, strategic planning and control supervisor of the Zamboanga del Norte Electric Cooperative (ZANECO), identified the projects that the ZANECO has undertaken which translated to a 2.68% reduction of its technical loss and eventually contributed to 0.19% decrease in its system loss rate. Nevertheless, Tabligan stressed that the effect of Capex projects on the reduction of the rate of system loss is not immediate such that the electric cooperative which makes such a huge investment will have to bear the burden for some time.</p> <p>Joceler Moralda, general manager of the Surigao del Sur Electric Cooperative 1 (SURSECO 1),</p>

Continuation... Energy				<p>reported that SURSECO 1 intends to undertake Capex projects amounting to P79.16 million for the period 2018 to 2020. This, Moralda said, is estimated to further reduce the electric cooperative's system loss by 1.01%.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to require all electric cooperatives in the country to submit a list and description of their Capex projects and a cost benefit analysis on reducing their system losses.</p>
Good Government and Public Accountability jt. w/ Health	HRs 444 & 480 & Privilege Speech 125	Reps. Tan (A.), Suansing (E.), and Leachon	Inquiry into the legality of the procurement process and use of public funds relative to the school-based dengue immunization program of the Department of Health (DOH) as well as the efficacy and safety of the vaccine procured	The Joint Committee, co-chaired by Rep. Johnny Ty Pimentel (2nd District, Surigao del Sur), Chair of the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability, and Rep. Angelina "Helen" Tan, M.D. (4th District, Quezon), Chair of the Committee on Health, will deliberate further on the issues raised in the four measures in its next meeting.
	HR 1519	Rep. Atienza	Investigation into the purchase of P3.5 billion worth of Dengvaxia anti-dengue vaccines by the DOH under the former administration which have been found to pose health risks to more than 700,000 schoolchildren inoculated, and to hold accountable those responsible for the said purchase	<p>Rep. Jose Atienza Jr. (Party-List, BUHAY), author of HR 1519, urged the body to focus its inquiry into the alleged undue haste in purchasing the Dengvaxia anti-dengue vaccines.</p> <p>Rep. Ferjanel Biron, M.D. (4th District, Iloilo) asked why the Dengvaxia vaccine was allowed to be imported into the country despite the fact that it has not been issued a certificate of product registration (CPR) from the country of origin as required under RA 9711 or the Food and Drug Administration Authority (FDA) Act of 2009.</p> <p>Sanofi Pasteur Asia Pacific head Thomas Triomphe said that the pharmaceutical company has already complied with the requirements for registration and its application for CPR is pending with the European Medicines Agency (EMA). Triomphe admitted that while Sanofi's CPR application was still being processed, its distributor, Zuellig Pharmaceuticals, Inc., already imported and repacked the anti-dengue vaccines.</p> <p>FDA Acting Deputy Director General Ma. Lourdes Santiago explained that drug manufacturers may produce drugs in "commercial volume" for as long as safety, quality and efficacy requirements are met. FDA, however, did not deny the suggestion that it was irregular for Sanofi Pasteur to manufacture Dengvaxia vaccines even before the issuance of a CPR and the conduct of a clinical study for at least five years.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Triomphe informed the Committee that it declined the request of DOH Secretary Francisco Duque III to refund the cost of the used Dengvaxia vaccines to the government, explaining that it might give the impression that the product is ineffective. But Triomphe said that Sanofi agreed to refund the unused vaccines amounting to over P1 billion.</p> <p>On the result of the investigation on the alleged Dengvaxia-related deaths, DOH Undersecretary Rolando Enrique Domingo disclosed that the investigative team has already concluded its</p>

