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House of Representatives

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No. 12

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu called the session to order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The session is called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Everybody is requested to rise for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer and meditation.

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Thank you.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we defer the approval of the Journal.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business. We therefore request that the Secretary General be directed to read the same.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary General is directed to read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the following House Bills and Resolutions on First Reading and Communications, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 2772, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONWIDE CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER PROGRAM OUTLINING ITS POLICIES, FRAMEWORK, STRUCTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mercado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION

House Bill No. 2773, entitled:

“AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PEOPLE’S RESPONSIBLE RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL POLICIES OF FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND HONESTY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 2774, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING COMPENSATION

TO BARANGAY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING LUPONG TAGAPAMAYAPA, PUROK CHAIRMAN AND BARANGAY TANOD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991' AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Gonzaga
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2775, entitled:
"AN ACT INCREASING AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE MONTHLY STIPEND OF INDIGENT SENIOR CITIZENS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010' "

By Representative Gonzaga
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND FAMILY RELATIONS

House Bill No. 2776, entitled:
"AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE SOCIAL SECURITY COMMISSION TO CONDONE PENALTIES ON DELINQUENT CONTRIBUTIONS AND TO DETERMINE THE MONTHLY SALARY CREDITS, THE SCHEDULE AND RATE OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND THE RATE OF PENALTY ON DELINQUENT CONTRIBUTIONS AND UNPAID LOAN AMORTIZATIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW"

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 2777, entitled:
"AN ACT TO PROVIDE A CIVIL ACTION FOR A MINOR INJURED BY EXPOSURE TO AN ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCT CONTAINING MATERIAL THAT IS HARMFUL TO MINORS"

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 2778, entitled:
"AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 2 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9227, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION IN THE

FORM OF SPECIAL ALLOWANCES FOR JUSTICES, JUDGES AND ALL OTHER POSITIONS IN THE JUDICIARY WITH THE EQUIVALENT RANK OF JUSTICES OF THE COURT OF APPEALS AND JUDGES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT"

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 2779, entitled:
"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NATIONAL HIGHWAY FROM THE JUNCTION OF THE ILIGAN – AURORA NATIONAL HIGHWAY IN BARANGAY SANTA CRUZ, KAPATAGAN, LANA O DEL NORTE TO ILIGAN – AURORA NATIONAL HIGHWAY IN POBLACION, AURORA, ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR TO BE KNOWN AS THE ILIGAN - AURORA NATIONAL HIGHWAY BY-PASS ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representatives Dimaporo (A.) and Dimaporo (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 2780, entitled:
"AN ACT TO RE-INSTITUTIONALIZE THE MANDATORY MILITARY AND CIVIC RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (ROTC) FOR STUDENTS IN ALL COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND TECHNICAL OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS"

By Representative Gatchalian
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 2781, entitled:
"AN ACT PUNISHING MILITARY COMMANDERS OR SUPERIORS FOR CRIMES OR OFFENSES COMMITTED BY THEIR SUBORDINATES UNDER THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMAND RESPONSIBILITY"

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 2782, entitled:
"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF AIRLINE PASSENGERS, IMPOSING OBLIGATIONS ON AIR CARRIERS, AND PENALIZING ACTS IN VIOLATION THEREOF"

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 2783, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO PROVIDE LIVELIHOOD ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES OF RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992’”

By Representative Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 2784, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DISASTER AND EMERGENCY CENTER IN THE SECOND DISTRICT OF RIZAL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 2785, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE WAWA ROAD AT BARANGAY SAN RAFAEL, MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, AS GENERAL LICERIO I. GERONIMO HIGHWAY”

By Representative Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 2786, entitled:

“AN ACT SEEKING TO CONVERT AND DECLARE THE JALAJALA FRIENDSHIP HIGHWAY CONNECTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF JALAJALA, PROVINCE OF RIZAL WITH THE MUNICIPALITIES OF MABITAC AND SINILOAN, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD, AND TRANSFERRING THE MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE THEREFOR TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS”

By Representative Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 2787, entitled:

“AN ACT REPEALING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1845, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED,

‘DECLARING THE AREA WITHIN A RADIUS OF THREE (3) KILOMETERS SURROUNDING THE SATELLITE EARTH STATION IN BARAS, RIZAL, A SECURITY ZONE’”

By Representative Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 2788, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SILANGAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SILANGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MATEO, PROVINCE OF RIZAL INTO A TRADE SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SILANGAN TRADE SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 2789, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING PAMITINAN CAVE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ, PROVINCE OF RIZAL AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 2790, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 2791, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING R.A. 8239, ENTITLED PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996”

By Representative Ferriol-Pascual
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 2792, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING R.A. 4136, AS AMENDED BY BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 398, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE”

By Representative Ferriol-Pascual
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 2793, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND CRISIS ASSISTANCE CENTERS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN EVERY PROVINCE AND CITY OF THE COUNTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8505, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘RAPE VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION ACT OF 1998’ ”

By Representative Ferriol-Pascual
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

PATIENTS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF ETHNIC MINORITY GROUPS, REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY AND COVERAGE OF BREAST RECONSTRUCTION, PROSTHESES, AND OTHER OPTIONS”

By Representative Aragonés
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 2794, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 5 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE PANGASINAN DAY AND A SPECIAL NON-WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN”

By Representatives Bataoil and Espino
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 2799, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA OF TRICYCLE DRIVERS AND OPERATORS, INSTITUTIONALIZING MECHANISMS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Vergara
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 2795, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING SCHOLARSHIP TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Ferriol-Pascual
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 2800, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRAINING CENTER IN QUEZON CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2796, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR”

By Representative Ferriol-Pascual
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 2801, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING AN INCREASE ON THE ALLOWANCE OF ALL BARANGAY LUPON, BSDO, AND BARANGAY STAFF WHO HAVE SERVED FOR ONE (1) TERM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2797, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS FROM DISALLOWING STUDENTS WITH DELINQUENT TUITION FEES TO TAKE THE MIDTERM OR FINAL EXAMINATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Ferriol-Pascual
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 2802, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE ALLOWANCES OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS, GRANTING HONORARIA AND OTHER BENEFITS TO BARANGAY TANODS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2798, entitled:

“AN ACT TO RAISE AWARENESS OF, AND TO EDUCATE BREAST CANCER PATIENTS ANTICIPATING SURGERY, ESPECIALLY

House Bill No. 2803, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM TERMINAL FEES ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHERS”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 2804, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING EARTHQUAKE DRILLS IN ALL WORKPLACES AND SCHOOLS THEREBY MAKING THEM AN ANNUAL OBSERVATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 2805, entitled:

“AN ACT CRIMINALIZING RECKLESS DRIVING AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE COMMISSION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 2806, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO INSTITUTIONALIZE REWARDS FOR WORK THROUGH ‘PATHWAYS-TO-HOUSING SCHEMES’ ENCOURAGING THEREBY THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO ADOPT THIS INITIATIVE INTO THEIR CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 2807, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THAT AT LEAST TEN PERCENT (10%) OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED LANDS TO BE SOLD, ALIENATED OR OTHERWISE ENCUMBERED FOR DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, BE SEGREGATED FOR SOCIALIZED HOUSING PROJECTS”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 2808, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY ADMINISTRATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 2809, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING THE RECORDING OF THE IDENTITY OF ALL BUYERS

OF PREPAID SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY MODULE (SIM) CARDS FOR CELLULAR TELEPHONE UNITS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2810, entitled:

“AN ACT INCLUDING ACTS COMMITTED ON ACCOUNT OF ROAD RAGE IN THE AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 2811, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY TO UNDERTAKE THE ACQUISITION, RECONSTITUTION AND RECOVERY OF REAL PROPERTIES REFERRED TO UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9207 AT THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT CENTER (NGC) LAND AND HOUSING PROJECT SITES IN BARANGAY’S COMMONWEALTH, HOLY SPIRIT, BATASAN HILLS AND PAYATAS IN QUEZON CITY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING AND COMPLETING THE DISPOSITION OF HOMELOTS, SOCIALIZED HOUSING UNITS AND DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY FACILITIES THEREON IN FAVOR OF THE QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 2812, entitled:

“AN ACT REPEALING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3601, PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 552, PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1702 AND REPUBLIC ACT 8435 TO ABOLISH THE IRRIGATION SERVICE FEES IMPOSED BY THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION”

By Representative Yu
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2813, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL HEADS OF LOCAL

GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ESTABLISH
‘OFW FAMILY HELP DESKS’ IN THEIR
OFFICES”

By Representative Manalo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2814, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION,
BENEFITS AND SECURITY OF
WHISTLEBLOWERS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing
(H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 2815, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING ALL BARANGAY
OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY
TANODS AND MEMBERS OF THE LUPON
NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, A LUMP SUM
GRATUITY PAY EQUIVALENT TO ONE
HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS AND
OTHER NON-MONETARY BENEFITS,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION
393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing
(H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2816, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS TO
PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE SOCIO-
ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL RIGHTS AND
WELL-BEING OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
WORKERS TOWARDS EFFICIENT HEALTH
SERVICES DELIVERY, REPEALING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’
BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF
1995, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing
(H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2817, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY PERIOD
OF A DRIVER’S LICENSE, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION 23 OF REPUBLIC

ACT NO. 4136, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE ‘LAND TRANSPORTATION
AND TRAFFIC CODE’ ”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing
(H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 2818, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING INTEGRATED URBAN
AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ALL
METROPOLITAN AREAS NATIONWIDE
TO ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY
CONCERNS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD
SECURITY

House Bill No. 2819, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A VOLUNTARY
STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM BY BANKS
AND GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL
INSTITUTIONS”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing
(H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 2820, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTHCARE
FACILITIES TO PROVIDE A PRICE LIST OF
ITS HEALTHCARE SERVICES INCLUDING
INCIDENTAL EXPENSES AND MEDICAL
SUPPLIES THAT CAN BE CHARGED IN
THE MEDICAL BILL”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing
(H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 2821, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO FRESH
GRADUATES BY WAIVING GOVERNMENT
FEES AND CHARGES COLLECTED IN
CONNECTION WITH DOCUMENTARY
REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYMENT”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing
(H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 2822, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL
VISION SCREENING PROGRAM FOR ALL
PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN PUPILS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 2823, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SENIOR VISION SERVICES PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS WITH FUNCTIONAL VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS”

By Representative Suansing (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND
FAMILY RELATIONS

House Bill No. 2824, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY APPOINTMENT OF A COOPERATIVES OFFICER IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 487, ARTICLE 17, TITLE V, BOOK 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991’ ”

By Representative Suansing (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2825, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 709 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1464, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS

House Bill No. 2826, entitled:

“AN ACT INTEGRATING PALLIATIVE AND HOSPICE CARE INTO THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 2827, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT TO TEN (10) YEARS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239”

By Representative Andaya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN
AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 2828, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTILLING FISCAL DISCIPLINE

IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR BY SPECIFYING PRINCIPLES OF RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTING FULL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN GOVERNMENT REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND BORROWING PROGRAMS”

By Representative Andaya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 2829, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING FALSE OR FRAUDULENT ADVERTISING AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Billones
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 2830, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING SIXTEEN (16) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURTS IN THE WHOLE PROVINCE OF BATANGAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AMENDING BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980’, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abu
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 2831, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOOD SUBSIDY EVERY QUARTER TO SENIOR CITIZENS IN THE FORM OF ONE (1) SACK OF RICE AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010’ ”

By Representative Zubiri
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND
FAMILY RELATIONS

House Bill No. 2832, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE POWER OF THE PRESIDENT TO DEFER, RESCIND, OR RESERVE EXPENDITURE OF APPROPRIATIONS AUTHORIZED BY CONGRESS”

By Representative Villarín
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 2833, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE COCONUT

FARMERS TRUST FUND AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION”

By Representative Villarín
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 2834, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9851 ‘AN ACT DEFINING AND PENALIZING CRIMES AGAINST INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW, GENOCIDE AND OTHER CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY, ORGANIZING JURISDICTION, DESIGNATING SPECIAL COURTS, AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES’ ”

By Representative Roque (H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 2839, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, WHOSE STATUS OF APPOINTMENT IS EITHER CASUAL OR CONTRACTUAL AND WHO HAVE RENDERED A TOTAL OF FIVE YEARS OF EFFICIENT SERVICE”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 2835, entitled:

“AN ACT IN COMPLIANCE BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE ROME STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Roque (H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 2840, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE COCONUT LEVY ASSETS AS A TRUST FUND, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION, AUTHORIZING THE PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE TO DISPOSE THE COCONUT LEVY ASSETS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2836, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FREE WI-FI INTERNET ACCESS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS, TRANSPORT TERMINALS AND PARKS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2841, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STRATEGIC FOOD SECURITY RICE RESERVE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 2837, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROMOTE FARMER AND FISHERFOLK ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT TO BE KNOWN AS ‘SAGIP SAKA ACT OF 2016’ ”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2842, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES, PROVIDING FOR ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 2838, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE MATERNITY LEAVE PERIOD TO ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) DAYS OF FEMALE EMPLOYEES IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND GRANTING AN OPTION TO FURTHER EXTEND SAID PERIOD FOR AN ADDITIONAL THIRTY (30) DAYS WITHOUT PAY, AMENDING

House Bill No. 2843, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE OF GOVERNMENT DOCTORS FROM SALARY GRADE 16 TO 24”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 2844, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING IN THE PLANNING AND IDENTIFICATION OF PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED BY THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT”

By Representative Baguilat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 2845, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS NORTHERN CEBU COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE TO BE LOCATED AT CURVA, MEDELLIN, CEBU PROVINCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Salimbangon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 2846, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF AN ALTERNATE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO MACTAN CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MEDELLIN, CEBU PROVINCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Salimbangon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 2847, entitled:

“AN ACT RECONSTITUTING THE PAMPANGA ENGINEERING DISTRICT OFFICES IN THE PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA INTO FOUR (4) REGULAR DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gonzales (A.D.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 2848, entitled:

“AN ACT TOTALLY BANNING LOGGING OPERATIONS FOR THE NEXT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS”

By Representative Cuaresma
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 2849, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY

OF VETERANS REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500), UPGRADING ITS SERVICES, FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, CHANGING ITS NAME TO REGION II TRAUMA AND MEDICAL CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Cuaresma
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 2850, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO RECOMMEND A UNIFORM STRATEGY TO PROTECT WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENT CRIME”

By Representative Cuaresma
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 2851, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE JURISDICTION OF THE KATARUNGANG PAMBARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Cuaresma
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2852, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF (NORTH) COTABATO A MINING FREE ZONE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Tejada
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 2853, entitled:

“AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE PEOPLE’S RIGHT TO INFORMATION”

