

Committee Daily Bulletin

17th Congress
Second Regular Session

A publication of the Committee Affairs Department

Vol. II No. 95
March 8, 2018

IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS

COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Justice	Determination of probable cause in relation to the verified complaint for impeachment against Supreme Court (SC) Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno, filed by Atty. Lorenzo G. Gadon and endorsed by 25 House Members	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Reynaldo Umali (2nd District, Oriental Mindoro), determined that the impeachment complaint against the Chief Justice has probable cause, by a vote of 38-2.</p> <p>On the motion of Majority Leader Rodolfo Fariñas (1st District, Ilocos Norte), the Committee agreed to vote on the Committee Report and the Articles of Impeachment on March 14, 2018.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Rep. Juan Pablo "Rimpy" Bondoc (4th District, Pampanga) requested the declassification of information on the result of the psychiatric evaluation of Sereno when she was applying for the position of Chief Justice. This information was previously classified as confidential in an executive session of the Committee.</p> <p>Rep. Bondoc apprised the body that the psychiatric evaluation result was already made public as early as November 27, 2017 and that only those information or data that affect national security or national interest should be classified as confidential by the government. Furthermore, the Chief Justice would have the chance to refute said psychological findings during the impeachment trial in the Senate, Rep. Bondoc said.</p> <p>According to Rep. Bondoc, the psychiatric evaluation of the Chief Justice had a rating of 4 (1 being the highest and 5 being the lowest).</p> <p>The Committee agreed to declassify the information for the purpose of including the matter as part of the grounds for impeachment in the Articles of Impeachment.</p>

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Aquaculture and Fisheries Resources (Technical Working Group)	HB 1399	Rep. Amante	Establishing the Philippine Eel Research Center in the Municipality of Jabonga, Province of Agusan del Norte and appropriating funds therefor	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Celia Milagros Miciano, discussed the provisions of HB 1399.</p> <p>The TWG agreed to propose to the author, Rep. Erlpe John "Ping" Amante (2nd District, Agusan del Norte), to consider amending or crafting a new bill incorporating therein the recommendations of the resource persons.</p> <p>Jefferson Ferrer, chief-of-staff of Rep. Amante, promised to relay the suggestion of the TWG to the author.</p>

Continuation... Aquaculture and Fisheries Resources (Technical Working Group)				Resource persons from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), and Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center/ Aquaculture Department (SEAFDC/AQD) were present during the meeting.
Ecology (Technical Working Group)	Substitute Bill to HBs 1004, 1690, 1713, 4452, 6018, 6376 & 7017	Reps. Campos, Rodriguez (M.), Biazon, Yap (A.), Revilla, Castelo, and Vargas	Providing incentives for the manufacture, assembly, conversion, importation, distribution, sale and mainstream use of electric, hybrid and other alternative fuel vehicles	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Muntinlupa City Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon, terminated its deliberation on the substitute bill.</p> <p>The TWG agreed to incorporate in the bill the pertinent recommendations of the resource persons. The final version of the substitute bill will be presented to the mother Committee for its consideration and approval.</p> <p>Recognizing the rapid development in technology, Rep. Biazon recommended that the definition of alternative fuel vehicles (AFV) under the bill be modified to include alternative technology vehicles (ATV), to cover even those vehicles that do not use internal combustion engine for propulsion.</p> <p>Febe Lim of the Fiscal Policy and Planning Office of the Department of Finance (DOF) expressed reservation on the proposed grant of several tax exemptions to manufacturers, importers, fuelling stations, and operators of electric, hybrid and other alternative fuel vehicles, explaining that existing laws already provide incentives to these types of investments.</p> <p>Lim added that the DOF is currently studying the rationalization of all fiscal incentives to be included in the proposed Package II of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Law.</p> <p>Rep. Biazon pointed out that the proposed law will have the effect of amending the TRAIN Law.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Engineer Carl Michael Odulio, assistant professor at the University of the Philippines' Electrical and Electronics Engineering Institute (UPEEE), underscored the importance of having adequate fuel or charging stations that cater to all the types of vehicles envisioned in the bill, to which Rep. Biazon agreed.</p> <p>Department of Energy (DOE) Assistant Secretary Robert Uy manifested that at present the government has four charging stations for electric vehicles, located at the compounds of the DOE, Office of the</p>

Continuation... Ecology (Technical Working Group)				<p>President (OP), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).</p> <p>According to Uy, the DOE is currently having public consultations and is in the process of preparing a memorandum circular that will require gas stations to put up an electric charging facility in their stations.</p> <p>Raul Dealino, representative of the Federation of Philippine Industries, noted that the foremost problem in using electric vehicles is the disposal of old or used up batteries.</p> <p>The TWG requested the DOE to submit a study on the most efficient manner of disposing and recycling electric vehicle batteries.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bill within a week.</p>
Housing and Urban Development (Technical Working Group)	Draft Substitute Bill to HB 1722	Rep. Biazon	Creating a Local Housing Board in all cities and first to third class municipalities, providing for its powers and functions	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Nelson Rendon, will deliberate further on the draft substitute bill in its next meeting.</p> <p>Cid Leandro Jacobo, project evaluation officer at the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), presented the process of securing permits for the implementation of any government housing project, including the list of requirements needed for such undertaking.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Elsie Trinidad, department manager of the National Housing Authority's (NHA) Resettlement and Development Services Department (RDSD), suggested not to include the local government officials among the members of the proposed local housing boards.</p> <p>Representatives from the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and HUDCC expressed their support for the bill.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their official position papers on the bill for consideration by the TWG.</p>