Continuation... Good Government and Public Accountability jt. w/ Health				<p>investigation of 14 cases, out of 29, as of December 26, 2017. The cause of three of the 14 deaths may be associated with the administration of the vaccines. Domingo added that the three children did not have any history of dengue.</p> <p>Former Health Secretary Janette Garin will present to the Joint Committee the timelines of the anti-dengue immunization program of the former administration in its next meeting.</p> <p>The Joint Committee agreed to invite in its next meeting the following: Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Benjamin Diokno, former DBM Secretary Florencio Abad, and representatives from the Department of Education (DepEd), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Zuellig Pharmaceuticals, Inc.</p>
Higher and Technical Education	HBs 6387, 6450 & 6658	Reps. Castelo, Umali, and Aragonés	Establishing Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) campuses in Quezon City, Bansud, Oriental Mindoro, and Calauan, Laguna and appropriating funds therefor	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ann Hofer (2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay), approved the three bills subject to style and amendment and their corresponding Committee Reports. The bills will be referred to the Committee on Appropriations for review of their funding provisions.</p> <p>Norberto Caturay, assistant to the vice president for academic affairs of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), expressed support for the bill on the condition that sufficient budget will be allocated to these three campuses to sustain their operations. At present, there are 10 PUP branches funded under the General Appropriations Act (GAA) and 11 campuses funded by the local government units (LGUs).</p> <p>Likewise, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) expressed support for the bills.</p>
	HBs 1684 & 1717	Reps. Revilla and Biazon	Rationalizing agriculture education in the Philippines by establishing a national system of agriculture education institutions, providing for mechanisms of implementation	<p>The Committee agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to consolidate HBs 1684, 1717 and 4026.</p> <p>Muntinlupa City Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon informed the Committee that HB 1684 and 1717 seek to improve the quality of agriculture education in the country.</p>
	HB 4026	Rep. Belaro	Making agriculture and related courses more attractive to the youth to abate threats to Philippine agricultural sector and food security	<p>Rep. Salvador Belaro (Party-List, ANG EDUKASYON), author of HB 4026, explained that his bill aims to make agriculture and related courses attractive to the youth, to boost the agriculture sector and ensure the country's food security.</p> <p>The PASUC, CHED, and National Youth Commission (NYC) expressed their support for the bills.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Rep. Hofer inquired on the status of implementation of the National Agriculture and</p>

Continuation... Higher and Technical Education				<p>Fisheries Education System (NAFES), and if it was able to meet its objectives under RA 8435 or the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA) of 1997.</p> <p>Hofer also noted that there are currently 31 national universities and colleges for agriculture and fisheries (NUCAFs) and 84 provincial institute for agriculture and fisheries (PIAFs) being operated by state universities and colleges and private institutions.</p> <p>In response, Department of Agriculture Undersecretary Segfredo Serrano apprised the Committee that some provisions of the AFMA were not implemented due to the lack of capital outlay funds. However, Serrano believes that the bills being deliberated on have better provisions with regard to the allocation of funds and updating of the agriculture modernization program.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bills.</p>
Local Government jt. w/ Muslim Affairs and Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity	Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 92, 6121, 6263 & 6475	Deputy Speaker Sema, Reps. Macapagal- Arroyo & Dimaporo (M.K.), and Speaker Alvarez	Providing for the Basic Law for the Bangsamoro and abolishing the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), repealing for the purpose RA 9054, or the law strengthening and expanding the Organic Act for the ARMM, and RA 6734 or the law providing for an Organic Act for the ARMM	<p>The Joint Committee, chaired by Reps. Pedro Acharon Jr. (1st District, South Cotabato and General Santos City), Mauyag "Jun" Papandayan Jr. (2nd District, Lanao del Sur), and Ruby Sahali (Tawi-Tawi), for the Committees on Local Government and on Muslim Affairs, and the Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity, respectively, will deliberate further on the draft substitute bill in its next meeting.</p> <p>Pointing out that Palawan is not part of Mindanao, Rep. Aurora Enerio Cerilles (2nd District, Zamboanga del Sur) asked why Palawan is included in the places where the Bangsamoro people are considered natives or original inhabitants, as reflected in Section 4 (Bangsamoro People) of the bill.</p> <p>Rep. Celso Lobregat (1st District, Zamboanga City) hinted that the inclusion of Palawan might have been copied from the 1976 Tripoli Agreement between the Philippine Government and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). The said agreement included Palawan as one of the thirteen provinces in Southern Philippines that was part of the autonomous region.</p> <p>Rep. Acharon said that the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC) could explain the inclusion of Palawan in Section 4.</p> <p>For its next meeting, the Joint Committee invited the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace</p>
	HB 6931	Rep. Malapitan	Establishing a branch of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in Caloocan City-North, to be known as the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) Caloocan City-North Branch, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee will deliberate on HB 6931 in another meeting upon the availability of the principal author.