By Representative Rocamora
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 2854, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LIFE CENTER THAT WILL SERVE AS A DISASTER AND EMERGENCY CENTER IN THE CITY OF ORMOC IN THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gomez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE
AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 2855, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING RESTAURANTS,
HOTELS, INNS, CANTEENS,
STEAKHOUSES, EATERIES AND THE
LIKE TO PUT HALF RICE ON THEIR
MENUS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tan (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 2856, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE
EXPANDED STUDENTS GRANTS-IN-AID
PROGRAM FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION
(ESGP-PA) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Tan (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY
ALLEVIATION

House Bill No. 2857, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE IRRIGATION
SERVICES TO FARMERS, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3601, PRESIDENTIAL
DECREE NO. 552 AND PRESIDENTIAL
DECREE NO. 1702”

By Representative Tan (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2858, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING MINIMUM
STANDARDS IN THE QUALITY OF
MOBILE PHONE SERVICES”

By Representative Sarmiento (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2859, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING OFFICE ERGONOMIC
STANDARDS TO ADDRESS THE HEALTH
RISKS RELATED TO COMPUTER USE IN
THE WORKPLACE”

By Representative Sarmiento (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 2860, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING THE PHILIPPINE
NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS
COMPANIES, DEFINING THEIR ROLES

AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Sarmiento (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 2861, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE
MANDATORY ESTABLISHMENT OF A
POPULATION OFFICE IN ALL PROVINCES,
CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 488 (A) OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS ‘THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CODE OF 1991’, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Marquez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 2862, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING AGRI-TOURISM
BY IDENTIFYING AREAS THAT ARE
VIABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND
STRENGTHENING THE INDUSTRY AS A
WHOLE”

By Representatives Lee and Salon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2863, entitled:

“AN ACT TO CREATE AN AGRICULTURE
SCHOLARSHIP FUND”

By Representatives Lee and Salon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2864, entitled:

“AN ACT TO INTEGRATE, COORDINATE,
AND INTENSIFY SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT IN AGRICULTURE”

By Representatives Lee and Salon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2865, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATION
TRUST FUND FOR GRANTEES OF GSIS
AND SSS MEMBERS AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 2866, entitled:

“AN ACT CONSTITUTING A CONGRESSIONAL

OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON DEBT MANAGEMENT TO LOOK INTO ALL FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC BORROWINGS NEGOTIATED, CONTRACTED OR GUARANTEED BY THE PRESIDENT ON BEHALF OF THE PHILIPPINES AS WELL AS THOSE BY THE GOVERNMENT OR GOVERNMENT OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Escudero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 2867, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL CAREER ASSESSMENT EXAMINATION TO PROVIDE A CAREER DIRECTION PROGRAM FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Escudero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 2868, entitled:

“AN ACT DEFINING THE CONCEPT OF SAVINGS AND REGULATING THE PROCESS OF AUGMENTATION BY THE PRESIDENT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE VI, SECTION 25 (5) OF THE PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION”

By Representative Villarín

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 2869, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING CONSUMERS OF WIRELESS TELEPHONE SERVICES”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2870, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, UNDER CERTAIN CONDITIONS, WHOSE STATUS OF APPOINTMENT IS EITHER CASUAL OR CONTRACTUAL AND WHO HAVE RENDERED A TOTAL OF FIVE (5) YEARS OF EFFICIENT SERVICE”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 2871, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING OPEN ACCESS IN DATA TRANSMISSION, PROVIDING ADDITIONAL POWERS TO THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2872, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES FROM IMPOSING AN EXPIRATION PERIOD ON THE VALIDITY OF PREPAID CALL AND TEXT CARDS AND THE FORFEITURE OF LOAD CREDITS THEREOF”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2873, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING NUMBER PORTABILITY FOR MOBILE TELEPHONE SERVICE”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2874, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING MALICIOUS USE OF A TELECOMMUNICATION DEVICE”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2875, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE STANDARDS”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2876, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROMOTE AND GOVERN THE DEVELOPMENT, REGULATION AND PROMOTION OF ACCESS TO CONVERGE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGIES AND SERVICES IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Yap (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 2877, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9237 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AMOUNT APO PROTECTED AREA ACT OF 2003, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Catamco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 2878, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLANUEVA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (K), OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980’, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Uy (J.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 2879, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY BALIWAGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF BALINGASAG TO BARANGAY APOSKAHOY, MUNICIPALITY OF CLAVERIA, ALL OF THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Uy (J.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 2880, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FREE IRRIGATION SERVICES TO FARMERS BENEFICIARIES AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Oaminal
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 2881, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO JUNIOR CITIZENS”

By Representative Barbers
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 201, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING MS. HIDILYN DIAZ

FOR WINNING A SILVER MEDAL IN WEIGHTLIFTING IN THE 2016 RIO OLYMPICS”

By Representative Go (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 202, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING MS. HIDILYN DIAZ FOR WINNING A SILVER MEDAL IN THE 53KG WEIGHTLIFTING CATEGORY AT THE XXXI OLYMPIAD HELD IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 203, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS (DOTC) TO LAY DOWN THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE GENERAL REFURBISHMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS (PNR) MASS TRANSPORT SYSTEM”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 204, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE SCIENTIFIC VALIDITY OF THE FINDINGS THAT ALKALINE WATER IS THE SECRET TO LONGEVITY AND, IN THE EVENT THAT THE SCIENTIFIC FACTS ARE THUS ESTABLISHED, RECOMMEND PRACTICAL WAYS BY WHICH TO MAKE ALKALINE WATER WIDELY AVAILABLE”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 205, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT FOR ITS VOW TO CONTINUE ITS DEVELOPMENT AID PROJECTS FOR MINDANAO AS PART OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO PEACE IN THE REGION, NOW THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT (MILF) ARE APPROACHING A FINAL ACCORD TO END DECADES OF CONFLICT”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY

House Resolution No. 206, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION FOR THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO AND PRESCRIBE REMEDIAL MEASURES TO THE LOOPHOLE ON RA 10533 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT ENHANCING THE PHILIPPINE BASIC EDUCATION SYSTEM BY STRENGTHENING ITS CURRICULUM AND INCREASING THE NUMBER OF YEARS FOR BASIC EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,’ OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013,’ WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE OVERLOOKED THE CONSIDERABLE TOLL ON COLLEGE TEACHERS OF THE TRANSITION FROM GRADES 11 TO 12 TO COLLEGE”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 207, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN TO LOOK INTO THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CHARACTER-BASED VIDEO GAMES ON CHILDREN AND PRESCRIBE COUNTERMEASURES TO CURB, IF NOT DISCOURAGE YOUNGSTERS FROM ENGAGING IN SUCH CHARACTER-BASED VIDEO GAMES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 208, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING OLYMPIC WEIGHTLIFTER HIDILYN DIAZ FOR WINNING A SILVER MEDAL IN THE 2016 SUMMER OLYMPICS IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL AND FOR BRINGING HONOR TO THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Abayon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 209, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON ECOLOGY, NATURAL RESOURCES AND AGRARIAN REFORM TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO INVESTIGATE THE ALLEGED LAND GRABBING BY THE MARIA THERESA VIRATA REALTY CORPORATION AND HENRY SY’S MANILA SOUTHCOAST DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION INVOLVING 602

HECTARES OF PATUNGAN COVE, AND DISPLACING THE FISHERFOLK AND FARMER COMMUNITY AT BRGY. STA. MERCEDES, MARAGONDON, CAVITE”

By Representatives Casilao, Zarate, De Jesus, Tinio, Brosas, Castro (F.L.) and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 210, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE VIOLENT DISPERSAL OF PROTESTING FARMERS ON APRIL 01, 2016, DUBBED AS THE ‘KIDAPAWAN MASSACRE’, PERPETRATED BY ELEMENTS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE THAT LED TO THE DEATH OF TWO (2) FARMERS, WOUNDING OF MORE THAN A HUNDRED, AND CHARGING OF EIGHTY-ONE (81) OTHERS WITH TRUMPED-UP CASES, AND CAUSED TRAUMA TO PREGNANT AND ELDERLY WOMEN WHO WERE AMONG THOSE ILLEGALLY DETAINED AND FALSELY CHARGED”

By Representatives Brosas and De Jesus
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 211, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINA WEIGHTLIFTER HIDILYN DIAZ FOR MAKING THE COUNTRY PROUD BY WINNING THE SILVER MEDAL IN THE 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL”

By Representative Gomez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 212, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE REQUIRED LEVEL OF ANCILLARY SERVICES NECESSARY TO SUPPORT THE TRANSMISSION OF CAPACITY AND ENERGY FROM RESOURCES TO LOADS WHILE MAINTAINING RELIABLE OPERATION OF THE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THE NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES HAS BEEN COMPLYING WITH THE SAME”

By Representative Velasco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 213, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT URGES THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO FORMALLY ACKNOWLEDGE, APOLOGIZE FOR AND ACCEPT ITS RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE SEXUAL SLAVERY OF YOUNG WOMEN COMMONLY KNOWN AS COMFORT WOMEN BY THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY DURING WORLD WAR II AND PROVIDE COMPENSATION TO THE VICTIMS”

By Representatives De Jesus and Brosas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

House Resolution No. 214, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING CONCHITA CLAUDIO CARPIO-MORALES AS ONE OF THE AWARDEES OF THE PRESTIGIOUS RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARDS FOR 2016, RECOGNIZES HER MORAL COURAGE AND COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE; PROMOTING BY HER EXAMPLE OF INCORRUPTIBILITY, DILIGENCE, VISION AND LEADERSHIP, THE HIGHEST ETHICAL STANDARDS IN PUBLIC SERVICE”

By Representative Uy (J.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Resolution No. 215, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING PHILIPPINE SOLDIERS (TOPS) OF 2016 AWARDED BY THE METROBANK FOUNDATION, INC. AND THE ROTARY CLUB OF MAKATI METRO”

By Representative Alejano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao for House Bills No. 247, 249 and 250;

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing for House Bills No. 325, 2042 and 2149;

Rep. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA, LLb. for House Bills No. 52, 183, 184, 326, 399, 447, 478, 493, 494, 618, 620, 714 and 1480;

Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe for House Bill No. 1480;

Rep. Julieta R. Cortuna for House Bill No. 361;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bills No. 87, 104, 138, 338, 340 and 412;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bills No. 534, 1319, 1320 and 1474;

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III for House Bills No. 37, 39, 152, 183, 252, 749, 760, 1663 and 1169;

Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva for House Bills No. 2007 and 2073;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Bill No. 551;
Rep. Edward Vera Perez Maceda for House Bill No. 34;

Reps. Vini Nola A. Ortega and Jennifer AustriaBarzaga for House Bill No. 580;

Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga for House Bill No. 361;

Rep. Makmod D. Mending Jr. for House Bills No. 491, 492, 493, 494 and 495;

Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers for House Bills No. 122, 123, 2220, 2226, 2227 and 2474;

Rep. Melecio J. Yap Jr. for House Bills No. 74 and 1379;

Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo for House Bills No. 74 and 139;

Rep. Teodoro “Ted” G. Montoro for House Bills No. 74 and 720;

Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 79, 592, 673, 674, 827, 1034, 1520, 1525, 1558, 1567, 1569, 1577, 1867 and 1894;

Rep. Raul V. Del Mar for House Bill No. 3;

Rep. Carlito S. Marquez for House Bill No. 1172;

Rep. Mark Aeron H. Sambar for House Bills No. 3, 36, 43, 436, 1996 and 2143;

Rep. Vincent “Bingbong” P. Crisologo for House Bills No. 618, 619, 620, 621, 1361, 2113 and 2389;

Rep. Franz E. Alvarez for House Bill No. 621;

Rep. Abdullah D. Dimaporo for House Bills No. 123, 2691, 2692 and 2693;

Rep. Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada for House Bills No. 122 and 123;

Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe for House Bills No. 9 and 10;

Rep. Michelle M. Antonio for House Bill No. 324; and
Rep. Gwendolyn F. Garcia for House Bill No. 2312.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters dated August 4 and 10, 2016 of Roger E. Dino, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas issuances, to wit:

1. Circular Letter No. CL-2016-063 dated 28 July 2016;

2. Circular Letter No. CL-2016-064 dated 28 July 2016;
 3. Circular No. 918 dated 2 August 2016;
 4. Circular Letter No. CL-2016-065 dated 29 July 2016;
 5. Circular Letter No. CL-2016-066 dated 28 July 2016;
 6. Circular Letter No. CL-2016-067 dated 29 July 2016; and
 7. Circular No. 919 dated 2 August 2016.
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letter dated 10 August 2016 of Reynaldo A. Catapang, Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, furnishing the House of Representatives with the "Report to Congress on Assistance to Nationals" for the period July to December 2015, in CD digital format, pursuant to Section 33 of Republic Act No. 8042.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of some of our guests in the gallery. First are the guests of the Representative from the Fourth District of Pangasinan, the Hon. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia.

His guests include our beloved former Speaker Jose De Venecia, former Cong. Gina De Venecia, Mme. Marichu Maceda, Mme. Elizabeth Nakpil, Chona Ampil, Maridee Rodriguez, Maryanne Robles, Bibi Yu, Nelson and Roselle Sotto, Tess Gonzales, Rica Maceda, and Ruperta Rodriguez, guests of the Hon. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Welcome to the House of Representatives, guests of Hon. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia, particularly our former Speaker Jose De Venecia.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of our honorable Deputy Speaker, the Hon. Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu. They are from the municipalities of Mabini, Tingloy, and Lobo, Batangas, namely: the Municipal Officials of Mabini, headed by their Mayor Noel "Bitrics" Luistro; Sangguniang Bayan Officials of Mabini, headed by Vice Mayor Jun Villanueva; Barangay Volunteer Workers of the municipality of Mabini, headed by Mrs. Josie Alcaide; League of Barangay Officials of the municipality of Tingloy, headed by Barangay

Captain Aileen Mendoza; Barangay Volunteer Workers of the municipality of Tingloy, headed by Ms. Belen Belen; League of Barangay Officials of the municipality of Lobo, Batangas, headed by Barangay Captain Nicasio Dueñas; and Barangay Volunteer Workers of Lobo, Batangas, headed by Ms. Ma. Asuncion Macatangay. They are all guests of our esteemed Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Welcome to the House of Representatives, my dear guests.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of this humble Representation, your Sr. Dep. Majority Leader, Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc. They are the delegation from Candaba, Pampanga, led by Vice Mayor Michael Sagum; the Barangay Council of Dalayap, headed by Barangay Captain Arnel Cruz; and the Barangay Council of Bahay Pare, headed by Barangay Captain Alvin Carpio. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Please rise, guests of Sr. Dep. Majority Leader Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc. Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Emmanuel A. Billones from the First District of Capiz, and of Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate of Party-List BAYAN MUNA. They are journalists from Davao City, headed by Ver Bermudez, Roland Jumawan, and Neri Panotes. They are all guests of the Honorable Billones and Honorable Zarate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The guests of Honorable Billones and Honorable Zarate are welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the honorable Representative of the Lone District of Biñan, Mme. Len B. Alonte-Naguiat. They are the guests from the Department of Education, namely: Regional Director Diosdado San Antonio; Division Superintendent, Director Hereberto Miranda; and District Supervisor, Dr. Mary Ann Tatlongmaria, all guests of the Hon. Len B. Alonte-Naguiat. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Together with Congresswoman Alonte-Naguiat, we welcome our Regional Director of the Department of Education, Director San Antonio. Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of our Deputy Majority Leader, Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr., of the Third District of Pampanga. They are the students of St. Scholastica’s Academy, San Fernando, Pampanga, Batch 1992, guests of the Hon. Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The guests of Hon. Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr. are welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, I move for the reconsideration of Journal No. 10 of Monday, August 15, 2016, for a correction to be made by the honorable Cong. Edcel C. Lagman.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, I move for the recognition of the Gentleman from the First District of Albay, the Hon. Edcel C. Lagman, for his correction to the reconsidered Journal.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from the First District of Albay is recognized.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House approved the Journal for Monday, August 15, 2016. I was among those who approved the Journal. But last night, I was reading again the Journal and I found out that there is a word in the Journal which should be corrected. That is on page 27 of the Journal, Monday, August 15, 2016, and I read the portion, and I quote:

Rep. Lagman appealed the ruling of the Chair. He said that he had many pending overriding questions such as who was the Majority Leader who accepted the application of Rep. Suarez to join the Minority from the Majority.

