

# Committee Daily Bulletin

17<sup>th</sup> Congress  
Third Regular Session

A publication of the Committee Affairs Department

Vol. III No. 67  
January 14, 2019

## BICAMERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Public Order and Safety	HB 8628 & SB 1898	Rep. Alejano and Sen. Trillanes	Transferring the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) and the National Police Training Institute (NPTI) from the Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC) to the Philippine National Police (PNP), amending for the purpose Sections 24, 35, 66, 67 and 68 of RA 6975, otherwise known as the Department of the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990, as amended, appropriating funds therefor	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-chaired by Rep. Romeo Acop (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Antipolo City), Chair of the House Committee on Public Order and Safety, and Sen. Panfilo "Ping" Lacson, Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs, approved the reconciled version of HB 8628 and SB 1898.</p> <p>Other conferees present during the bicameral conference committee meeting were the following: On the part of the House, Reps. Leopoldo Bataoil (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Pangasinan), Juliet Marie Ferrer (4<sup>th</sup> District, Negros Occidental), and Edgar Mary Sarmiento (1<sup>st</sup> District, Samar); on the part of the Senate, Senators Gregorio Honasan II, Sherwin Gatchalian, and Risa Hontiveros.</p>

## TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Trade and Industry jt. w/ Health (Technical Working Group)	HBs 532, 3330, 4325, 4810, 7289, 7935, 7993, 8340 & 8671	Reps. Batocabe (dec.), Olivarez, Biazon, Noel, Villafuerte, Barbers, Alejano, and Garcia (J.E.)	Regulating the use, packaging, sale, distribution, and advertisement of electronic cigarettes or vaporized nicotine products (VNPs)	<p>The joint technical working group (TWG), presided by Camiguin Rep. Xavier Jesus Romualdo, will deliberate further on the nine bills using HB 7289, authored by Rep. Victoria Isabel Noel (Party-List, AN WARAY), as its working draft.</p> <p>Food and Drug Administration's Center for Cosmetics Regulation and Research (FDA-CCRR) director Anna Trinidad Rivera opposed the proposed law saying that e-cigarettes should in fact be banned or prohibited. Rivera explained that e-cigarettes pose serious health risks to users based on a report by the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).</p> <p>The WHO FCTC is the first global public health treaty that reaffirms the right of all people to the highest standards of health. The WHO FCTC was developed in response</p>

<p>Continuation... Trade and Industry jt. w/ Health (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>to the globalization of the tobacco epidemic. (Source: WHO FCTC website)</p> <p>Rep. Alfredo Garbin Jr. (Party-List, AKO BICOL), co-author of HBs 532 and 3330, defended the proposed law stressing that the WHO FCTC report is merely recommendatory. He added that only 15 to 30% of its 195 member-countries have banned the use of e-cigarettes.</p> <p>Philippine E-cigarette Industry Association (PECIA) president Joey Dulay supports the regulation of e-cigarettes but suggests that it should not be subsumed under the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003 (RA 9211), pointing out that e-cigarettes are not tobacco products.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Rep. Angelina "Helen" Tan, M.D. (4<sup>th</sup> District, Quezon) suggested that the FDA and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) be designated as the lead implementing agencies of the proposed law.</p>
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DISCUSSION WITH AGENCIES		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
<p>Metro Manila Development</p>	<p>Discussion on current and proposed policies/programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration and use of motorcycles as an alternative public utility vehicle (PUV) in Metro Manila</li>   <li>• Rehabilitation of Manila Bay</li> </ul>	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Quezon City), discussed with officials from the Departments of Transportation (DOTr), Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA), several concerns affecting Metro Manila.</p> <p>DOTR Assistant Secretary Mark Richmond de Leon informed the body that a technical working group (TWG) has been created to study the legality and feasibility of registering and using motorcycles as PUVs. The TWG is expected to submit its proposal to the DOTR Secretary within two weeks, De Leon said.</p> <p>Meanwhile, several House Members aired the complaints of their constituents who were affected by a Supreme Court-issued temporary restraining order allowing transport authorities to apprehend the riders of Angkas, a motorcycle ride-hailing firm.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to file a resolution urging the MMDA to allow the operation of Angkas while awaiting the proposal of the DOTr-created TWG.</p> <p>DENR Assistant Secretary Joan Lagunda presented the status of the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program which includes the dismantling and removal of structures along Manila Bay and the connecting waterways that directly discharge wastewater into the bay, installation of adequate wastewater treatment facilities, and managing and monitoring the bay's water quality.</p> <p>Lagunda mentioned that way back in 2008, the Supreme Court mandated several government agencies to cleanup the Manila</p>

<p>Continuation... Metro Manila Development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Road Diet” or the resizing of lanes on EDSA</li> </ul>	<p>Bay and restore the quality of its waters to a level fit for swimming, diving, and other forms of contact recreation. She also reported the following: very few private homes in Metro Manila and around the country are connected to the sewerage system; only 60% of the local government units (LGUs) have solid waste management plan; and there are about 233,000 informal settler families (ISFs) that are still residing along the waterways of Manila Bay and directly discharging wastewater into the bay.</p> <p>The House Members present decried the inaction of the concerned agencies on the rehabilitation of the Manila Bay despite the Supreme Court order 10 years ago. DILG Undersecretary Martin Diño assured the Committee that the government has now resolved to strictly implement the rehabilitation program and strictly apply the penalty against violators.</p> <p>The Committee also agreed to prepare a resolution directing the DENR to review whether the commitments made by the water service providers in Metro Manila, Maynilad and Manila Water, in terms of providing sewerage systems have been complied with. If not, the Committee suggested that the collection of the environmental fee, which is included in the monthly water bills of consumers, should be suspended until such time that these water concessionaires have done their part.</p> <p>As for the proposed resizing of lanes on EDSA, MMDA Road Safety Unit Project Development Officer Emilio Llavor said that it will involve the narrowing of road lanes from 3.0 meters to 2.8 meters to accommodate additional lanes. The same approach has been done along Commonwealth Avenue, according to Llavor.</p> <p>Reps. Bayani Fernando (1<sup>st</sup> District, Marikina City) and Arnolfo "Arnie" Teves Jr. (3<sup>rd</sup> District, Negros Oriental) suggested that with the proposed narrowing of the lanes on EDSA, the MMDA should be able to designate lanes for motorcycles.</p>
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