Continuation... Local Government jt. w/ Muslim Affairs and Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity				<p>Process (OPAPP) and the BTC to shed light on the issues raised pertinent to the proposed law.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Rep. Acharon presented the Joint Committee's schedule of public hearings in some areas in Mindanao. The series of public hearings aim to get the sentiments of the people on the ground with regard to the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law (BBL).</p>
Trade and Industry	Substitute Bill to HB 2957	Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo	Providing for the establishment of a Timbangan ng Bayan Center in all markets nationwide, amending for the purpose Chapter II of RA 7394, otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ferjanel Biron, M.D. (4th District, Iloilo), approved the Substitute Bill to HB 2957 subject to style. The Secretariat was directed to prepare the corresponding Committee Report.</p> <p>Camiguin Rep. Xavier Jesus Romualdo informed the Committee that the funding provision of the substitute bill was approved by the Committee on Appropriations last January 17, 2018.</p>
	Substitute Bill to HBs 3252 & 6332	Reps. Biron and Tan (A.)	Establishing the Drug Price Regulatory Board to regulate the prices of drugs and medicines in the Philippines, amending certain provisions of RA 9502, otherwise known as the Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2008	<p>The Committee approved the Substitute Bill to HBs 3252 and 6332 subject to style. The Secretariat was directed to prepare the corresponding Committee Report.</p> <p>Rep. Angelina "Helen" Tan, M.D. (4th District, Quezon), author of HB 3252, said that her bill is aligned with the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) bill (HB 5784) which was passed on third and final reading by the House of Representatives last September 6, 2017.</p> <p>Rep. Romualdo underscored the three main features of the bill, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creates a Drug Price Regulatory Board (DPRB) which would have the power to regulate the maximum retail price (MRP) of drugs or medicines that are subject to price regulation; • Mandates all medical, dental and veterinary practitioners to write prescriptions using only the generic name of medicines; and • Excludes drugs and medicines under price regulation from the 20% discount and exemption from the value-added tax (VAT) given to senior citizens and persons with disabilities (PWDs).
Ways and Means	HBs 3655 & 4011	Reps. Romero and Limkaichong	Enhancing revenue administration and increasing revenue collection by granting amnesty on all unpaid internal revenue taxes imposed by the national government for taxable year 2015 and prior years	<p>The Committee, chaired by Quirino Rep. Dakila Carlo Cua, will deliberate further on the six bills proposing amnesty on unpaid internal revenue tax liabilities in its next meeting.</p> <p>The resource persons from the following government agencies expressed their support for the bills: Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), National Tax Research Center (NTRC), Land Registration Authority (LRA), and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP). Business organizations such as the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Financial Executives Institute of the Philippines (FINEX), and the Employers</p>
	HBs 3832 & 4133	Minority Leader Suarez and Deputy Speaker Singson	Granting tax amnesty on all unpaid internal revenue tax liabilities for taxable period January 1, 2006 to June 30, 2016	

Continuation... Ways and Means	HB 4412	Rep. Gatchalian	Enhancing revenue administration and collection by granting an amnesty on all accrued penalties and charges of businesses which ceased to operate without clearance from the national government	Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP) also expressed their support for the bill. Meanwhile, both the BIR and the NTRC agreed that estate tax should not be covered by these bills as there exists a separate bill (HB 4841) for this purpose which was previously approved by the House of Representatives last February 13, 2017.
	HB 7105	Speaker Alvarez	Enhancing revenue administration and collection by granting an amnesty on all unpaid internal revenue taxes imposed by the national government for taxable year 2017 and prior years	NTRC Chief Tax Specialist Donaldo Boo also suggested that the names of those who will avail themselves of the amnesty program should not be published, and that they should be given lower or pro-rated tax rates within the amnesty period when payment is made earlier than the prescribed deadline. Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) National Treasurer Jean Francois Rivera III presented the following suggestions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bill should indicate the specific taxes to be covered by the amnesty program; • A longer period of three years be considered for the tax amnesty period; • The valuation report for the tax payment should be based on fair market value and not current market value; and • The submission of the Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth (SALN) should no longer be a requirement in applying for the amnesty program. On the other hand, Risk Management Group Chief Felipe Geoffrey de Vera IV of the Bureau of Customs (BOC) cited a similar program of the BOC, called the Voluntary Disclosure Program (VDP), which also offers amnesty to importers found negligent in their import transactions. The BIR and the NTRC were requested to submit to the Committee data and analysis on the previous Tax Amnesty Programs of the government including the areas of success and failures. In addition, the BIR will also submit statistics on the present corporate and individual tax base used by the BIR in computing tax payments. In the next meeting, the Court of Tax Appeals will be invited to provide information on pending tax cases.
Welfare of Children	Substitute Bill to HBs 13, 1280, 2345, 3050 & 4676	Reps. Belmonte (F.), Belmonte (J.C.), Dalipe, Tambunting, and Nieto	Providing for the special protection of children in situations of armed conflict and providing penalties for violations thereof	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Divina Grace Yu (1st District, Zamboanga del Sur), approved the Committee Report on the Substitute Bill to the four bills.
	Substitute Bill to HBs 894 & 2332	Reps. Tan (A.) and Cojuangco	Establishing 10:00 p.m. up to 5:00 a.m. as unsafe hours for children, prohibiting unchaperoned children from roaming, loitering or sleeping outside their abode during these times, prescribing penalties for their parents or guardians, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved the Committee Report on the Substitute Bill to HBs 894 and 2332.