In order to have this in context, and consistent with the essence of the statement, the word “Majority” should be changed or corrected to “MINORITY”.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Sr. Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, the Majority joins the Honorable Lagman in the correction of the Journal.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) May you please, Dep. Majority Leader, state the proper context or the literature of the said statement.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, we second the motion of the Honorable Lagman to change the word from “Majority” to “MINORITY”.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

REP. LAGMAN. That is found on line 3 ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Line 3.

REP. LAGMAN. ... of the statement I read.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). It will be read as, “Representative Lagman appealed the ruling of the Chair. He said that he had many pending overriding questions, such as who x x x.” Approved.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, consistent with the approval of the correction, the transcript of the proceedings last Monday, found on page 2, heading “Cabato-3, August 15, 2016, 7:05 p.m.,” the same correction should be effected, and the proper office of the House should be advised of such correction.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, we note the manifestation of the Honorable Lagman, and would like to provide the additional information that this transcript is not actually an official document, but it is actually a transcription as heard by our transcriber. But his manifestation is now part of the public record, as part of our session today, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, honorable Majority Leader.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Majority Leader is recognized.

RECONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF JOURNAL NO. 10, AS AMENDED

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, having disposed of Business of the Day, Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 10 of Monday, August 15, as reconsidered and amended.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; Journal No.

10 dated August 15, 2016, is hereby approved as having been reconsidered and amended.

REP. UNICO. Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. UNICO. Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. UNICO. Just a point of inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

What is the pleasure of the Gentleman from 1-SAGIP Party-List?

REP. MARCOLETA. I am sorry, I am a little bit slow in making this statement. But I also move to reconsider Journal No. 10, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, insofar as certain portions were not quite reflective of the true deliberations on the floor, more particularly, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, on pages 28 and 29 ...

REP. UNICO. Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. ... under the caption "Parliamentary Inquiry" of this Representation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, as a point of information, earlier we were approached by the Honorable Marcoleta for substantial changes into the Journal that he is referring to. It was the advice of the Deputy Majority Leader that he submits his proposed amendments to the Journal to the Committee on Rules as they are substantial in nature and would affect the nature of the Journal.

So, I beg the indulgence of the Gentleman that we will gladly correct any deficiencies in the Journal after a perusal of his amendments in the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from 1-SAGIP is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I was supposed to explain to him that it is not substantial insofar as the written record is concerned because this is only a pure rewriting of the two paragraphs. Because if the rewriting is not done, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, the substantial essence and the context of the deliberation was not faithfully captured. The only, I would say, substantial part is that an insertion,

because this Representation believes that certain parts of what I have said during the deliberation, like for example, when I was asking for two minutes, it was not reflected in the Journal, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, we fully sympathize with our colleague, the Honorable Marcoleta, and we look forward to giving ventilation to his changes in the Journal. All we ask for is a chance to study his proposed changes which we have not yet been given in the Committee on Rules and we assure him that we will give due course to his amendments, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

REP. MARCOLETA. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. With that statement and I would make manifest on record that I am giving a copy to the Journal Service for the consideration of the floor here, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, we thank the...

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker.

REP. BONDOC. ...we would like to thank the Honorable Marcoleta for...

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

REP. BONDOC. ...giving way to the business of the House.

REP. LAGMAN. We appreciate the leniency given our colleague.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Excuse me. May I recognize the Gentleman from the First District of Albay. What is the pleasure of the Gentleman from the First District of Albay?

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, we appreciate the leniency given to the distinguished Gentleman, the Honorable Marcoleta. But we hope that this should be extended to a relaxation of the Rules because under Section 103 on Reconsideration, under Rule XIII, the motion for reconsideration can only be made on the day the motion was approved, or immediately, on the following session day. So, we hope that the Honorable Marcoleta's correction will not be barred by this Section on reconsideration.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, we would like to assure the Honorable Lagman and the Honorable Marcoleta, and all the Members of the House that we would be most liberal in the appreciation of any of their grievances to the point of relaxing the Rules of the House without objection from any of the Members to the maximum of our ability for them to be able to ventilate whatever issues they would like, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

REP. UNICO. Mr. Speaker, just a point of inquiry please.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). What is the point of inquiry?

REP. UNICO. Well, this Representation received from the Committee on...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). May you please...

REP. UNICO. From Camarines Norte, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from Camarines Norte, Hon. Renato J. Unico Jr. is recognized.

REP. UNICO. Mr. Speaker, this Representation received from the Committee on Appropriations, schedule of budget hearings which will start next week, Monday. So, in order for us to be able to actively participate in the budget deliberations, may I inquire as to when we will be furnished or given copies of the National Expenditure Program or the NEP for fiscal year 2017, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, I believe it is currently being distributed as of this moment.

REP. UNICO. So thank you, Mr. Speaker, if that is the case.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, having disposed of the Business for the Day and with unanimous approval of the House, I move that we proceed to the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER. (Rep. Abu) Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Chair declares a Privilege Hour.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, pardon my error, I move that we suspend the Privilege Hour to give way to the calling of the roll. I move to suspend the Privilege Hour, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER. (Rep. Abu) Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

ROLL CALL

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor I move that we call the roll.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is as follows, per Journal No. 12.

PRESENT:

Abad	Angara-Castillo
Abayon	Antonino
Abellanos	Aragones
Abu	Arcillas
Abueg	Atienza
Acharon	Bag-ao
Acop	Bagatsing
Acosta	Barbers
Adiong	Barzaga
Advincula	Bataoil
Aggabao	Batocabe
Aglipay-Villar	Bautista-Bandigan
Akbar	Belaro
Albano	Belmonte (F.)
Alcala	Belmonte (J.)
Alonte-Naguiat	Belmonte (R.)
Alvarez (F.)	Benitez
Alvarez (P.)	Bernos
Amante	Biazon
Amatong	Billones
Andaya	Biron

Bolilia	Fortuno	Pancho	Suansing (H.)
Bondoc	Fuentebella	Panganiban	Suarez
Bordado	Garbin	Panotes	Sy-Alvarado
Bravo (A.)	Garcia (G.)	Pichay	Tambunting
Bravo (M.)	Garcia (J.)	Pimentel	Tan (A.)
Brosas	Garcia-Albano	Pineda	Tan (M.)
Bulut-Begtang	Garin (R.)	Plaza	Teves
Cagas	Garin (S.)	Primicias-Agabas	Tiangco
Calderon	Gasataya	Quimbo	Ting
Calixto-Rubiano	Geron	Ramirez-Sato	Tinio
Caminero	Go (A.C.)	Ramos	Tugna
Campos	Go (M.)	Relampagos	Tupas
Cari	Gomez	Revilla	Ty
Casilao	Gonzales (A.P.)	Roa-Puno	Umali
Castelo	Gonzales (A.D.)	Robes	Unabia
Castro (F.L.)	Gonzalez	Rocamora	Ungab
Castro (F.H.)	Gorriceta	Rodriguez (I.)	Unico
Cayetano	Gullas	Rodriguez (M.)	Uy (J.)
Celeste	Hernandez	Roman	Uy (R.)
Cerafica	Herrera-Dy	Romero	Uybarreta
Cerilles	Hofer	Romualdez	Vargas
Chavez	Khonghun	Romualdo	Vargas-Alfonso
Chipeco	Labadlabad	Roque (H.)	Velarde
Co	Lacson	Roque (R.)	Velasco
Cojuangco	Lagman	Sacdalan	Velasco-Catera
Collantes	Lanete	Sagarbarria	Veloso
Cortes	Laogan	Sahali	Vergara
Cortuna	Lazatin	Salceda	Villafuerte
Cosalan	Lobregat	Salo	Villanueva
Crisologo	Lopez (B.)	Salon	Villaraza-Suarez
Cua	Lopez (M.)	Sambar	Villarica
Cuaresma	Macapagal-Arroyo	Sandoval	Villarin
Cueva	Maceda	Sarmiento (C.)	Violago
Dalipe	Madrona	Sarmiento (E.)	Yap (A.)
Daza	Malapitan	Savellano	Yap (M.)
De Jesus	Manalo	Siao	Yu
De Venecia	Mangaoang	Silverio	Zarate
De Vera	Mangudadatu (S.)	Singson	Zubiri
Defensor	Mangudadatu (Z.)	Suansing (E.)	
Del Mar	Marcoleta		
Del Rosario	Marcos		
Deloso-Montalla	Mariño		
Dimaporo (A.)	Marquez		
Dimaporo (M.)	Martinez		
Duavit	Mellana		
Dy	Mercado		
Elago	Mirasol		
Erice	Montoro		
Eriguel	Nieto		
Ermita-Buhain	Noel		
Escudero	Nogralas (J.)		
Espina	Nolasco		
Espino	Nuñez-Malanyaon		
Estrella	Oaminal		
Eusebio	Ocampo		
Evardone	Ong (E.)		
Fariñas	Ong (H.)		
Fernando	Ortega (P.)		
Ferrer (J.)	Ortega (V.)		
Ferriol-Pascual	Pacquiao		
Floirendo	Paduano		
Fortun	Palma		

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 243 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). With 243 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

We just would like to commend the present leadership of the House because today in the Seventeenth Congress, it is noticeable that we call the roll as early as possible, nearest to the session call which is four o'clock. Ito po ay matagal na naming ipinaglalaman,

subalit isang katotohanan ay sa nakaraang Kongreso, ang roll call ay tinatawag patapos na po ang sesyon at marami pong ulit na hindi na po tinatawag ang roll call. Kaya ngayon na ginagawa na natin ang tama, we have to congratulate the leadership, the Majority Leaders, the Speaker, in their desire to encourage more and more attendance in our sessions. Naniniwala po kami na ito ay magbubunga ng tama sa ating pagbuo ng isang Kongresong nagtatrabaho at mayroon pong dedikasyon sa kani-kanilang trabaho.

Together with the Members of the Seventeenth Congress, I congratulate everybody who tries to be here as early as he can, and the Majority Leader for really calling the roll as early as possible. This will result in the improvement of the quality of our lawmaking.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The commendation coming from the Sr. Dep. Minority Leader is very well taken. Thank you very much, Sir.

REP. DEFENSOR. We are grateful to the Gentleman for the commendation, Mr. Speaker.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for the approval of Journal No. 11 of the session on August 16, 2016.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; Journal No. 11, dated August 16, 2016, is hereby approved.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

Continuation

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for the resumption of the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, first to speak is the distinguished Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan. May we recognize the Hon. Christopher “Toff” Vera Perez De Venecia.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan, the honorable Rep. Christopher “Toff” Vera Perez De Venecia is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. DE VENECIA

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, my distinguished colleagues, I rise to offer my support to President Rodrigo Duterte’s campaign against illegal drugs. As the Philippine National Police zero in on eradicating the supply, I ask that we parallel their efforts by proposing various legislations and mechanisms on mitigating and reducing the demand for narcotics and illegal drugs as echoed by my distinguished colleague from Muntinlupa in yesterday’s interpellation, some of which include:

- Capacitating various sectors of the government in the fight against drugs including the barangay to strategize and implement programs on drug abuse prevention;
- Building and expanding rehabilitation facilities to accommodate more of our brothers and sisters in their recovery;
- Ensuring their reintegration back to society as they themselves are victims of societal conditions and circumstances; and finally,
- Ensuing a multisectoral approach on the war on drugs.

Let me begin by relating the story of Rowena Tiamson from our city of Dagupan, an honor student and a member of her church’s choir. Hers was a promising life, cut short by an unfortunate tragedy. Four weeks ago, her lifeless body was found in Parian, Manaoag, hog-tied, with a gunshot wound on her head. Beside her was a piece of cardboard with words “Huwag tularan, pusher.” Sadly, churchgoers would no longer be able to hear her sing beautifully. Her parents’ dreams and her dreams all but snuffed out with the callous pull of a trigger. She would have graduated this October with a degree in Mass Communications at the Colegio de Dagupan.

Reports said that Rowena was a victim of mistaken identity. According to the Pangasinan Provincial Police, Rowena was not part of the list of drug personalities. She was collateral damage to the activities of a so-called “Dagupan and Pangasinan Death Squad” who have taken upon themselves to extract their own brand of justice by way of extrajudicial killings. Her family and friends have remained vigilant about exposing the truth and clearing her name via the hashtag “Justice for Rowena” but whether she is wrongly accused or guilty is irrelevant because Rowena is now just a footnote in the cold statistics of extrajudicial killings in our country, an unfortunate effect of an isolationist campaign against drugs, one that is not strongly supported by due process.

As part of the administration’s efforts to end the surge of drug abuse, the Philippine National Police has been instructed to eradicate the supply of narcotics in the country. To do so, they have admonished suspected drug users and drug pushers to surrender, file an affidavit of

use, and identify their source. It is the method by which they are able to establish the totem pole or family tree of the insidious narcotic ecosystem of users, suppliers, manufacturers and syndicates, destroying our country and corrupting our people most especially the youth.

As a corresponding parallel national effort, I enjoin various sectors within our community and society to collaborate with the President and the PNP in proactively reducing the demand for narcotics and illegal drugs in the country through prevention because, as opposed to the reductive mindset of some, cutting off the supply does not necessarily eliminate the demand. This idea comes as very relevant considering that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reported that the simplest and most cost-effective way to lower the human and societal costs of drug abuse is to prevent it in the first place.

