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COMMITTEE MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Legislative Franchises	Substitute Bill to HB 8119	Rep. Belmonte (F.)	Renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Mareco Broadcasting Network, Inc. under RA 8108	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Franz "Chicoy" Alvarez (1 st District, Palawan), approved the five substitute bills and their corresponding Committee Reports.
	Substitute Bill to HB 8091	Rep. Enverga	Renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Radio Audience Developers Integrated Organizations, Inc. under RA 8083	
	Substitute Bill to HB 8092	Rep. Enverga	Renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Beacon Communications Systems, Inc. under RA 8063	
	Substitute Bill to HB 8093	Rep. Aggabao	Renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Philippine Radio Corporation under RA 8032	
	Substitute Bill to HB 8094	Rep. Enverga	Renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Radyo Pilipino Corporation under RA 8145	
	HB 8132	Rep. Tambunting	Granting MORE Minerals Corporation a franchise to establish, operate, and maintain, for commercial purposes and in the public interest, a distribution system for the conveyance of electric power to end users in the city of Iloilo, in the province of Iloilo	The Committee approved HB 8132 subject to the submission of the supplementary position paper from the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC).
Poverty Alleviation	HB 5679	Rep. Nieto	Establishing a financial assistance program for poor litigants	<p>The Committee, presided by its Vice Chair, Rep. John Marvin "Yul Servo" Nieto (3rd District, Manila), agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to consolidate the two bills.</p> <p>Representatives from the Public Attorney's Office (PAO), Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), and National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) expressed support for the bill.</p> <p>Likewise, Atty. Angelo Carlo Talatala, legal counsel of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), supports the bills but gave the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The funding for the program that is supposed to come from PAGCOR should be taken from the National Government's 50% share in PAGCOR's income; The funds that will be sourced from PAGCOR should be for the first two years of the program only, to be able to support
	HB 7620	Rep. Rodriguez (M.)	Establishing a legal insurance program for the poor	

Continuation... Poverty Alleviation				<p>its funding obligations to other government programs as mandated by law; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other gaming regulators/operators, such as the Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority (APECO), Authority of the Freeport Bataan (AFAB), and Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA), should also be tapped as funding sources for this proposed law. <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers for the TWG's reference in its deliberations on the bills.</p>
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Ways and Means (Technical Working Group)	HB 422	Rep. Quimbo	Establishing the fiscal regime and revenue sharing arrangement for large-scale metallic mining	The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Estrellita Suansing (1 st District, Nueva Ecija), agreed to draft a Substitute Bill to HBs 422 and 7994.
	HB 7994	Rep. Suansing (E.)	Amending Chapter VII Title VI and Section 151, and creating new Sections 151-A and 151-B, of RA 8424, otherwise known as the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended (by establishing a rationalized and single fiscal regime applicable to all mineral agreements and retaining the imposition of corporate income tax on the mining sector, among others)	<p>Pointing out that all minerals are owned by the State, Deputy Speaker Prospero Pichay Jr. (1st District, Surigao del Sur) supports the proposal that all mining contractors operating within or even outside mineral reservations shall pay a royalty tax equivalent to five percent of the market value of the gross output of the mineral products.</p> <p>However, representatives of mining companies requested that mining contractors operating outside the mineral reservation be exempt from paying royalty tax. They explained that mining companies venturing in areas not yet declared by the government as mineral reservations are investing huge capital as compared to those operating in areas declared as such.</p> <p>The Deputy Speaker, along with the representatives of mining companies, suggested the deletion of the provision imposing additional government share to be paid by mining contractors when the basic government share is less than 50% of the net mining revenue. They averred that the additional imposition will become burdensome to the mining industry, which they said is paying more taxes as compared to non-mining companies.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the TWG agreed to include in the proposed law a provision requiring the registration of small-scale mining companies. This, Rep. Suansing said, will strengthen RA 7076 or the People's Small-Scale Mining Act of 1991.</p>