Continuation... Welfare of Children	Substitute Bill to HBs 2442, 4813 & 5836	Reps. Montoro, Herrera-Dy, and Roa-Puno	Establishing rehabilitation centers for children and youth with disabilities nationwide	The Committee approved the Substitute Bill to the three bills.
	HBs 2881 & 6041	Reps. Barbers and Villafuerte	Granting benefits and privileges to junior citizens	The Committee approved in principle HBs 2881 and 6041 pending the submission of position papers from the resource persons present. It likewise agreed to draft a substitute bill after the submission of the position papers.
	HB 6228	Rep. Macapagal- Arroyo	Strengthening and reorganizing the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC)	The Committee approved HB 6228 with amendments. Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (2nd District, Pampanga), author of HB 6228, agreed to rename the Council for the Welfare of Children to the "Commission for the Welfare of Children," as suggested by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Country Representative to the Philippines Lotta Sylwander.

PUBLIC HEARING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Rural Development	HRs 1144, 1147 & 1149	Reps. Kho, Mangaoang, and Batocabe	Inquiry into the positive effects of agricultural biotechnology on rural development and agricultural competitiveness	<p>The Committee held a public hearing in Cagayan de Oro City and in the Province of Bukidnon on January 31 and February 1, 2018, respectively, in relation to the three House Resolutions.</p> <p>Rep. Rogelio Neil Pepito Roque (4th District, Bukidnon) was the presiding officer in the public hearing in Cagayan de Oro City; while Rep. Elisa "Olga" Kho (2nd District, Masbate) was the presiding officer in Bukidnon.</p> <p>Presenting the positive results of biotechnology, farmers who have shifted to planting Bt corn said that Bt corn, which is genetically modified using the bacterium <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> to make it highly resistant to pests, has higher yields and therefore equates to higher profits.</p> <p>However, the farmers shared that the supply of seeds is usually delayed and that corn farmers remain to be at the mercy of feed mill owners in determining the price of their crops.</p> <p>The Bt corn farmers sought the support of Congress for the creation of a Philippine Corn Research Institute, which will institutionalize corn farming and protect the welfare of corn farmers in the country.</p> <p>The farmers also requested the Department of Agriculture (DA) to conduct soil mapping or analysis in their farms to determine if the lands they continue to till are still suitable for farming.</p>