We must recognize that the formula embodied in the present efforts to curb drug abuse is not its end-all, be-all. It is only the beginning, as mentioned by my distinguished colleague from AKO BICOL Party-List yesterday. For one, it has been deplored in various media as chimerical, perhaps, even quixotic, to some extent, citing that there has never been a successful war on drugs in any country.

But I beg to disagree. I am a firm believer in the concept of disruption, finding new solutions to old problems. There is strength in working together rather than working apart. Thus, the war on drugs should not only be a war by the President or the PNP. It should be a multisectoral battle that hinges on multisectoral cooperation from the barangay, the health sector, the church, our educational institutions, civil society, and even mass media. So, what are these possible collaborations?

On the level of the barangay, I call on the immediate convening of the BADAC or Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council as a first line of defense in this war against drugs. The BADAC, headed by the barangay chairman, and composed of barangay council members, the school principal, the Sangguniang Kabataan chair, chief tanod, civic organizations, and a representative from a faith-based organization, should meet regularly to brainstorm programs on drug prevention. To be able to solve the drug problem, we must first know the root of the problem. Therefore, it is important for the BADAC to also collaborate with various sectors like Parents-Teachers Associations, health workers, senior citizens, youth groups, even the TODAs or the Tricycle Operators and Drivers Associations.

I call on our barangay families to allocate a portion of their internal revenue allotment or IRA for the proliferation of the said body, and for provincial and municipal governments to be vigilant about its implementation. I also call on the DILG and the DOH to capacitate the BADAC by providing drug testing kits,

drug dependency and assessment mechanisms, trainings and other forms of assistance, so that they could be ardent frontliners in this war on drugs. At this point, I would like to acknowledge our friends from Bontoc and Mountain Province, Butuan City, Pampanga and Cotabato, who have already begun birthing anew their BADACs. I call on everybody to do the same.

On the level of the school, I call upon the Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education to include drug education in the curriculum of all levels including primary, secondary and tertiary education, provided that the syllabus is sensitive, meaningful and age-appropriate, fitted to the absorptive capacity of the students. The DepEd and the CHED should work in consultation with the NCCA or the National Commission for Culture and the Arts for its cultural rootedness, transformativity and overall impact. If it is said that culture is a tool for nation-building, then it should be a powerful tool in nation-rebuilding, rebuilding a nation that has suffered because of the insidiousness of drugs.

I also call upon the National Youth Commission and urge Chairperson Aiza Seguerra to provide their invaluable input and collaborate with the DepEd, the CHED and the NCCA to achieve a tailored and effective drug education module.

On the level of health, I call for the establishment and expansion of existing drug rehabilitation centers such as the ones found in Davao, Pangasinan, Cebu, Zamboanga, Albay, Camarines Sur, Iloilo, Negros Occidental and Leyte, among many others. These institutions should be able to cater to men, women and minors who are drug dependents, making available at affordable rates or through state subsidy in-patient services and dormitories for the duration of the treatment under the keen supervision of the Department of Health.

As a side note, I would like to commend and congratulate my colleague and kababayan, as I myself am half-Bicolano, Representative Batocabe, on his speech regarding the need for the establishment of more rehab centers yesterday. This Representation shares your sentiment and supports your cause. As thoroughly discussed by Representative Batocabe yesterday, rehab centers should provide the proper assessment for drug users who have voluntarily surrendered themselves to the police or the barangay chair as head of the BADAC, or upon the issuance of a regional court order upon prosecution, and recommend appropriate action to be undertaken for the said drug dependent. The center should also provide for psychosocial therapy, cognitive therapy, counselling and coping mechanisms to ensure the patient's best chances of reintegrating back to his or her respective community.

In Dagupan City, our drug rehabilitation center was set up with a bed capacity of 300 people through the

efforts of my father, former Speaker Jose De Venecia, and my mother, former Cong. Gina De Venecia. However, even with a bed capacity of 300 people, our rehab center is struggling to accommodate the recent influx of drug dependent patients coming from Regions I, II and the Cordillera Administrative Region. It is only logical that the President's war against drugs serves as impetus to expand the facility to accommodate inpatient services and dormitories for female drug users as well as minors.

As the campaign against drugs becomes increasingly successful, we call upon said drug rehab centers to be proactive and capacitate social workers or qualified health practitioners at the municipal or barangay level with the help of the local government to be able to make the proper drug assessment and recommend appropriate action.

Hindi naman po sila lahat ay drug addict.

I also call on the DOH to assist in augmenting the availability of health workers necessary for this task especially in light of the influx of voluntary surrenders. Most importantly, I am pushing for an increase of the budget of the DOH which is direly needed to effectively implement the proposed solutions I have mentioned herein.

On the part of media conglomerates, celebrity culture and mass media, it is imperative that the government work hand in hand with them in the propagation of drug prevention, measures and mechanisms. I would like to enjoin my colleagues who are knowledgeable in the entertainment sector to work with their office to craft legislations on providing incentive and recognition for those who voluntarily broadcast or publish creative and meaningful public service announcements on drug prevention.

More importantly, the media can help underscore the insidiousness of the culture of drug addiction in the country, and that it is first and foremost a priority health issue that demands our utmost attention.

The Movie and Television Review and Classification Board or the MTRCB may also be enjoined to regulate and supervise films, television shows, advertisements and publicity materials that are discriminatory in nature against drug users. In a time of great crisis brought about by the vast proliferation of drugs and narcotics in our country, our cultural and media practitioners should be less exploitative with regard to their themes and chosen leitmotifs, but rather be more informative, proactive and collaborative.

Pending the completion and expansion of new modern rehabilitation centers across the archipelago, I also echo President Duterte's call for the conversion of some portions of military camps into interim rehabilitation and drug assessment centers such as what our governor in Pangasinan has started to do in Camp Abat in Manaoag. And, if might I add, unused public buildings that can be reappropriated for such purpose.

These are just some of the many synergies we can explore in our fight against drugs. There are opportunities to be explored in enjoining cultural agencies organized under the Office of the President, the National Youth Commission, even the religious sector, to support this initiative. This proposed multi-sectoral approach to the war on drugs under President Duterte's leadership could set a model for the whole world, one that is not isolationist and exclusive but collaborative and inclusive.

Reintegration after rehabilitation is not an easy task. The rehabilitated individual is confronted by a range of social, economic and personal challenges rooted in the stigma of drug abuse. To ensure the success of our rehabilitated individual's reintegration back to his or her community and avoid any relapse into drug use, support mechanisms and regular monitoring should be conducted by local government and concerned agencies.

One possible sustaining mechanism is the creation of employment and livelihood opportunities for rehabilitated individuals which could also serve as incentive for those undergoing rehabilitation. This can be spearheaded by the DSWD in cooperation with the DTI and the DOLE by coming up with cash-for-work initiatives, skills training programs, as well as strategic partnerships with social cooperatives and social enterprise businesses. I call on the TESDA to assist the DSWD by utilizing alternative learning systems in capacity building for said livelihood opportunities. Furthermore, I am enjoining the NCCA to provide artistic opportunities for the rehabilitated individual that would cultivate talent and free expression. Finally, non-discrimination policies must be in place to protect the rehabilitated individual and ensure his or her reintegration back into the community.

Some of the ideas that I have mentioned earlier are contained in the two House Bills that I am filing within the week: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PREVENTION OF DRUG USE AMONG HIGH-RISK INDIVIDUALS AND FOR THE REHABILITATION OF DRUG USERS; and AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SOCIAL REINTEGRATION AND MONITORING OF REHABILITATED INDIVIDUALS. I therefore seek the support of my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives and the Senate under the leadership of Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez and Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. in passing the said legislation to complement President Duterte's unprecedented war on drugs. I also enjoin the House of Representatives' and the Senate's Appropriations and Health Committees to increase the national health budget with increases dedicated to the expansion and modernization of existing rehab centers in the country and the implementation of Section 75 of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002,

that mandates the establishment of drug rehab centers in each province. And third, I would like to emphasize the improvement and effective implementation of drug assessment and monitoring programs for regional health centers and even in the level of the barangay.

My dear colleagues, I pray that you will support these bills and carry out your own investigations on the matter because we cannot allow more blood to be shed because of drug abuse. We all have the moral fortitude to carry out the responsibility of launching a parallel national effort in reducing and mitigating the demand for narcotics and illegal drugs but truth be told, we also need funds and the sense of urgency to fulfill it.

Jose Rizal once said that "The youth is the hope of our future." Sadly, the young people today are in trouble because based on a report by the Dangerous Drugs Board, the mean age of drug dependents in our country is 20 to 29 years old. This serves as an ominous warning to us all that if we cannot eradicate the drug problem in our country, it certainly is just a matter of time before it wipes out an entire generation and the prospect of our nation.

I believe that by working together, we shall overcome the drug problem plaguing in our country. Thus, my dear colleagues, let us collaborate and support each other in finding and crafting alternative, viable, creative, meaningful and peaceful solutions to come out victorious in this war on drugs.

Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the first to interpellate is the Gentleman from Manila. May we recognize the Hon. Edward Vera Perez Maceda.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from Manila, the Hon. Edward Vera Perez Maceda, is recognized.

REP. MACEDA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Will the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan agree to a few, one or two questions, from this humble Representation.

REP. DE VENECIA. Willingly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MACEDA. Yes. But before that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan for his quite exhaustive privilege speech on a very important matter. I noticed that it is not the first time this week that somebody has spoken on this matter; it is the second time because the Representative from AKO BICOL also made a privilege speech yesterday on the same matter. And, even if perhaps

every week, there is somebody who will speak on the matter, even if it is debated everyday on TV or there are people presenting and proposing different solutions, it would not be enough because I know the Gentleman from Pangasinan will agree that the threat, the problem is real and it will need an all-out effort from all sectors especially since the President started his war on drugs and the numbers have risen, hundreds of thousands of drug pushers and users combined have either been surrendered or have been accosted. So, yesterday, the Gentleman from AKO BICOL underscored the importance of a program to take care of the drug users who are caught or surrendered, because in other debates or other shows on TV that I watched, people are very happy that hundreds of thousands of pushers and users have surrendered and are caught already. So, people feel safer supposedly in their communities but the Gentleman from AKO BICOL underscored that one other part of the problem is taking care of the drug users themselves and what program to give them.

If I am not mistaken, the Gentleman from Muntinlupa yesterday underscored the importance of strategy and tactics. The Gentleman from CIBAC Party-List together with the Gentleman from Muntinlupa emphasized the importance of performance indicators as well. So, my question to the good Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan is, how different is your proposed solutions and the two proposed bills that you mentioned, how different are they from the other proposed solutions and approaches to the drug problem? I know that there will be numerous approaches, numerous proposed solutions and each one will probably help in the entire scheme of things, but how different is the solution from the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the honorable Gentleman from Manila for his question and I also thank you for your support for what has been said in the privilege speech.

You know, Mr. Speaker, the mandate of the PNP has been to cut off the supply. But, as I mentioned earlier, cutting off the supply does not mean cutting off the demand. It is a more complex process that requires multi-sectoral collaboration.

So, what I am introducing through these two bills that I will be filing, Mr. Speaker, within the week is on prevention and rehabilitation.

Prevention: the institutionalization of the BADAC. The mechanism is there. However, there is no teeth to the law and there is no funding to be able to propagate the activities of the BADAC in the level of the barangay.

In fact, when I spoke with some of our barangay chairmen in our district, some of them, unfortunately, were not aware of the existence of BADAC. Some were aware but do not have the funding and they extract the

funding for the BADAC from the mere one percent that is shared by the senior citizens and the PWD or persons with disabilities.

So, again, it is anecdotal kung diskarte po iyan ng barangay at hindi pa siya name-mainstream at ini-institutionalize. Iyong Bill po natin e ini-institutionalize ito by asking that one percent of the IRA of the barangay be allocated for the convening of the BADAC as well as additional appropriations from the PDEA.

We are also asking for the institutionalization of a sensitive and age-appropriate National Drug Education Program in the primary, secondary and tertiary level, mandating the DepEd and the CHED thereof. Kasi, kung hindi ninyo po naaalala, dati, mayroon po tayong DARE or Drug Abuse and Rehabilitation Education sa ating mga schools. Ang nangyari po sa DARE, bagamat na-training po ang ating mga kapulisan ng LAPD e ang mga materyales po na ginagamit sa pagtaguyod ng programang ito sa mga eskuwelahan ay galing pa mismo sa private sector. At some point, nang mawalan ng gana ang private sector ay nag-diminish na rin po ang programang DARE sa ating mga eskuwelahan kaya ito po ay inilipat sa mga NGOs. Para ma-conduct nila ang kanilang mga activities sa mga eskuwelahan, kailangan nilang magpa-accredit doon sa educational institution na iyon.

So, again, it is anecdotal, it is not institutionalized. What we need is to institutionalize the NDEP or the National Drug Education Program—crafting a drug education curriculum in coordination with the Dangerous Drugs Board, the PNP, the NCCA and the NYC.

Bakit ko po isinama ang NCCA at NYC diyan?

Kasi, naalala ko po iyong DARE ko noong ako ay nasa grade school pa lamang e pinaaral po kami ng dance number at song number—na hanggang ngayon ay medyo nakalimutan ko na—kung paano dapat hindi nagdodroga ang isang youth or kabataan. Pero, siyempre ito pong mga programang ito ay nag-brainstorm ang mga bureaucrat na, oo, magaling sila sa kanilang mga skills, very specialized, very articulate, very knowledgeable pero iba pa rin iyong right brain, iyong creativity. So, bakit hindi natin i-enjoin ang mga ahensya ng gobyerno na ito ang kanilang expertise—ang NCCA, ang CCP at ang National Youth Commission—na alam ninyo naman ay talagang the youth is, kumbaga, the representative of the future?

I am also calling for a mass media campaign. As I mentioned earlier, I am enjoining our colleagues here in Congress to help us craft these bills to devise incentives for TV stations to be able to provide public service announcements even during prime time kung kailan pinakananonood iyong mga kabataan kina KathNiel, kina JaDine, at doon sa iba pang mga love teams. Maglagay tayo doon ng mga public service announcements at baka we can collaborate with the

networks para iyong mga themes ng mga programa nila ay talagang makaka-address sa problemang kinakaharap ng ating lipunan.

Of course, echoing what my colleague, yesterday, from AKO BICOL Party-List said, “Kailangan natin ang drug rehabilitation centers.” Sa amin po sa Pangasinan, male in-patient services lang ang 300-bed capacity. Ang sinabi kahapon, 100-bed capacity, sa amin 300. Pero, dahil sa kawalan ng drug rehab center sa iba’t ibang mga rehiyon, sa amin na rin po pumupunta ang Region II, Region III at ang CAR. As it is, wala pong in-patient at dormitories for female drug dependents and for minors. Pero 20 percent po of our drug surrenderees sa aming distrito ay ang mga kababaihan. Papaano naman po sila? So, kailangan talagang i-capacitate natin ito. Iyan po ay in-introduce natin sa isang legislation na ang focus ay prevention at rehabilitation.

