



# Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## House of Representatives

Vol. 1

Wednesday, August 24, 2016

No. 15

### CALL TO ORDER

*At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Romero "Miro" S. Quimbo called the session to order.*

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

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). May we ask everyone to please rise for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

*Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.*

### PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). May we request everyone to remain standing for a minute of prayer and meditation.

*Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.*

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Good afternoon.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we defer the roll call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). There is a motion to defer the calling of the roll.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). There is a motion to defer the approval of the Journal.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

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

The Secretary General will please read the Reference of Business.

### REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

### BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 3027, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING THE USE OF FILIPINO SIGN LANGUAGE INSETS FOR LOCAL NEWS PROGRAMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 22 OF REPUBLIC ACT 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs)’ ”

By Representative Zarate

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 3028, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING FIFTY PERCENT (50%) DISCOUNTS FROM FUNERAL SERVICES TO INDIGENT FAMILIES AND GRANTING FREE FUNERAL SERVICES TO EXTREMELY POOR FAMILIES NATIONWIDE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Zarate

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 3029, entitled:  
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE HOUSING AND EMERGENCY SHELTER ACT OF 2016 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”  
By Representative Montoro  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 3035, entitled:  
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING PROPER JEEPNEY TERMINALS AND STOPS IN THE COUNTRY AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES THEREOF”  
By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3030, entitled:  
“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING CENTER IN BARANGAY PASONG PUTIK, NOVALICHES, QUEZON CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”  
By Representative Vargas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3036, entitled:  
“AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1869, EXPRESSLY EXCLUDING JAI-ALAI GAMES FROM THE FRANCHISED ACTIVITIES OF THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING CORPORATION”  
By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

House Bill No. 3031, entitled:  
“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING CENTER IN BARANGAY BAGBAG, NOVALICHES, QUEZON CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”  
By Representative Vargas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3037, entitled:  
“AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR SAFE ACCESS IN FIRE EMERGENCIES”  
By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 3032, entitled:  
“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING CENTER IN BARANGAY STA. MONICA, NOVALICHES, QUEZON CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”  
By Representative Vargas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3038, entitled:  
“AN ACT DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PREPARE AND PUBLISH ANNUALLY A CONSUMER GUIDE TO PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES”  
By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3033, entitled:  
“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL EYE CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”  
By Representative Vargas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3039, entitled:  
“AN ACT DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT PILOT STUDIES TO DETERMINE THE ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS WHICH MAY CAUSE ACQUIRED BONE MARROW FAILURE DISEASES”  
By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3034, entitled:  
“AN ACT DECLARING MARCH 21 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL SOLO PARENTS’ DAY”  
By Representative Vargas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND FAMILY RELATIONS

House Bill No. 3040, entitled:  
“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE MANUFACTURE, IMPORTATION, SALE, AND USE OF INCANDESCENT LIGHT BULBS, PRESCRIBING A PHASE-OUT PERIOD, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”  
By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 3041, entitled:  
“AN ACT REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A GUN SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM AND

INCLUDE THIS IN THE CURRICULUM OF ALL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS”

By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3042, entitled:

“AN ACT TO FACILITATE THE DEVELOPMENT, DEMONSTRATION, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TECHNOLOGY FOR USE IN REMOVING GREENHOUSE GASES FROM THE ATMOSPHERE AND CREATING A GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION ATMOSPHERIC REMOVAL COMMITTEE”

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

House Bill No. 3043, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SALE OF TOYS AND OTHER ARTICLES CONTAINING PHTHALATES TO CHILDREN THREE YEARS OF AGE AND BELOW”

By Representative Roque (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 3044, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER IN THE CITY OF CALOOCAN, METRO MANILA TO BE KNOWN AS THE CALOOCAN CITY REHABILITATION CENTER FOR DRUG DEPENDENTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Malapitan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

House Bill No. 3045, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING KAY TIKLING – ANTIPOLO – TERESA – MORONG NATIONAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF RIZAL TO CORAZON C. AQUINO AVENUE”

By Representatives Acop, Roa-Puno, Duavit and Rodriguez (I.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3046, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE CAPITAL AND SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF RIZAL FROM PASIG CITY

TO ANTIPOLO CITY, PROVINCE OF RIZAL”