Continuation... Rural Development				Aside from Reps. Kho and Roque, other House Members who attended the public hearings were Reps. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba (1st District, Bukidnon) and Peter "Sr. Pedro" Unabia (1st District, Misamis Oriental).
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AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Bicol Recovery and Economic Development (Special Committee)	<p>Briefing by the following government agencies on the situation in Bicol Region due to the eruption of Mayon Volcano:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Office of Civil Defense(OCD) Region V Department of Health (DOH) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region V 	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Renato "Kuya Jojo" Unico Jr. (1st District, Camarines Norte), listened to the briefing conducted by concerned government agencies on the current situation in Bicol Region, particularly in the Province of Albay, due to the Mayon Volcano eruption.</p> <p>Mayon Volcano, the most active volcano in the Philippines, is located in the Province of Albay. It is geographically shared by three cities: Legazpi, Ligao, and Tabaco; and five municipalities: Daraga, Camalig, Guinobatan, Malilipot, and Sto. Domingo. On January 13 this year, Mayon Volcano started having phreatic or steam-driven eruptions. A few days later, it began spewing lava, ash, and pyroclastic materials prompting the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) to raise the alert level to 4 (hazardous eruption is imminent) and set an 8-km radius danger zone from the summit vent.</p> <p>OCD Region V Regional Director Claudio Yucut reported that a total of 294 barangays in 18 municipalities were affected in the provinces of Albay and Camarines Sur. He added that as of February 3, there are about 18,000 families or about 68,000 persons staying in 63 evacuation camps. Classes were also suspended affecting 79,209 learners and 2,461 personnel in 55 schools.</p> <p>Damage to agriculture was reported to be over P165 million, affecting over 8,000 farmers and almost 700 livestock. The Province of Albay has declared a state of calamity effective January 16.</p> <p>Yucut went on to say that over P172 million worth of assistance, such as food, non-food items and financial assistance, was provided by the different government agencies and non-government organizations (NGOs) to the affected families in the province of Albay.</p> <p>OCD is the implementing arm of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC). When the volcano erupted, OCD facilitated the meetings of the NDRRMC Response Cluster, provided logistical support to responders, and coordinated the response actions of the different agencies involved, among others.</p> <p>Dr. Gloria Balboa, director of DOH's Health Emergency Management Bureau (HEMB), reported that since the eruption of Mayon Volcano, the DOH has undertaken the following activities: conducted medical consultations; monitored occurrence of diseases in the evacuation camps; distributed hygiene kits, treated mosquito nets, face masks, and medicines; and deployed Rapid Health Assessment Teams to nine local government units (LGUs).</p> <p>Balboa disclosed that the leading diseases in the evacuation centers were acute respiratory infection, fever, and diarrhea. She added that cases of acute respiratory infection increased during the time when Mayon Volcano spewed ash plumes.</p> <p>DENR Region V Regional Executive Director Oscar Dominguez said</p>

<p><i>Continuation...</i> Bicol Recovery and Economic Development (Special Committee)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Irrigation Administration (NIA) Region V 	<p>that the DENR monitors the environmental impact of Mayon Volcano's eruptions, and conducts the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous assessment and monitoring of the biodiversity within Mayon Volcano natural park; Regulating and monitoring the ecotourism use of Mayon Volcano protected area in partnership with the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB); and Monitoring air and water quality within the affected areas. <p>DENR-Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) Region V Regional Director Guillermo Molina apprised the Committee of its information, education and communications (IEC) campaigns on hazard awareness and disaster preparedness. He said that the Bureau updates and provides geohazard maps for the use of the LGUs.</p> <p>On top of its regular work, the DENR turned over firewood and wood charcoal to the Provincial Government of Albay and distributed family food packs to evacuation centers in Albay.</p> <p>NIA Region V Regional Director Ramon Bugacia reported that there are 30 affected communal irrigation systems within the 6-10 kilometer permanent danger zone (PDZ) in the three districts of Albay with a total area of 1,110 hectares, directly affecting 1,570 farmer-beneficiaries. Bugacia added that the rehabilitation works on 10 of the 30 irrigation systems have been temporarily suspended effective January 22 to wait for Mayon to calm down.</p> <p>In the ensuing discussion, several House Members raised their concern over the suspension of classes in affected areas due to the use of classrooms as evacuation centers.</p> <p>Rep. Rodel Batocabe (Party-List, AKO BICOL) suggested that the NDRRMC should pursue its policy of establishing permanent evacuation centers to avoid using public schools for this purpose.</p> <p>Rep. Fernando Gonzalez (3rd District, Albay) said that temporary learning spaces/shelters (TLS) should be constructed so that classes will not have to be suspended.</p> <p>However, Rep. Alfredo Garbin Jr. (Party-List, AKO BICOL) said that it would be a lot better if temporary evacuation centers should be constructed instead.</p> <p>Rep. Unico suggested that the OCD should include in its 2019 proposed budget the construction of evacuation centers throughout the country for use in cases of calamities and disasters.</p>
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