Doon naman po sa isang itinatanong ninyo, ating distinguished colleague from Manila, ay iyong monitoring and employment. Ano po ba iyong monitoring? Kasi, just because nag-surrender po ang isang tao ay hindi naman po ibig sabihin ay free na siya of drugs. Hindi ba nga, it is a very complex program kaya kailangan may nagmo-monitor sa kanya at itong monitoring team ay pwede nating i-position doon sa mga drug rehab centers or sa ating mga regional medical centers. Kailangan din po nating gumawa ng mga employment opportunities: mga cash-for-work mula sa DSWD, the DOLE, social cooperatives at social enterprises. Tulad na lamang ng Rags2Riches that employ mothers in Payatas to weave rugs and clothings out of scraps of cloth, or ANTHILL that provides livelihood and local indigenous skills preservation. Alam ko, Bayani Brew which you can also see in our—like mga convenience stores, it is another social enterprise initiative.

So, i-enjoin po natin ang ating private sector para bigyan naman ng incentive ang mga taong faced with this insidious drug problem para gumaling at mag-focus sa kanilang rehabilitation. Of course, kailangan po natin ng additional educational, artistic and vocational training. The DepEd, the CHED, and the TESDA skills training, the NCCA for artistic opportunities para magamit nila iyong energy nila the same way that the prisoners, I think from Cebu, they do their dance numbers and it has become a tourist destination itself. Nakakatulong pa sila sa turismo ng kanilang bayan. Let us make them contribute and let us make them productive.

Of course, the National Sports Commission. Alam ninyo naman si Hidilyn Diaz ay nag-bag ng ating silver medal kamakailan lang sa ating Olympics at marami pong nag-file ng resolution congratulating her. Let us capacitate. Just like what the honorable Gentleman, the honorable Congressman Zubiri, mentioned na parang at the barangay level, dapat mayroon po tayong mga sports programs.

Of course, non-discrimination kasi willingly na nga po nila sinurender ang kanilang sarili, e biglang hindi naman sila makakahanap ng mga livelihood at job opportunities.

So, ito po ang mga inisyatibo at mga measures na in-introduce natin sa ating mga panukalang batas at sana po ay makahingi ako ng suporta sa aking mga colleagues para talagang mapabilis natin at mas maging effective ang war on drugs.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MACEDA. Yes, Mr. Speaker. Parang sobrang dami kasi ng solusyon, napakarami, napaka-exhaustive ng sagot ng Representante mula sa Ikaapat na Distrito ng Pangasinan. So, is it safe to say that you are taking a multisectoral, multilevel approach to the drug problem, Mr. Speaker?

REP. DE VENECIA. That is correct, Mr. Speaker, because we are stronger when we are together than when we are apart.

REP. MACEDA. Parang no man is an island, Mr. Speaker, parang ganoon ang dating or two heads are better than one, and three heads are better than two.

REP. DE VENECIA. I agree.

REP. MACEDA. So, muli po, I commend the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan.

This is a big problem, malaking problema po ito. Kung hindi po isa sa pinakamabigat, baka pinakamabigat na problema na po ng ating bayan at hindi po masusugpo at masosolusyunan ang problemang ito ng isang tao lang, bagkus, kahit 100 tao. Ito ay masosolusyunan ng pagtutulungan ng iba't ibang sektor sa nasyonal na pamahalaan, sa E hekutibo, sa Hudikatura at sa Lehislatibo kung saan tayo po ay Miyembro sa lokal na pamahalaan, sa lahat po ng lebel ng local government, starting with the smallest unit of government which is the barangay in which the Gentleman has very importantly underscored also dahil sila po iyong frontliners natin, doon nagsisimula ang laban.

So, from the barangay to the municipalities, the cities, the provinces, the regions and eventually, the entire country. I think it is a multilevel approach. We cannot solve this problem by attacking it from one side.

Sabi nga nila, Mr. Speaker, there are several ways to skin a cat. In this instance, even if you skin it a thousand times, I do not think it would be enough. But if there are people, like the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan, who are willing to work hard to bring solutions to this problem, then I am with him, Mr. Speaker. I support the bills that he is filing. Maybe he will agree to have me as a coauthor to these two bills, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Willingly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MACEDA. I will work with him, and I know that this Congress will work with the President and with all sectors of government and society with our people, in order to put a stop to this big problem.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Thank you, Gentleman from Manila.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Next to interpellate, Mr. Speaker, is the Gentleman from CIBAC Party-List. May we recognize the Hon. Sherwin N. Tugna.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Representative from CIBAC Party-List, Hon. Sherwin Tugna, is recognized.

REP. TUGNA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Is the Representative from the Fourth District of Pangasinan willing to yield to a few questions from this Representation?

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, at the outset, I would like to commend my colleague from the Fourth District of Pangasinan for his holistic and comprehensive solution or his approach, and perspective bill in solving the drug menace in our society, Mr. Speaker.

My first question, Mr. Speaker, as I was listening to my colleague earlier, I heard that the current Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council or BADAC was established under DILG Memorandum Circular No. 98227 way back in 1998, and having said that, it has existed for close to 18 years already, Mr. Speaker.

I am wondering, if it has been existing already, Mr. Speaker, and it is currently in the DILG memorandum circular, what is the importance of further institutionalizing it, Mr. Speaker, my dear colleague?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the Gentleman from CIBAC Party-List for his question.

Ang importansya po ng pag-institutionalize nito ay dahil bagamat mayroon nang memorandum circular that justifies its existence, in the level of implementation, hindi naman lahat ng ating mga BADAC ay nako-convene kasi, siguro, hindi ito priority ng barangay.

Ang part naman ng legislation, dahil tayo po ay mga Kongresista, wala sa Local Government Code na nagsasabing dapat mag-allocate ng percentage ng kanilang IRA para sa pag-convene nitong BADAC. Actually, sa DILG circular nakalagay na mag-meeting sila once a month. Pero ngayon, dahil talagang talamak

ang droga, dapat nga iyan if not every day o every other day or once a week. That will require resources kasi, sino ba ang members ng BADAC—Representative from a faith-based organization, school principal, SK chair. Everybody needs some kind of tulong naman or resources.

This is something that, as a percentage of the IRA, if we are to institutionalize it, we are actually proposing that one percent of the IRA be allocated for the BADAC, one percent be allocated for the PWD and one percent be allocated to the senior citizens. Kasi sa ngayon they share the one percent. Iyan po ay hinihikayat natin para talaga naman mayroong pondo na pagkukunan ang mga programa.

Kasi nagbre-brainstorm po sila ng mga intervention. E paano naman ang mga drug testing kits, hindi ba, para doon sa drug assessment kung ide-deputize sila ng pulis. Hindi naman po lahat drug addict. Ang iba ay social drug user, ang iba naman ay napasubok lamang at nahabla na kaagad. Ito po ang mechanism para mag-institutionalize, para talaga mag-allocate ang mga barangay ng pondo sa kanilang BADAC na wala pa ngayon sa kasalukuyang batas, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TUGNA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, in the event that the proposed two bills will be filed and eventually become a law, what will be the exact mechanism of the BADAC in case it becomes a law, and how it will be implemented in the barangay level?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, of course, sa implementation po, we have to enjoin the Executive branch of government. Puwede tayo magpatawag ng mga inquiry in aid of legislation in case hindi sumusunod ang ating mga local chief executives. Pero kailangan po hikayatin natin ang ating provincial at municipal governments para ma-ensure ang implementation nito. Actually mayroong circular ang DILG last year at ang sinasabi, kung hindi po mag-allocate ng pondo ang mga barangay sa kanilang BADAC, hindi ipapasa ng sanggunian ang kanilang mga badyet. Medyo punitive naman po iyon and there is nothing wrong with that, but let us find ways on how we can encourage them to really make it their priority as well. Kung priority nga po ng ating Presidente na si Pang. Rodrigo Duterte, bakit naman hindi ito pakikinggan ng ating mga local chief executive, Mr. Speaker?

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, my final point. Assuming that this has turned or the proposed two bills will turn into a law, and the barangay chairmen will now be more active in the anti-drug campaign, may I ask the Representative from the Fourth District of Pangasinan, how are we going to, in his point of view, how are we going to address the situation wherein barangay captains

in some instances just choose to remain silent in the fight against drugs, so as not to endanger their own lives and their families, Mr. Speaker?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, kung malinis naman po ang konsensiya ng ating mga barangay captain, wala naman silang dapat ikatakot. Sila po bilang frontliner sa ating war on drugs, kailangan talaga i-convene nila ang BADAC, maki-join sila sa programa at adbokasiya ng ating Pang. Rodrigo Duterte. Tutukan nila, i-convene ang BADAC at makipag-brainstorm sa iba't ibang sektor ng lipunan para talagang malutas ang problema sa droga na ating kinakaharap. Ganoon po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TUGNA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this Representation joins my distinguished colleague from the Fourth District of Pangasinan and commends him, because he will be filing a bill that will enhance and improve an already existing mechanism which is a DILG memorandum circular.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the next to interpellate is the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List. May we recognize the Hon. Lito Atienza.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List, Sr. Dep. Minority Leader Lito Atienza, is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker, Dep. Majority Leader.

With the kind indulgence of the Gentleman, we would like to ask some more questions so that his message today is further emblazoned in our records. But before I do so, I would like to congratulate him too. He is definitely trained properly by the gentleman I admire, former Speaker Jose De Venecia. Very intelligent, very incisive, very sensitive, very sensible.

Everything he said cannot but ring bells in our ears, in our minds, that we have to do something about the ongoing campaign and thereafter, knowing that the drug problem is the biggest problem that the Philippines now has.

My first question, Mr. Speaker. The Gentleman mentioned that preventive and rehabilitation measures should all be addressed simultaneously while the campaign is going on. He mentioned about cultural and sports activities to be given the youth of today. Tama po ba ang aking narinig, Mr. Speaker?

REP. DE VENECIA. Tama po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Sa kaalaman po ninyo sa ngayon, ano ba ang cultural program ng kasalukuyang administrasyon at isama na rin natin ang sports program.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, salamat po sa katanungan ng ating distinguished Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List.

Sa larangan ng sports, I must admit that that is not my area of expertise. Pero sa cultural naman po, alam kong hindi pa po masyadong nababanggit ng ating Pangulong Duterte ang kanyang cultural policy, though, I do remember that it was part of his 10-point economic agenda which is the proliferation of our creative industries, which I also learned recently that it actually contributes five percent to our nation's GDP.

Ang ating mga cultural program ngayon, siyempre focusing on the indigenous peoples, indigenous tribes, the art sector itself needs support from the government. I came from the cultural sector before becoming the Representative from the Fourth District of Pangasinan. Sa constitution po ng Dangerous Drugs Board, for example, walang representative ang NCCA. That is another measure that we will be studying in the next few weeks. Gusto ko pong may representation ang ating cultural agencies sa pag-devise nitong mga intervention at programa para mas maging meaningful ang effect nito sa ating kabataan.

Sports and culture po ang mga outlet ng ating mga youth para lumayo sa tinatawag nilang "droga" na sumisira sa ating lipunan. Kailangan meron tayong mga theater, singing, dancing, painting, visual arts. The arts is a very complex sector dahil iba't ibang area po iyan, kung baga, ng ating humanities. Kailangan siguro ang bawat area na ito ay may contribution sa pag-devise ng mga intervention para mailayo natin ang youth natin sa droga.

If I may also recall, during the campaign kapag kinakausap ko po ang ating mga barangay chairmen at nakakausap ko ang mga barangay kagawad na head ng Committee on Youth, sinasabi ko sa kanila, "Ano ba ang inyong mga activities para sa youth?" Parati nilang sinasabi, liga, liga na maglalayo sa kanila sa paggamit ng droga. So, on the basis of the barangay, there is an understanding already that doing sports is a way of moving them away from drugs. But I also encourage our barangay families to also devise cultural programs. Alam po natin na kung puwede lang bayaran ng ating bansa ang ating utang with our talents alone, siguro matagal na tayong bayad.

Ganoon po, ine-encourage natin ang pag-devise sa mga cultural and sports programs and initiatives para talagang mailayo ang ating kabataan sa paggamit ng droga, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, obviously the Gentleman from Pangasinan is convinced that a very aggressive cultural program and sports development plan for the youth of today would benefit all of us in the prevention aspect of the drug problem.

We find ourselves today, and the Gentleman will agree, with a very serious drug situation simply because from 1986 up to the present, we cannot claim that the Philippines has a cultural or a sports program wherein our youth can be involved in. Would the Gentleman agree that from the time of then President Marcos and our former First Lady, Imelda Romualdez Marcos, 1986 to the present, with five Presidents already being elected; and this is what I would like to find out if President Duterte will be a different President from rest of what we have had. Kung magkakaroon siya ng cultural and sports program. Sapagkat noong panahon ni Presidente Cory, Presidente Ramos, Presidente Erap, Presidente Arroyo, Presidente PNoy, walang cultural program.

Sa totoo lang, inalis pa nga po ang kultura at sports sa ating pag-aaral. When I was a young boy I grew up engaging in cultural and sports activities in school. Pero ngayon, hindi ba ninyo naiisip wala na tayong cultural and sports involvement in the grassroots level in educating our children, especially in the public schools. Hindi po ba magandang ibalik natin ang culture and sports sa ating education system?

REP. DE VENECIA. Sang-ayon na sang-ayon po ako diyan, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. I am inviting the Gentleman to join me in this proposed measure that we have introduced. Ibalik natin ang culture and sports sa ating Department of Education functions, because otherwise, the education of the Filipino youth will never be complete without knowing himself and without even realizing his talents, especially in sports. Nakakatsamba lang tayo kung minsan kung mayroon tayong nakukuhang medalya sa international competitions. But the truth of it all is that we will never be able to harvest the good and glorious days of Philippine sports where we used to control practically 10 or 11 events and winning gold medals to bring home, particularly in the Asian Games.

Ngayon wala na po tayong ganyang klaseng training program. It worries us because the drug situation, as pointed out by the honorable Congressman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan, is so bad that now the killing of people is not even condoned by many of us. The Gentleman pointed out Rowena of Pangasinan who was not even a drug pusher nor a drug suspect, but she was killed, hindi po ba?

The life of an innocent person has been sacrificed in this campaign of ours. It should wake up all of us and realize that we will not solve the drug problem

with this kind of solution alone. Killing and killing will produce more killings; and violence will produce more violence, and probably later on we will be the most violent country in the world.

The all encompassing, comprehensive approach of the program and proposals of the Gentleman from Pangasinan we should really support. It is about time that we voice out our collective voices.