By Representatives Acop, Roa-Puno, Duavit and Rodriguez (I.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 3047, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING CERTAIN NATIONAL ROADS IN THE PROVINCE OF RIZAL TO JOSE RIZAL HIGHWAY”

By Representatives Acop, Roa-Puno, Duavit and Rodriguez (I.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3048, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE PRESIDENT/ EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT EMERGENCY POWERS TO MANAGE, MITIGATE AND SOLVE THE TRAFFIC AND CONGESTION CRISIS ACROSS THE PHILIPPINES, TO EXPEDITIOUSLY AND EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT MEASURES THAT SHALL PROVIDE REAL LASTING SOLUTIONS AS WELL AS THE EARLIEST RESPITE FROM TRAFFIC AND CONGESTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Cayetano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3049, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tambunting  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3050, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Tambunting  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 3051, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION (LAD) COMPONENT OF THE

COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM(CARP)PURSUANTTOREPUBLIC ACTNO. 6657, OTHERWISE KNOWNAS THE ‘COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW’, AS AMENDED”

By Representatives Bag-ao, Bordado and Villarin  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

House Bill No. 3052, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE AND STRENGTHENING THE POWERS OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 7925, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES’ ”

By Representative Yap (V.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3053, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH STRUCTURAL REFORMS IN THE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR TO PROMOTE DEVELOPMENT, DELIVERY AND USE OF CONVERGENT SERVICES”

By Representative Yap (V.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3054, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE AS PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF STRATEGIC NATIONAL ROADS AND HIGHWAYS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (V.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3055, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS PROGRAM IN ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Yap (V.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3056, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE BIG DATA CENTER”

By Representative Yap (V.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3057, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE INNOVATION COUNCIL AND PROVIDING BENEFITS AND PROGRAMS TO STRENGTHEN, PROMOTE, AND DEVELOP THE PHILIPPINE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM”

By Representative Yap (V.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3058, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ADDRESS THE WORSENING STATE OF THE POWER INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 47 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9136, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Zarate  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 3059, entitled:

“AN ACT DEFINING THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE FIRST PUBLIC WORKS DISTRICT IN THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6339”

By Representative Relampagos  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3060, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE CONGRESSMAN NATALIO P. CASTILLO, SR. MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (CNCMH) AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOON, PROVINCE OF BOHOL, FROM TWENTY FIVE (25) TO ONE HUNDRED (100) BEDS AND UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6781, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Relampagos  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3061, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF GOVERNOR CELESTINO GALLARES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL (GCGMH) IN TAGBILARAN CITY, PROVINCE OF BOHOL FROM TWO HUNDRED TWENTY

FIVE (225) TO FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE (525) BEDS AND UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7266, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Relampagos  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3062, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 1, 2, 3, 4 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6686, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8441, IMPOSING NEW PROVISIONS IN THE GRANT OF CHRISTMAS BONUS TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AND INCREASING THE CASH GIFT FROM FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (Php5,000.00) TO TEN THOUSAND PESOS (Php10,000.00) STARTING CALENDAR YEAR TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN (2016) AND THEREAFTER, WITH AUTOMATIC INCREASE OF FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (Php5,000.00) EVERY FIVE YEARS THEREAFTER”

By Representative De Vera  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 3063, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT, AND PRODUCT CENTER IN THE PROVINCE OF AKLAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Marquez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 3064, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PEOPLE’S BROADCASTING CORPORATION, ABOLISHING THE PEOPLE’S TELEVISION NETWORK, INC., AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Almonte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 3065, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL ROAD SITUATED IN THE CROSSING

MAGALLON, MUNICIPALITY OF MOISES PADILLA AND BIAK-NA-BATO, LA CASTELLANA, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL INTO A SECONDARY NATIONAL ROAD AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mirasol  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3066, entitled:

“AN ACT REPEALING PROHIBITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF NAVAL STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT, PROVIDED THAT NO PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE SHALL BE APPOINTED AS UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT IF HE/SHE IS RELATED BY CONSANGUINITY OR AFFINITY UP TO THE THIRD CIVIL DEGREE TO ANY INCUMBENT LOCAL OR NATIONAL OFFICIAL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 9 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9718, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS CONVERSION OF NAVAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TO NAVAL STATE UNIVERSITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Espina  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3067, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE TICAO-BURIAS PASS AND ITS SURROUNDING AREAS, ALL SITUATED IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBAY, SORSOGON, AND MASBATE AS PROTECTED SEASCAPE, PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT OF 1992”

By Representatives Gonzalez, Escudero and Bravo (M.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 3068, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PUBLIC ASSETS MANAGEMENT CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 3069, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE MONTHLY MINIMUM WAGE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS TO TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P25,000.00) AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL TO FIFTEEN THOUSAND PESOS (P15,000.00) AND AUGMENTING THE PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA)”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 3070, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM FOR KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY PUPILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3071, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STIFFER PENALTIES FOR PERSONS DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL, DANGEROUS DRUGS AND SIMILAR SUBSTANCES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10586 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘ANTI-DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING ACT OF 2013’ ”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 3072, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE LAUREL MEMORIAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL FROM TWENTY FIVE (25) TO FIFTY (50) BEDS, UPGRADING THE SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE THEREIN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Collantes  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3073, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES REQUIRING PROOF OF PARKING SPACE OR FACILITY BY THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE”

By Representative Velasco  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3074, entitled:

“AN ACT DEFINING THE CRIME OF ROBBERY

OF TRAIN IMPLEMENTS, CLASSIFYING THE ACT AS HEINOUS CRIME AND IMPOSING PENALTY THEREOF”

By Representative Montoro  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3075, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING LONG-TERM CARE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 3076, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION CAMPAIGN TO RAISE PUBLIC AWARENESS OF WOMEN’S PREVENTIVE HEALTH”

By Representative Suansing (E.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3077, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE UPGRADE AND MODERNIZATION AS WELL AS INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE GUIMBA DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUIMBA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA FROM TWENTY-FIVE TO FIFTY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3078, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY TO ALL CASUAL AND CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES OF THE GOVERNMENT WHO HAVE RENDERED AT LEAST TEN (10) YEARS OF CONTINUOUS AND EFFICIENT SERVICE”

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 3079, entitled:

“AN ACT INSURING THAT GOVERNMENT SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, MEDICAL CENTERS, INSTITUTES OR SANITARIA EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT ‘PAY-WHAT-YOU-CAN POLICY’ FOR POOR PATIENTS FOR THEIR TREATMENT, CONFINEMENT

OR HOSPITALIZATION, AND HEALING  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3080, entitled:

“AN ACT BANNING A FUNERAL AGENT  
FROM ENTRY INTO ANY HOSPITAL  
WITH INTENT OF HAVING A FAMILY  
MEMBER OF A DYING OR TERMINALLY-  
ILL PATIENT SIGN A CONTRACT AND  
PRESCRIBING PENALTIES IN VIOLATION  
THEREOF”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3081, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING CLOSED-CIRCUIT  
TELEVISION (CCTV) OWNERS TO YIELD  
INFORMATION OR RECORDED DATA  
ON THE COMMISSION OF A CRIME  
UPON REQUEST OF THE PROPER  
INVESTIGATIVE BODY OR COMPETENT  
COURT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3082, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING EVERY MAJOR  
BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT LOCATED IN  
CENTRAL OR CORE BUSINESS DISTRICT  
AREA, ON COMPULSORY BASIS, TO  
INSTALL IN ITS PLACE OF BUSINESS  
OPERATION, A CLOSED CIRCUIT  
TELEVISION CAMERA AND EVERY  
MINOR BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT, ON  
OPTIONAL BASIS AND PRESCRIBING  
EFFECTIVE GUIDELINES THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER  
AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 3083, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE PHILIPPINE  
DISASTER RISK REDUCTION  
AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEM  
THEREBY INSTITUTIONALIZING A  
COMPREHENSIVE RECOVERY AND  
RECONSTRUCTION PLAN THROUGH A  
WHOLE-OF-SOCIETY APPROACH WITH  
PHIVOLCS THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AS LEAD  
AGENCY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE  
AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 3084, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE RAIL REGULATORY  
BOARD (RRB) TO SUPERVISE, OVERSEE  
AND REGULATE THE RAIL TRANSIT  
SYSTEM OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR  
OTHER RELATED PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3085, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE HEALTH  
MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATIONS  
REGULATORY COMMISSION AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 3086, entitled:

“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT  
OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT TO  
 earmark sufficient funds for  
CALAMITY GRANT TO GOVERNMENT  
EMPLOYEES AT BOTH THE NATIONAL  
AND LOCAL LEVELS AND PRESCRIBING  
GUIDELINES THEREFOR AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 3087, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS FOR  
JUVENILE PRISONERS THEREBY  
PROMOTING CHILDREN’S RIGHTS AND  
HEALTH CARE AND APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3088, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL  
DECREE NO. 1638, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS ‘THE AFP MILITARY PERSONNEL  
RETIREMENT AND SEPARATION DECREE  
OF 1979 BY ADDING A NEW SECTION  
25-A GRANTING CHILDREN/SURVIVORS  
WHO ARE MENTALLY RETARDED  
EXEMPTION FROM TERMINATION OF  
BENEFITS UPON REACHING AGE OF  
21 YEARS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE  
AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 3089, entitled:  
“AN ACT GRANTING FULL GOVERNMENT  
SUBSIDY TO CANCER PATIENTS,  
INSTITUTIONALIZING A PROGRAM AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

AND SPONSORS DURING NATURAL  
OR MAN-MADE DISASTERS, CRISES,  
TRAGEDIES, OR EMERGENCIES AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE  
AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 3090, entitled:  
“AN ACT PROHIBITING PRIVATE  
CONTRACTORS IN ROAD RELATED  
PROJECTS OF GOVERNMENT FROM  
PLUGGING MANHOLES AND DRAINAGE  
INLETS AND PROVIDING SANCTIONS  
THEREFOR”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS  
AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3095, entitled:  
“AN ACT CREATING THE OFFICE FOR  
INFORMATION AND REGULATORY  
AFFAIRS AS INTER-AGENCY STRUCTURE  
TO UNDERTAKE REGULATORY  
REVIEW AND TAKE CHARGE OF ALL  
REGULATORY AFFAIRS OF SMALL,  
MEDIUM, AND LARGE BUSINESS,  
ENTERPRISE OR ACTIVITY AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND  
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3091, entitled:  
“AN ACT BANNING IMPOSITION OF  
EXPIRY DATES ON GIFT CHECKS BY  
COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND  
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3096, entitled:  
“AN ACT AMENDING PERTINENT PROVISION  
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9507 THEREBY  
EXTENDING COVERAGE OF THE  
RESTRUCTURING PROGRAM FOR  
DELINQUENT SOCIALIZED AND LOW-  
COST HOUSING LOAN ACCOUNTS  
FOR A PERIOD OF ANOTHER TWENTY-  
FOUR (24) MONTHS AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 3092, entitled:  
“AN ACT PRESCRIBING UNIFORM  
QUALIFICATION STANDARD  
FOR TEACHERS IN COLLEGES OR  
UNIVERSITIES AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3097, entitled:  
“AN ACT AUTHORIZING ALL METRO  
MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
(MMDA) AND METRO MANILA  
DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
OPERATIVES TO COMMANDEER ANY  
OR ALL PRIVATE VEHICLES AND/OR  
HEAVY EQUIPMENT MACHINES FOR  
PURPOSES OF SAVING LIVES DURING  
EMERGENCY CASES, SUCH AS THE  
OCCURRENCE OF NATURAL DISASTERS  
INCLUDING EARTHQUAKES,  
TYPHOONS, ETC.”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON METRO MANILA  
DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 3093, entitled:  
“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF  
DISASTER MANAGEMENT AS DISTINCT  
AND SEPARATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT  
OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”  
By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT  
REORGANIZATION AND THE  
COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE  
AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 3094, entitled:  
“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A SYSTEM OF  
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CASH DONATIONS OR HUMANITARIAN  
AID FROM LOCAL OR FOREIGN DONORS

House Bill No. 3098, entitled:  
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A RELIABLE  
NATIONAL DATABASE OF POLICE



SHOOTINGS AND OTHER DEATHS  
IN LAW ENFORCEMENT CUSTODY  
THEREBY INSTITUTING REFORM  
MEASURES TOWARD REDUCTION OF  
SUCH SHOOTINGS/DEATHS AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER  
AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 3099, entitled:

“AN ACT PRESCRIBING A GENERAL BAN  
ON IMPORTATION, SHIPMENT, ENTRY,  
AND DUMPING INTO THE COUNTRY OF  
GARBAGE, TRASH, OR SIMILAR AND  
OTHERWISE HAZARDOUS SCRAP OR  
RESIDUAL WASTE AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 3100, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM TAXATION  
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HARDWARE DONATIONS FROM PEZA  
REGISTERED COMPANIES IN THE  
OUTSOURCING INDUSTRY FOR THE  
BENEFIT OF PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTIONS”

By Representative Garcia (J.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND  
MEANS

House Bill No. 3101, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE  
EMPLOYMENT OF NURSES, ASSIGNING  
ONE REGISTERED NURSE FOR EVERY  
BARANGAY IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3102, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SMALL  
AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES STOCK  
EXCHANGE”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND  
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3103, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF  
NOVEMBER AS ‘BUY PINOY, BUILD  
PINOY MONTH’ TO ENCOURAGE THE  
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS TO  
PRIORITIZE THE PURCHASE AND  
UTILIZATION OF FILIPINO PRODUCTS,

LABOR AND SERVICES”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND  
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3104, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA  
OF STUDENTS”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION  
AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON  
HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3105, entitled:

“AN ACT SCALING UP NUTRITION DURING  
THE FIRST 1000 DAYS OF LIFE”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3106, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF  
A ‘NO PERMIT, NO EXAM’ POLICY OR  
ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS  
STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY  
AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM  
TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR FINAL  
EXAMINATIONS, OR OTHER SIMILAR  
ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION  
AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3107, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING STIFFER PENALTIES FOR  
THEFT, ROBBERY AND DESTRUCTION  
OF PUBLIC SCHOOL PROPERTY”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF  
LAWS

House Bill No. 3108, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE  
GOVERNMENT’S EFFORTS TOWARDS THE  
TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION OF  
DRUG DEPENDENTS BY ESTABLISHING  
DRUG REHABILITATION CENTERS IN  
EVERY PROVINCE AND CITY IN THE  
COUNTRY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS  
DRUGS

House Bill No. 3109, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE

SUSTAINABLE SANITATION PROGRAM BY REORGANIZING THE SANITATION UNIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3110, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NURSING LAW TOWARDS QUALITY HEALTHCARE SYSTEM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Aglipay-Villar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 3111, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BARANGAY UNIT BY PROVIDING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS TO BARANGAY SECURITY, HEALTH AND NUTRITION WORKERS, AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1569, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7883, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Bag-ao  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 3112, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MORE RESPONSIVE CIVIL REGISTRATION SYSTEM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 3113, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED AT THE PROVINCE OF BATANGAS WITH SEATS AT ROSARIO AND SAN JUAN, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980’, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bolilia  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3114, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE PALM OIL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

CENTER TO PROMOTE THE PHILIPPINE PALM OIL INDUSTRY, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sacdalan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 3115, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6963, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING SPECIAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO THE FAMILY OR BENEFICIARY OF ANY POLICE OR MILITARY PERSONNEL OR FIREMAN KILLED OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS DUTY OR BY REASON OF HIS OFFICE OR POSITION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

By Representative Tupas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 3116, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING COST-EFFECTIVE MEASURES FOR THE TRANSPORT SECTOR AND COMMUTING PUBLIC, PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF A NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3117, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CREDIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 3118, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE STREAMTECH SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGIES, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Madrona  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 3119, entitled:

“AN ACT ABOLISHING THE COLLECTION OF FARMERS’ IRRIGATION FEES AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES AND GRANTING CONDONATION OF UNPAID DEBTS, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 2 (b) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3601, AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 552”

By Representative Fortuno  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 3120, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE MONTHLY PENSIONS OF RETIREES OF MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS) AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW OF 1997”