Kailangan po ang kultura at ang palakasan. Ang kagalingan ng Pilipino ang ating pag-usapan at ang ating ituro, at hindi po ang pinababayaan na lang ang mga bata na makisalamuha sa kani-kanilang mga barkada at matuto ng droga.

The genuine wake-up call for today, Mr. Speaker, is pitch made by the Gentleman from Pangasinan. Kailangang tingnan nating mabuti ang tunay na solusyon sa droga at hindi lang po patayan ng patayan. Without a real prevention and rehabilitation plan we can kill everybody on sight, but the drug situation will still persist until we all get victimized.

I would like to ask the Gentleman if he has seen the proposed budget for 2017.

REP. DE VENECIA. I have not, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. We have requested that copies will already be distributed because we have to study the Appropriations Bill, the National Expenditure Program so that we may find out kasi baka hindi nagbago.

Sa mga nakaraang badyet, ang PDEA, halos walang badyet. Ang lahat ng mga sangay ng gobyerno na may kinalaman sa pagsugpo ng droga, halos tinipid sa pondo and we kept on pointing that out on the floor when we talked and discussed the budget, why are they depriving the agencies primarily involved with fighting the drug problem in the Philippines with practically no budget? Tingnan po natin dito sa badyet nila ngayon ho kung magkano ang ibinigay sa PDEA, magkano ang ibinigay sa Dangerous Drugs Board, magkano ang ibinigay sa problema ng drug situation because everything emanates from the budget? No budget, no performance. Iyong mga tumayo rito to defend the budget of PDEA and the Dangerous Drugs Board all insisted that their budget and bodies were enough. Tama raw iyong bilang noong kanilang mga ahente na halos hindi natin napapansin. Mayroon daw silang operational budget doon sa kanilang pondong iniaalok. Ang daming pera sa DILG ang ibinigay na hindi naman kailangan—bilyon-bilyong piso subalit panlaban sa droga, walang pondo. Kaya tingnan po natin.

I am inviting you to check the present proposed budget for next year. Everything will start from there so that your dream of a cultural orientation for the young, your vision of a sports-minded young Filipino, also your wish to put all of these drug pushers in jail will become a reality. Otherwise, e dito po sa Kongreso, nakikita

natin ang problema pero sa Executive department, baka hindi nila nakikita.

Noong nakaraang panahon, halos hindi pinapansin ang problema ng droga. Kaya napag-uusapan namin, lumala nang lumala ito sapagkat ang droga ay pinabayaan. The responsibility rests on the shoulders of those who have managed the government for the past six years. Wala po silang ibinigay na pansin, wala po tayong nabalitaang kampanya laban sa droga kaya lumala po ito nang ganito.

We are fortunate, Mr. Speaker, we now have a set of Congressmen coming from the young sector, who are more interested in addressing the problem effectively and I am very, very happy to join Congressman De Venecia in all his proposals to address the drug situation. Kung hindi po, e lahat po tayo lulubog sa kumunoy ng droga sa ating bansa and the spirit of Rowena, an innocent—they called it collateral, I would call it something else—but I would like to say that directly to the ones responsible for her killing in due time when we deliberate on the budget of the PNP. Kailangan pong pahalagahan natin ang buhay ng bawat nilalang at wala po dapat nangyayaring collateral damage kaya napatay iyong anak ni ganoon, iyong anak ni ganoon. Ito pong nangyayari ngayon, puro collateral damage po iyan sapagkat iyong mga pinapatay ay alam nating hindi naman lahat iyan ay drug pusher or drug user. We have to look at it from the general point of view that abuses are now being committed and we would like President Duterte to succeed. Let us help him. Let us wake him up because his orders may be abused in the local levels. In the barangays, now, information are going around that chairman so-and-so, kagawad so-and-so were killed in their own homes by masked men or people riding in tandem. Iyan po ay hindi effective law enforcement. Iyan po, ang tawag natin diyan ay simple murder of innocent lives.

Congratulations, Congressman. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Deputy Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the next to interpellate is the Lady from Bagong Henerasyon Party-List. May we recognize the Hon. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Lady from Party-List Bagong Henerasyon, Rep. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy, is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Through you, Mr. Speaker, I would like to know if

the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan would yield to several questions.

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Thank you. Again, through you, Mr. Speaker, but before I ask my questions, I would like to congratulate the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan for coming up with a multisectoral, wholesome and holistic approach on how we could deal with the drug problems in our country, because truly, one department, one organization cannot do it all alone. It has to be through the effort of each and every department.

What I would like to know from the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan is, during the budget deliberations on the 2017 budget, will I expect that you would look for these budgets in every agency that you have mentioned, that they have a separate budget for the drug rehabilitation program that you were saying?

REP. DE VENECIA. That is a wonderful idea, Mr. Speaker, and I join the honorable Lady from Bagong Henerasyon in that suggestion. We will certainly look into each budget item of the aforementioned agencies.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, because that would ensure that the programs that you would like each department to do or implement will actually be implemented if they have a separate budget specifically in their agency, for that matter.

Another question, Mr. Speaker, is, through my friends who have been through the program of drug rehabilitation, the problem always is that after they have come out of rehabilitation, instead of just becoming users at the end of the program, they become pushers because they learn the trade inside the drug rehabilitation centers. Because they are mixed up with veteran drug users and pushers, they actually learn the trade than get well inside the drug rehabilitation centers. How do you think can this holistic and multisectoral approach that you are saying prevent that from happening?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, one of the proposed legislations that we are introducing is focusing on monitoring and employment. On the part of monitoring, we are advocating for a team, a dedicated team to be stationed in such rehabilitation centers to check whether or not all of the appropriate measures are being undertaken for the rehabilitation of these victims, because I reinstate my position that drug use is a health issue that requires our utmost attention. Perhaps, in response to the query of the honorable Lady from Bagong Henerasyon, we should really call for the creation of livelihood opportunities outside or even within these drug rehab centers which can

serve as an incentive for them, something to look forward to after they undergo this very complex rehabilitation program.

You know, Mr. Speaker, in our drug rehab center in Dagupan City, it is a six-month program that costs about P10,000 to P15,000 per month and certainly it is a sum that is very hefty and hard to get out of your own pocket if you belong to the “laylayan” or the lower sectors of society. So, Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is, we need these livelihood opportunities to serve as an incentive for them to get better. Perhaps, with the efforts now of the President in that drug that is really drug use, drug pushing, the crime associated with the proliferation of drugs, since this is his utmost priority and advocacy, then, perhaps, it will serve as a deterrent for such reality shared by the honorable Lady from Bagong Henerasyon that drug users who are confined in these rehab centers learn the so-called best practices in the pushing of drugs. Perhaps, they will be more afraid rather than have a cultural fear. I am calling for a culture of compassion and a culture of really encouraging them, a culture of encouragement for people to reform and be rehabilitated, Mr. Speaker.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Again I commend the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan. Maybe you can also add to separate the first-time offenders with the veterans so that they will not be encouraged or become worse off after the rehabilitation program.

Again, from Bagong Henerasyon Party-List, this Representation supports your measures and rest assured, kasama mo kami, hahanapin natin iyong badyet para sa mga programa at proyekto for each department that you have mentioned.

Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the next to interpellate is the Lady from the first District of Bataan. May we recognize the Hon. Geraldine B. Roman.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Lady from the First District of Bataan, Hon. Geraldine B. Roman, is recognized.

REP. ROMAN. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to know if the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan will yield to some questions.

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ROMAN. Anyway, first of all, I would like to commend the Gentleman from Pangasinan for his multifaceted, holistic and integral approach that deals with the prevention, the treatment and post-rehabilitation of drug users. I know it is not an instant solution but it is definitely more lasting.

So, while the Lady from the Bagong Henerasyon Party-List addressed the issue of funding, I would like to call the attention of the Gentleman to the aspect of logistics and organization because as you know, we have several drug agencies that they address these problem from different aspects: one, they handle it from a more police approach; another, from a preventive approach like the PDA, the Dangerous Drugs Board, the Anti-Drug Abuse Council.

My question is this, does your bill address the challenge of unifying, coordinating and supervising the entire fight against drugs?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the honorable Lady from the First District of Bataan for her query. The bill does not cover the codification of all of these measures by different agencies with regard to their measures and interventions on this war on drugs. What our bills propose is on the part of monitoring and employment, prevention and rehabilitation, in two separate bills. I welcome the suggestion and the query of the honorable Lady from the First District of Bataan, and I believe we should assign a task force or a body that will launch a concerted effort into knowing the different programs, kumbaga menu ng iba't ibang ahensiya that has something to do with drugs para puwede po nating i-streamline. Kasi ang problema po—ang nakikita po nating problema kung nagdo-double ng functions ay baka may confusion sa kung sino ang lalapitan kung kailangan ng rehabilitation, kung kailangan ng monitoring, kung kailangan ng values formation. So, ang kailangan po e habang binubuo ng ating kapulisan ang totem pole or ang family tree of the drug ecosystem in terms of like the pushers, the criminals, the syndicates ay dapat buuin po muna natin ang ecosystem ng lahat ng mga ahensiyang sasagot sa tugon ng pag-stop dito sa paglaganap ng drugs. Iyon po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ROMAN. Mr. Speaker, nevertheless, I am very confident that the Gentleman from Pangasinan is very well aware of the different aspects as reflected in his proposal, and I would like to commend him again for taking the first step in the right direction. As I said, it is not an instant solution that society seems to be demanding nowadays, but definitely it will be a more long lasting solution that will leave indelible marks and changes in our society.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, for our next interpellator, may we recognize the Lady from the Fourth District of Batangas, the Hon. Lianda B. Bolilia.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Lady from the Fourth District of Batangas, Hon. Lianda B. Bolilia, is recognized.

REP. BOLILIA. Mr. Speaker, good afternoon.

I would like to know if the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan is willing to yield to some questions.

REP. DE VENECIA. Most certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BOLILIA. Mr. Speaker, I truly appreciate the concern of the young Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan on drug issue which has been the subject of several privilege speeches in this Chamber. If my number is correct, this is the sixth time that the issue was brought to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I support the proposition of the young Gentleman that we need a multisectoral approach in dealing with the drug problem because, yes, it is true that the sole responsibility does not belong to the President, not the government, not the law enforcement. The weight of responsibility is upon all of us, upon every Filipino.

The Gentleman from Pangasinan mentioned about the BADAC, BADAC which you said was established in 1998 under DILG memorandum circular. There was another memorandum circular issued by then Secretary Mar Roxas. It was Memorandum Circular No. 2015-63, subject of which was “Revitalization of the Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council (BADAC) and Their Role in Drug Clearing Operations). The composition, of course, comes from different sectors of every barangay. It was created in order to serve as a first line of defense against drug abuse.

My question, Mr. Speaker, is this, the Gentleman from Pangasinan was saying that he wishes and he is filing a bill to institutionalize the BADAC. There were already two memorandum circulars issued about the subject, BADAC, and it seems to me that it had already failed in carrying out its functions because illegal drugs has long been and is still a major problem today.

My question to the Gentleman is, how or what difference will it make if we institutionalize BADAC when it has been in existence for over many years now? Another question to the Gentleman, Mr. Speaker, is,

are you supposed to maintain the composition of the BADAC or are you recommending changes in the composition and its functions?

Thank you.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the honorable Lady from the Fourth District of Batangas for her two queries. To answer the first, yes, there is a mechanism to create the BADAC. However, what we are saying is, there is no teeth in that memorandum circular because there is simply no funding or there is no impetus to allocate funding for that mechanism. What we are introducing through our bill is for the barangay family to allocate one percent of their IRA for the activities of the BADAC. Actually, it is not just the BADAC that we have. There is also the MADAC or the Municipal Anti-Drug Abuse Council and the provincial which is the PADAC. So, there are different anti-drug abuse councils in each level of our local government. I believe everybody should be capacitated.

With regard to the second query of the honorable Lady from the Fourth District of Batangas, we are, actually, in favor of the current composition of the BADAC, which requires a representative from the faith-based organization, the school principal, the Sangguniang Kabataan, and there are also amongst other sectors within the barangay, but it also says and I am also familiar with the memorandum circular that the honorable Lady from Batangas mentioned, the one propagated by then Secretary Mar Roxas, that the BADAC should also be undertaking consultations with the other sectors as well that are institutionalized within the composition of the BADAC. What are these sectors?

The Parents-Teachers Associations, the TODA, the PODA, the senior citizens, and many others who will have, well, I am sure wonderful ideas that can contribute to this act of really eradicating the prevalence of drugs in this country and also in support of President Rodrigo Duterte's war on drugs.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BOLILIA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I assure the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Pangasinan that I join him in his advocacy against illegal drugs.

Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the next to interpellate is the distinguished Lady from the Third District of Nueva Ecija, the Hon. Rosanna "Ria" Vergara.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Lady from the Third District of Nueva Ecija, Honorable Vergara, is recognized.

REP. VERGARA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask if the Gentleman would submit to some questions and suggestions.

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VERGARA. I would like to commend and show appreciation for the privilege speech given today. When we read the papers, all we see are the numerous killings, this culture of violence, yet here in the very halls of Congress, people who have been entrusted to make laws, we see nothing but concern to put an end to this culture of violence.

My question to the Gentleman from Pangasinan is, your approach is holistic and you mentioned that we need media and the arts to join. Does your bill include reeducating the public, meaning, we, who I assume, most of us, I will say that almost all of us here, none of us are into drugs or drug addicts, but is there a program in your bill that will reeducate the public that drug addiction is a disease the same way cancer and diabetes are diseases?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the honorable Lady from the Third District of Nueva Ecija for her question. One of the bills actually includes provision on the use of mass media to disseminate drug use as first and foremost a mental health issue. It presupposes a focus on an information campaign where drug users, drug dependents will be educated on where to seek help and also how to seek help. We are also enjoining the MTRCB to perform a regulatory review of television shows, films, advertisements and publicity materials that are considered discriminatory in nature towards drug users and the proliferation of drugs in the country, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VERGARA. Mr. Speaker, if I may, may I make a suggestion. I was wondering if in this mass media effort the media also focus on the viewing public that drug addiction or former drug addicts, that there should be no stigma associated with it, similar I guess to what the late Princess Di did with the AIDS campaign, when everyone thought AIDS was contagious and she took a baby who had AIDS and hugged it, and that removed the stigma. I think for us to solve this problem, we have to recognize that that part of the problem comes from the stigma that people who are addicted or users should be separated from society. If we can include in the House bill that you will file a media campaign to show people that drug addiction is not something people want to do—I attended a conference

and I learned that there are just some people who are predisposed to addiction. Someone can take a pill and function for a whole year without needing it; someone takes a pill the next day and is immediately addicted. I guess if we can change the mindset that this is a disease and not something people intentionally do, then, similar to what Congressman Jenny said, we are at least one step towards solving this huge problem which will take years. But if we all work together and part of that working together involves people like us, then I believe we can solve this without all these killings happening and people like Rowena will no longer be a statistic but we can avoid these collateral killings that happen, which continuously happens every day.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I welcome the suggestion and the ideas of the honorable Lady from the Third District of Nueva Ecija. I agree that a lot of it has to do with mindset. There is a need to be able to change the mindset or the perspective on drug addiction from it being a “salot ng lipunan” to actually victims, and they need our help and not our judgment.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VERGARA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the next to interpellate is the Lady from the Second District of Taguig, the Hon. Pia S. Cayetano.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Lady from the Second District of Taguig, the former Senator and now Deputy Speaker, Pia S. Cayetano, is recognized.