By Representative Fortuno  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 3121, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISHPORT IN BARANGAY GIL SANCHEZ, MUNICIPALITY OF LABASON, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amatong  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 3122, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISHPORT IN BARANGAY MACUYON, MUNICIPALITY OF SIRAWAI, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amatong  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 3123, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE URDANETA - ASINGAN VIA CALEPAAN ROAD CONNECTING THE CITY OF URDANETA AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF ASINGAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3124, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE URDANETA JUNCTION – ASINGAN PROVINCIAL ROAD CONNECTING THE CITY OF URDANETA AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF ASINGAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3125, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE TAYUG – SAN QUINTIN PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TAYUG AND SAN QUINTIN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3126, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE VILLASIS – ASINGAN PROVINCIAL ROAD, CONNECTING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF VILLASIS AND ASINGAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3127, entitled:

“AN ACT LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM SIXTY (60) YEARS OLD TO FIFTY-FIVE YEARS OLD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997”

By Representative Primicias-Agabas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 3128, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING A NATIONAL FOLIC ACID AWARENESS PROGRAM TO PREVENT BIRTH DEFECTS AND PROVIDE FREE FOLIC ACID SUPPLEMENTATION IN HEALTH CENTERS”

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

House Bill No. 3129, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL PUBLIC UTILITY AGENCIES AND COMPANIES OR CORPORATIONS, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, TO REPAIR ANY DIGGING OR DESTRUCTION MADE IN THE COURSE OF THEIR INSTALLATION OR MAINTENANCE WORK”

By Representative Lopez (C.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3130, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRODUCTION, IMPORTATION, SALE, PROVISION, USE, RECOVERY, COLLECTION, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL OF PLASTIC BAGS”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 3131, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING PRE-EMPLOYMENT PRIVILEGE TO INDIGENTS BY GRANTING A DISCOUNT ON FEES IN SECURING PRE-EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATIONS AND CLEARANCES FROM GOVERNMENT AGENCIES”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 3132, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING EVERY STUDENT TO PLANT TREES EVERY YEAR”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION

House Bill No. 3133, entitled:

“AN ACT DIRECTING THE CONVERSION OF SANGLEY POINT IN CAVITE CITY INTO AN INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS HUB”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3134, entitled:

“AN ACT SUPPORTING THE PRODUCTION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENT FILMS BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO FILMMAKERS WHO ARE GIVEN HONORS IN NOTABLE INTERNATIONAL FILM COMPETITIONS”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 3135, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ON-SITE, IN-CITY OR NEAR-CITY RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM FOR INFORMAL SETTLER FAMILIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PEOPLE’S PLAN AND MANDATING RELOCATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO PROVIDE OTHER BASIC SERVICES AND LIVELIHOOD COMPONENTS IN FAVOR OF THE RECIPIENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE □URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992□ ”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 3136, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NATIONAL HIGHWAY FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGOLOAN, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALAKAG, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON, VIA KAPAI, LANA DEL SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dimaporo (M.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3137, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAMPICUAN, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3138, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CUYAPO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3139, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STO. DOMINGO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3140, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALIAGA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3141, entitled:

“AN ACT INFORMING THE PUBLIC ABOUT ADDITIVES IN PET FOOD”

By Representative Roque (H.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3142, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF DR. PAULINO J. GARCIA MEMORIAL RESEARCH AND MEDICAL CENTER EXTENSION HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALAVERA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA FROM FIFTY (50) BEDS TO ONE HUNDRED (100) BEDS CAPACITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3143, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING MARCH 19 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR TO COMMEMORATE THE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREAT ILOCANO REVOLUTIONARY GABRIELA SILANG TO BE KNOWN AS THE GABRIELA SILANG DAY”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 3144, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF SINAIT DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN SINAIT, ILOCOS SUR FROM TWENTY FIVE (25) TO ONE HUNDRED (100) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3145, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF MAGSINGAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN MAGSINGAL, ILOCOS SUR FROM TWENTY FIVE (25) TO ONE HUNDRED (100) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

#### RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 238, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT TO IMMEDIATELY IMPOSE A NATIONWIDE MORATORIUM ON FORCED EVICTIONS AND DEMOLITIONS OF URBAN POOR COMMUNITIES, IN ORDER TO PROTECT THOUSANDS OF URBAN POOR FAMILIES FROM VIOLENT ATTACKS PENDING PROVISIONS FOR LIVELIHOOD, ADEQUATE HOUSING, AND SOCIAL SERVICES BY THE GOVERNMENT”

By Representatives Casilao, Zarate, De Jesus, Tinio, Brosas, Castro (F.L.) and Elago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 239, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE VIOLENT DEMOLITION OF AN URBAN POOR COMMUNITY IN APOLLO ST., BRGY. TANDANG SORA, QUEZON CITY”

By Representatives Casilao, Zarate, De Jesus, Tinio, Brosas, Castro (F.L.) and Elago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 240, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE PERFORMANCE OF

METROPOLITAN WATERWORKS AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM (MWSS) VIS-A-VIS ITS CONCESSION AGREEMENTS WITH MAYNILAD WATER SERVICES, INC. AND MANILA WATER COMPANY, INC.”