REP. CAYETANO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

With the kind permission of the Representative from Pangasinan, to your right, Sir—with the kind permission, I would like to pose some questions, give some suggestions.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Abu relinquished the Chair to Rep. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc.

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. First of all, let me congratulate the Gentleman for raising a very important issue and for providing some solutions. It is more heartening to hear solutions given when we talk about problems as well. So, when we speak about drug problems, I appreciate the fact that His Honor is bringing back to

the Department of Education programs on sports and culture, and I support that. Thank you for bringing that up. If you have any measure that tackles that specifically, you have my support.

Specifically, what I would like to point out is the role of the LGUs. As a long-time supporter and still a participant in sports, I recognize that children and parents put their children in sports for different reasons. One is to keep them off the streets and away from drugs. Will His Honor agree?

REP. DE VENECIA. I do agree, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. Then the other one is that once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for your child to become an Olympian.

REP. DE VENECIA. Definitely, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. But those are two different things. It is very important for LGUs to recognize that those are two different things and that the programs are catered depending on how the outcome is intended to be. So, if I may, His Honor hails from an area very much known for producing national cycling champions.

REP. DE VENECIA. Yes, Mr. Speaker. Actually, some of the first Olympians in the biking sport hail from Mangaldan, which is a municipality under our district.

REP. CAYETANO. I know that as well because as a cyclist, it is often pointed out to me that the strong cyclists come from Pangasinan specifically, but also from other areas in the North. For the benefit of our colleagues here from Bacolod and Iloilo, basically, the areas of Negros Occidental, they are known for baseball and football, also sports that I support.

What is my point? My point is that over time, these areas have been able to develop the sport to a level that they are known for. I think that is a good thing. But, if we look at the national or international level of performance, there are years or decades that they are more productive than others, and I think that will boil down to LGU support. Would His Honor agree also?

At this juncture, Representative Bondoc relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu.

REP. DE VENECIA. I certainly and fully agree with that, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. So, perhaps, and I am not sure if His Honor’s measures would include that the provincial and the—at the provincial and at the city and municipal levels, they should have a long-term plan for what sports

they are supporting, because it is impossible to support all. The Philippines being a basketball-loving country, I do not think you can take that away from them. But, like I said, there are regions that are already strong in others.

Would His Honor agree that it would be easier to promote what already exists in a particular area?

REP. DE VENECIA. Definitely, Mr. Speaker, and as a former, actually, current also, theater director myself, my discipline is to work with what you have, rather than imagine something from the stars....

REP. CAYETANO. Yes.

REP. DE VENECIA. ... and try to force it upon people. So, I believe in the perspective of the honorable Lady from the Second District of Taguig, and that we should harness what is innate in the regions and also the municipal, provincial and city governments should include sports in their local development plan.

REP. CAYETANO. And to institutionalize it so that when administrations change, it does not have to be changed. It would be nice if each administration would be proud of continuing that program even though it may have been the program of a previous opponent. Would His Honor agree?

REP. DE VENECIA. I certainly agree. And a light bulb moment hit me as you were speaking, the honorable Lady from the Second District of Taguig. There is no plantilla position in our local government that services culture and sports and even, I believe, tourism, even if tourism is now one of the biggest drivers of our economic growth. So perhaps, a measure, a legislation that we can collaborate on is institutionalizing the presence of a cultural and sports officer in the LGUs so that they can actively brainstorm programs and capacity-building for our athletes in the many regions. As Hidilyn Diaz proved recently at the Olympics, there is talent elsewhere in the archipelago that it is not necessarily in the usual centers of development that we are accustomed to, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. Mr. Speaker, as soon as the newly appointed sports coordinator of the district, of His Honor, invites me, I will bike in his district. But I move on to another point, Mr. Speaker, on arts and culture. Recently it has been brought to my attention that despite the existence of E.O. No. 255 which is an executive order intended to promote original Filipino music, very little has been done about it. The executive order requires that every hour, four original Filipino compositions be played on the air. But I think everyone in this hall will agree that you do not hear. I do not even

think you hear one original Pinoy composition played every hour. Now, the reason I bring this up is because I would like to ask the Gentleman if he agrees that if the young children would be hearing original Filipino music it would encourage them to also create their own music to talk about their folklore, to sing their own songs. But if they do not, would it have the negative effect because that is what we have right now? I would like to hear His Honor's view on this matter.

REP. DE VENECIA. Well, I certainly agree, Mr. Speaker, with what the honorable Lady from the Second District of Taguig was saying that despite the presence of certain executive orders, legislations, Republic acts, it is always the fault in the implementation and it does not necessarily get followed or carried out. I agree that the youth can be galvanized by the concept of culture and music, culture and dance, culture and theater, to be able to become productive members of the community. Actually, I would like to call the attention of this august Body to what Korea has been doing with the prevalence of their Hallyu culture through their soap operas, their K-pop, that they are able to inspire not only tourism in their country but also productivity amongst the youth and that they themselves can become brand ambassadors of being a Korean. So, in that same vein, I also call upon our distinguished colleagues to be able to really see to it that these cultural programs are implemented because culture is such a tool, a powerful tool in nation-building. Imagine if the OPM industry is enjoined in this fight against drugs, if you have very influential singers and personalities who are crafting songs that will become chart-topping hits all of which are encouraging people to be productive to support the arts, to support sports, to not take drugs, then imagine the kind of possibilities that that can engender, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. On that note, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Gentleman if he would be willing to co-author with me a resolution requiring the concerned agencies to explain why they have not been able to implement E.O. No. 255 which precisely is intended to promote original Pinoy music. And for that matter, to also get a report from the other agencies on their other cultural programs. Would he be willing?

REP. DE VENECIA. Very much so, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. Thank you. One last question, Mr. Speaker, I have had the privilege of sitting in the board of the NCCA, our National Commission on Culture and the Arts, and I am very much aware that our cultural agencies do not have the kind of budget they should have if we truly want to promote arts and culture.

If you look at our neighboring countries—well, actually, for that matter, a lot of developing countries

have poured a lot of funding into developing their culture and arts precisely because it is a tourism attraction. It is something that distinguishes us from the Western world. But what I found out to be the problem is that there is no income retention or some of the cultural agencies have a very small income retention provision. I think it is something like P2 million. I am not sure if that is the National Museum or the NHCP, and another one does not have any at all. When I tried to provide for this, it was vetoed in the General Appropriations Act so this is something that I would also like to bring to the attention of His Honor and our colleagues because until we give them the power to follow through on their projects, and you cannot follow through without funding, then they will forever be dependent on begging and waiting for the National Treasury to give them funds, which actually they generated already. We are simply asking that they be able to retain funds that already are from their entrepreneurial or creative efforts.

So, I would like to know if His Honor would also be interested in supporting or, at least, studying this approach to our current—I would call it a crisis—in promoting culture and arts in our country.

REP. DE VENECIA. Not just studying but supporting the proposed measure of the honorable Lady from the Second District of Taguig. Certainly, our cultural agencies are very much lacking in budget. And, also, I believe that they are not being tapped enough for the service of mainstream advocacies of our national government. There is so much potential and possibility that we can experience if in the sector of this war on drugs, for example, or in health, education, labor, even agriculture, all of these agencies, if there are more convergences with our cultural agencies, you will be very much surprised on how much more effective the other agencies of the government will be if they use culture, arts and sports even to their advantage, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CAYETANO. Thank you. Those are my only questions. Again, I thank and congratulate the Gentleman for the issues that he has raised today.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, the next interpellator will be the Gentleman from the First District of Camarines Sur. May we recognize the Hon. Rolando G. Andaya Jr.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from the First District of Camarines Sur, Hon. Rolando G. Andaya Jr., is recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, bread and butter ... nagugutom lang ho ako, naalala kong iyong bread and butter na sinabi ho ninyo noong nakaraang araw.

Would the honorable Gentleman from Pangasinan be willing to share a few words with this Representation, Mr. Speaker?

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Thank you very much. Just a few points, Mr. Speaker.

We have heard so much discussion on the problem on drugs, the support that we would like to give them, from the community, starting from the barangay to the province, and then eventually the support group needed. I have heard senior citizens coming in, helping out. I even heard music, movies, things to keep the mind of our youth away from this problem.

Let me share with you a few points, Mr. Speaker, not from the point of view of support but from the point of view of an actual patient, a drug user. This Representation, Mr. Speaker, has had a chance to work, to visit constantly, to work with and to observe drug dependents in our national drug rehab centers. Hopefully, my experience will find its way in your proposed Bill.

For one, a drug addict who enters into a drug rehab gets cured not by bed capacity, not by the beauty of the place but rather by the doctors in there, basically, the psychiatrists. That is one thing we should focus on because it is the utter lack of psychiatrists which brings the prices of drug rehabilitations up. I have seen a lot of drug rehabs which only have one psychiatrist. They have 300 patients but only one psychiatrist. So, that, I hope will be addressed in your Bill, Mr. Speaker.

Second, heavy drug users do not start out by wanting to be a drug addict. There are reasons a person becomes a drug addict. The Sponsor himself, Mr. Speaker, spoke about casual users, gumamit isang beses lang, tumira isang beses lang and those who are the heavy users.

People who end up in these drug rehabs are the ones who have deeper problems. Those who try it once or twice eventually stop taking this illegal substance because of strong family support. I have had chance to talk with psychiatrists, I have had a chance to talk with these actual drug dependents. Usually, in fact, almost all the time, it boils down to a family problem, the environment in which the drug dependent belongs to.

So, no amount of drug rehabs available to an addict will cure that problem. Maybe you could find the solution to this, Mr. Speaker, through your particular

Bill. It is easy to say that a drug dependent—kaawaan natin ang drug dependent, it is so easy to say that. To treat them just like any other person with illness, to pick up a child ailing with some sickness and show your compassion. But, I have not seen anyone probably take in a drug dependent into their house. Sige nga, mag-adopt kayo ng drug dependent sa bahay ninyo. No one will do that. But that is the reality because it is not just an illness in which a person is weak or has a transmittable disease, it is because that person is mentally unstable. That is a different aspect which brings me to the next point, Mr. Speaker.

In all of these drug rehabs, there are no walk-in applicants. No one comes in a drug rehab volunteering by saying “I am a drug dependent, rehabilitate me.” No one does that. So, putting up hundreds of drug rehabs all over the Philippines might not even solve that problem. Who would come in? Who would admit? Yes, it is easy for us to say that 300 persons from the far-flung barangays surrendered. But, did any of them enter the drug rehab? No one, because there lies the stigma of a drug dependent. Wala hong walk-in.

Even in our Filipino family, a lot of our parents are always in self-denial when it comes to drug dependency of their children. I have seen so many families in which their children had drug problems. They are in denial, always hoping that their child will change his ways, only to be disappointed in the end because the child overdosed or the child eventually shot his father because he thought his father was the devil.

I am saying this because I have a friend who did that. I have seen it for myself. I have seen the effects of drugs. And the family knew about it, and yet they did not know anything.

It is easy to say, “Magpa-rehab ka.” But if it is in your family, it is in your backyard, that is a different story.

I have seen a lot of drug rehabs in which parents would visit their children. That is nice. But what is bothering is, when they visit their children in disguise. They are ashamed. I know of a basement drug rehab in Makati, it is already closed because the media is always there watching who will go there for detox. If you happen to go in there and you are a famous person, you will find your name in the newspapers. So, that is the way society treats our drug dependents. So, maybe we should address this.

There is a deeper solution. It is not just having more money. It is not just having more budget, more drug rehabs, but there is a deeper reason a person becomes a drug dependent.

That is my point I would like to raise, and I would just like to know if those items which I have proposed or brought out would find its way eventually, because I plan to be a coauthor and cosponsor of your particular bill, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I fully agree with all of the insights provided by the honorable Gentleman from the First District of Camarines Sur.

Again, the quality of doctors and psychiatrists are called to question, and also, the number of health workers that are assigned to these drug rehab centers.

You are correct, distinguished Gentleman from First District of Camarines Sur, in saying that it is the quality and the passion exerted by the health workers that really usher the rehabilitation of those who are admitted into these drug rehabilitation facilities. So, we are also calling for, I suppose, the training of more health workers, and that they may be stationed in such facilities.

You are also correct in saying that it is a family problem, and there is an environment of abuse that leads these people into drugs.

So, even in the level of the home, that should certainly be addressed, and this Representation will do our efforts to be able to accommodate that as a provision in our proposed bills.

As I mentioned earlier in the interpellation with the honorable Lady from the Third District of Nueva Ecija, there is a culture or stigma against drug addicts, that people do not want to be associated with them.

But, I do recall the valiant testimony of the Honorable Teves, I suppose it was two weeks ago, that it is possible for people to be able to recover and bounce back from the stigma, and that requires intense and passionate dedication to want to be cured.

So, again, as mentioned in my interpellation with the honorable Lady from Taguig, that definitely, we should have media campaign to be able to, sort of, influence the mindset of people that no, there should be no stigma with regard to the treatment of drug addicts. Also, that people should be encouraged to be able to usher their sons and daughters, and not have to disguise themselves for fear of being called out in the society.

Although, I do want to call to your attention that in my consultation with the head of the drug rehab center in Dagupan City, the stimuli that these drug dependents are exposed to should be controlled, and as much as possible in the six-month program, they are not able to interact with the outside forces within this highly controlled environment.

And this is exactly why the process of drug rehabilitation is very complex. It requires the technical expertise of health workers and, unfortunately, we are sorely lacking in that, and that is another matter that we are investigating.

So, yes, I enjoy you and that we need more health workers in these institutions so that the process of rehabilitation may be expedited. Also, in response to what you said about the walk-ins, it is very difficult to be able to walk into a drug rehab center and admit yourself to that. One, because you would need some court order if it is criminal in nature; two, the stigma

that you are walking into a drug rehabilitation center is something that is an impediment or deterrent to this measure; and third, the cost.

Mr. Speaker, it is about P10,000 to P15,000 a month for a six-month program, and if my Math fails me at the moment, it is a little less than a P100,000. How will the poor families in which they have a drug user be able to afford that if there is not any kind of subsidy or some kind of aid for them? So, yes, it is very difficult and that is something that definitely, we should collaborate and work together on, and I welcome the coauthorship and sponsorship of the honorable Gentleman from the First District of Camarines Sur, so that together, we will be able to make greater strides and propose legislation that covers as many sectors as possible.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
Before I conclude, puwede pong bumati.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Please proceed, Honorable Andaya.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes. Babatiin ko lang po si Speaker Joe De Venecia at saka si Tita Gina, the proud parents of Cong. Christopher “Toff” Vera Perez De Venecia. Magandang gabi po, Speaker, Ma’am.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Before I recognize the Dep. Majority Leader, may I also invite the Gentleman from Camarines Sur, the Honorable Andaya, puwede kang makipag-dinner sa mga taga-Mabini ngayon doon sa Mitra Building.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. The next to interpellate, Mr. Speaker, is the Gentleman from the Lone District of Muntinlupa. May we recognize the Hon. Rozzano Rufino “Ruffy” B. Biazon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Gentleman from the Lone District of Muntinlupa City, the Hon. Ruffy Biazon, is recognized.

REP. BIAZON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Will the Gentleman from Pangasinan yield to a few questions, a limited number of questions?

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BIAZON. Yes, but first of all, I would like to commend the Gentleman from Pangasinan for having shown his mettle in facing the long line of interpellators in spite of his youth in age, and being a neophyte in

Congress, and truly, he is doing his parents proud with this speech that he is delivering.

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, my question goes to the matter of who really is in charge of the drug problem here in the country right now. The Gentleman mentioned two proposed measures that he has. But I would like to see it from his point of view. With the existing structure and offices that we have in this country, what would be the relation of the mechanism that he is proposing to the current setup that we have?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the honorable Gentleman from the Lone District of Muntinlupa for his query.

I took note of two key words that he mentioned in yesterday’s interpellation of the honorable Gentleman from AKO BICOL Party-List. He mentioned demand reduction and that is precisely the concept that launched me into this investigation of constant consultation with stakeholders from my district which I have been doing for the past month.

You asked who is in charge, and you mentioned yesterday that, is there a strategy or is it really a strategy or are they actually tactics? The reason I am speaking this evening, is that we are not made aware of this strategy being undertaken by the President and the Philippine National Police because again, it has been rather exclusive rather than inclusive, involving as many sectors of society as possible.

So, I join you in this query actually. I would like to find out what are the concerned agencies actually tasked in working on this war on drugs, the current agencies, and also how our proposed agencies can be able to collaborate and synergize with the existing offices that are working on this. Also, I would like to find out, as you mentioned yesterday, what are the key performance indicators of this successful war on drugs? Again, it has been isolationist rather than inclusive. I am calling for the President and also the Philippine National Police to include us and make us aware of what their strategies are because again, there is strength in number, there is strength when we are working together as opposed to working against each other. And it, being exclusively the jurisdiction of the Executive in this case, it is the President and also the Philippine National Police, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BIAZON. Thank you very much for that reply.

Would the Gentleman agree with me that his proposed measures would only be effective if it will be working in good coordination and efficient cooperation with other agencies tasked to take care or to address our drugs problem.

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker. We are not trying to abolish the system, whatever the strategy

is, that is in place. What we are looking at is a multi-sectoral approach and finding ways in which we can cooperate and collaborate with the existing agencies. So that with everybody showing intensified passionate effort on this war on drugs, then perhaps, it can be successful. Perhaps, those media agencies that have been saying that this war on drugs is not feasible because it has never been done, perhaps, it is because it has only been exclusive in other countries. But if we undertake a more inclusive approach, imagine the possibilities. I myself am pragmatic idealist with regard to the actions that I undertake in life. I want to see the good side of the matter and build upon that so that eventually, we can all be partners for this change, this wave of disruption that is sweeping the nation.

REP. BIAZON. So, the Gentleman would agree with me also that with the budget hearings coming up next week or in several days, it would be a timely opportunity for us to evaluate the performance of each of those agencies that are tasked to address the drug problem.

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker. As also mentioned earlier by the honorable Lady from Bagong Henerasyon Party-List, we will definitely look into all of these agencies, their budgets and how they are able to spend the moneys allocated to them in aid of this war against drugs, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BIAZON. There are laws in place which identify those agencies and their particular roles in this fight against drugs. But let us go to perception, what the public sees, what we see, we, Members of Congress, see right now. If I may ask the Gentleman if he may be candid to his perception, which agency right now is taking the lead in this war on drugs?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, to my honest perception, it would be the Philippine National Police.

REP. BIAZON. Perhaps, because of the high profile...

REP. DE VENECIA. Because of what we read about, what we see on TV, and also from my experiences in visiting the district and coordinating with our chiefs of police and our local chief executives, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BIAZON. So, it would seem to the Gentleman and probably to a lot of our countrymen that the person who is directing the pace, the strategy, the day-to-day operations of the drug war is the Philippine National Police. Is that correct?

REP. DE VENECIA. Yes, Mr. Speaker, to my honest assessment as a person who was witness to this campaign against drugs.

REP. BIAZON. Let me just bring up this matter that in Republic Act No. 9165, which was passed by this Congress under the leadership of then Speaker Jose De Venecia and of which I was a coauthor, the principal agency tasked with coming up with a strategy of anti-drug efforts of this country is the Dangerous Drugs Board.

In the mind and assessment of the Gentleman from Pangasinan, what is your assessment of the performance, at least the projection of the presence of the Dangerous Drugs Board and the PDEA which is the operating arm under the Dangerous Drugs Board in this current war on drugs?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I believe that definitely we have to capacitate these mechanisms and their agencies more, the Dangerous Drugs Board. Actually, I am proposing an amendment to its composition because I noticed that there is no representation of the cultural sector in devising these interventions with regard to the prevention of drugs. If we involve possibly the NCCA and the convening of the Dangerous Drugs Board that brainstorms all these prevention mechanisms, then maybe we can create more meaningful, more impactful and more culturally rooted interventions so that the youth may be taken away from this prospect of drug use. Definitely, we also have to capacitate the PDEA; again I am speaking as a person, not necessarily as the Representative from the Fourth District of Pangasinan, but as someone who is constantly reading the newspapers and watching TV. The Gentleman from the First District of Muntinlupa is right in saying that the perception is that the Philippine National Police under the leadership of President Duterte is waging this war against drugs; and I commend them on this effort.

I just would like to ask that the other sectors be included so that it becomes more effective, efficient and impactful.

REP. BIAZON. I have with me here the President's budget message for the Fiscal Year 2017 wherein there is mentioned of peace and order; wherein the President's message says that, "My government will double or even triple its efforts to bring drug pushers and crime syndicates behind bars as well as to put a stop to terrorism. This budget provides for P110.4 billion for the PNP higher by 24.6 percent than in 2016. This funding will be used to hire more policemen, buy more guns, and patrol vehicles, and finance other activities for more effective crime suppression."

As we have pointed out earlier under Republic Act 9165, we have the Dangerous Drugs Board as the lead strategist and the PDEA envisioned as a lead implementor. As of now, I have not read the entire National Expenditure Program, but just picking up from what the President's budget message says. It seems what was highlighted was the PNP instead of the PDEA. So

this leaves us a question come budget season, what exactly are we putting into, what resources are we putting into the chief strategist, the Dangerous Drugs Board; and the chief implementor, the PDEA. How much money are we really putting into this?

In closing my interpellation, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Gentleman from Pangasinan if he would be joining this Representation in asking these agencies what they will be doing with their respective budgets. And, if warranted, move with me in ensuring that the right resources go to the right agencies so that we will really succeed in this fight against illegal drugs. Would the Gentleman join me in that?

REP. DE VENECIA. Certainly, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, we will be reviewing the budget of each of these agencies and perhaps we should work together with the PNP and with President Duterte in building the ecosystem for this demand reduction as the Gentleman mentioned yesterday in his interpellation. We are stronger by working together, rather than when we are working apart from each other.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BIAZON. Thank you very much to the Gentleman from Pangasinan who is doing his parents proud. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of Honorable De Venecia, together with the interpellations, to the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we terminate the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the election as Deputy Speakers of Reps. Bai Sandra Sema and Ferdinand Hernandez. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the following have been elected as Deputy Speakers—Rep. Ferdinand L. Hernandez and Rep. Bai Sandra Sinsuat A. Sema.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, they will take their oath before the Speaker on Monday.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I now move for the election of the following to the various committees.

The Majority Leader, Rep. Rodolfo Fariñas, read the names of the Members elected to the various committees, per Journal No. 12, dated August 17, 2016.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BICOL RECOVERY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Rep. Renato J. Unico Jr., Chairperson

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Rep. Christopher S. Co, Chairperson, Chairperson

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON GLOBALIZATION AND WTO

Rep. Jesulito “Jess” A. Manalo, Chairperson, vice Rep. Christopher S. Co

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

Rep. Florencio T. Flores Jr. M.D., Vice Chairperson, vice Hon. Robert Ace S. Barbers

As members:

Rep. Salvio B. Fortuno

Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go

Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers

Rep. Bellaflor J. Angara-Castillo

Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go, Vice Chairperson

Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon, Vice Chairperson

Rep. Luis Raymund F. Villafuerte Jr., Vice Chairperson

Rep. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos, Vice Chairperson

Rep. Erlpe John “Ping” M. Amante, Vice Chairperson

Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Vice Chairperson

Rep. Magnolia C. Antonino, Vice Chairperson

Rep. Mark Aeron H. Sambar, Vice Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Rep. Jose Enrique S. Garcia III vice Rep. Juliet Marie D. Ferrer

COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

As Members:

Rep. Marilyn L. Primicias-Agabas
Rep. Cesar V. Sarmiento
Rep. Eric L. Olivarez
Rep. Aileen C. Radaza
Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon
Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales
Rep. Micaela S. Violago
Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon
Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers
Rep. Henedina R. Abad
Rep. Rene L. Relampagos
Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto
Rep. Strike B. Revilla
Rep. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso

COMMITTEE ON METRO MANILA
DEVELOPMENT

Rep. Eric M. Martinez, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Emi G. Calixto-Rubiano, Vice Chairperson

As members:

Rep. Rosenda Ann Ocampo
Rep. Gus S. Tambunting
Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon
Rep. Dale “Along” R. Malapitan
Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto
Rep. Federico “Ricky” S. Sandoval II
Rep. Carlo V. Lopez
Rep. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar
Rep. Jorge “Bolet” Banal
Rep. Feliciano Belmonte Jr.
Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Rep. Jesus Nonato Sacdalan, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Vicente J. Alcala, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Joseph Stephen S. Paduano, Vice Chairperson

As members:

Rep. Jesus “Boying” F. Celeste
Rep. Arnel M. Cerafica
Rep. Milagrosa “Mila” T. Tan
Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali
Rep. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica
Rep. Franz E. Alvarez

Rep. Ruby M. Sahali
Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo
Rep. Marisol C. Panotes
Rep. Johnny Ty Pimentel
Rep. Federico “Ricky” S. Sandoval II
Rep. Arnolfo A. Teves Jr.
Rep. Renato J. Unico Jr.
Rep. Vicente “Ching” S.E. Veloso
Rep. Erlpe John “Ping” M. Amante
Rep. Rogelio J. Espina M.D.
Rep. Ronald M. Cosalan
Rep. Jeffrey D. Khonghun
Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers
Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao
Rep. Nancy A. Catamco
Rep. Arthur R. Defensor Jr.
Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas
Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil
Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva
Rep. Evelyn P. Mellana
Rep. Lorna C. Silverio
Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado

COMMITTEE ON PEOPLE’S PARTICIPATION

Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Vice Chairperson

As members:

Rep. Glona G. Labadlabad
Rep. Ramon V.A. “Rav” M. Rocamora
Rep. Winston “Winnie” Castelo

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

As members:

Rep. Jorge T. Almonte
Rep. Rodrigo A. Abellanosa
Rep. Gus S. Tambunting
Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta
Rep. Glona G. Labadlabad
Rep. Marisol C. Panotes
Rep. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar
Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao
Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.
Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil

COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Rep. Henedina R. Abad, Vice Chairperson

As members:

Rep. Peter John D. Calderon
Rep. Ramon C. Nolasco
Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II
Rep. Ramon V.A. “Rav” M. Rocamora

Rep. Christopher “Toff” Vera Perez De Venecia
Rep. Juliette T. Uy

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
AND TECHNOLOGY

Rep. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang, Vice Chairperson

As members:

Rep. Jesus “Boying” F. Celeste
Rep. Cesar V. Sarmiento
Rep. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica
Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava M.D.
Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto
Rep. Federico “Ricky” S. Sandoval II
Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño
Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas
Rep. Alberto T. Ungab

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESSES AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT

As members:

Rep. Rodrigo A. Abellanos
Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta
Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales
Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II
Rep. Marisol C. Panotes

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

As members:

Rep. Emi G. Calixto-Rubiano
Rep. Arnel M. Cerafica
Rep. Peter “Sr. Pedro” M. Unabia
Rep. Bayani F. Fernando
Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales
Rep. Vicente J. Alcalá
Rep. Arcadio H. Gorriceta
Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.
Rep. Magnolia C. Antonino
Rep. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Rep. Fernando V. Gonzalez, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Bayani F. Fernando, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Renato J. Unico Jr., Vice Chairperson
Rep. Carlo V. Lopez, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Emmanuel F. Madrona, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Gavini “Apol” C. Pancho, Vice Chairperson

As members:

Rep. Alfredo “Albee” B. Benitez

Rep. Rosenda Ann Ocampo
Rep. Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr.
Rep. Milagrosa “Mila” T. Tan
Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali
Rep. Alex “AA” L. Advincula
Rep. Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas
Rep. Oscar “Richard” S. Garin Jr.
Rep. Lucy T. Gomez
Rep. Eric L. Olivarez
Rep. Aileen C. Radaza
Rep. Jun J. Akbar
Rep. Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan
Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II
Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto
Rep. Rogelio “Ruel” D. Pacquiao
Rep. Johnny Ty Pimentel
Rep. Horacio P. Suansing Jr.
Rep. Micaela S. Violago
Rep. Winston “Winnie” Castelo
Rep. Nancy A. Catamco
Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya
Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte
Rep. Raul V. Del Mar
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas
Rep. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar
Rep. Ferjanel G. Biron M.D.
Rep. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos
Rep. Luis Raymund F. Villafuerte Jr.
Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers
Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes
Rep. Romeo M. Acop
Rep. Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV
Rep. Edwin C. Ong
Rep. Juliette T. Uy

COMMITTEE ON WELFARE
OF CHILDREN

Rep. Cesar V. Sarmiento, Vice Chairperson
Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento, Vice
Chairperson

As members:

Rep. Ruby M. Sahali
Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales
Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto and
Rep. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Members so mentioned are hereby elected to the various committees.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until Monday, August 22, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The session is adjourned until Monday, August 22, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there

It was 6:51 p.m.