By Representative Suarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 241, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF REPUBLIC ACT 9344 AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT 10630, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT, AND ITS IMPACT ON CHILDREN IF THE MINIMUM AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY IS LOWERED”

By Representatives Bag-ao, Bordado, Villarín, Belmonte (J.), Lagman, Roman, Roque (H.), Baguilat, Banal and Abad  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 242, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STEEP UPSURGE IN THE EXTRA-LEGAL KILLINGS AND ARBITRARY OR SUMMARY EXECUTIONS IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representatives Bag-ao, Bordado and Villarín  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 243, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE TO ISSUE AN EXECUTIVE ORDER AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 248 DATED MAY 29, 1995, EXECUTIVE ORDER 248-A DATED AUGUST 14, 1995 AND EXECUTIVE ORDER 298 DATED MARCH 23, 2004 TO IMPLEMENT AN INCREASE IN TRAVEL ALLOWANCES FOR LOCAL TRAVELS OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL”

By Representative De Vera  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Resolution No. 244, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE

REPORTED INCREASED CASH OUT AND SUBSTANDARD HEMODIALYSIS SERVICES FOR SERVICE PATIENTS IN THE NATIONAL KIDNEY AND TRANSPLANT INSTITUTE, AND THE POOR PLIGHT OF HEMODIALYSIS PATIENTS IN GENERAL”

By Representative Zarate  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 245, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING OUR OLYMPIAN ATHLETE AND AIRWOMAN SECOND CLASS HIDILYN DIAZ FOR BAGGING THE SILVER MEDAL IN THE WOMEN’S WEIGHTLIFTING EVENT IN THE RIO 2016 SUMMER OLYMPICS”

By Representative Ferrer (L.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 246, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE METROBANK FOUNDATION-ROTARY CLUB OF NEW MANILA EAST SEARCH FOR THE COUNTRY’S OUTSTANDING POLICE OFFICERS IN SERVICE (C.O.P.S.) OF 2016”

By Representative Bataoil  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 247, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE, ENERGY AND THE OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT A JOINT INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE SALE OF WATER BY CE CASECNAN WATER AND ENERGY CORPORATION, INC., A CORPORATION OPERATING A HYDROELECTRIC POWERPLANT AND IRRIGATION CONTROL FACILITY IN CENTRAL LUZON PARTICULARLY THE PANTABANGAN DAM AND RESERVOIR TO THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION (NIA) FOR PURPOSES OF IRRIGATION TO ASCERTAIN THE VOLUME OF WATER DELIVERY, REVIEW THE EXORBITANT RATES OF WATER DELIVERY FEES PER CUBIC METER AND THE AVERAGE ANNUAL ENERGY GENERATION AND TO PROPOSE REMEDIAL MEASURES THEREOF”

By Representative Suansing (E.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 248, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE INTEGRATION INTO ALL LINE AGENCIES’ 2016 ANNUAL WORK PLAN THE AGGRESSIVE AND MASSIVE INFORMATION DRIVE TO ALL SECTORS ON THE 2015 ASEAN INTEGRATION AND LAYING DOWN THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE NATION’S ESSENTIAL ROLE IN THE ASEAN REGIONAL EFFORT AND CHARTING ITS ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT ROAD MAPS”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EAST  
ASEAN GROWTH AREA

House Resolution No. 249, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY TO REMOVE THE INTEREST RATE IMPOSED ON THE LOCAL HOUSING FUND TO MAKE REPAYMENT SCHEME AFFORDABLE TO POOREST OF THE POOR, UNDERPRIVILEGED AND HOMELESS FAMILY BENEFICIARIES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 250, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO ADDRESS THE PLIGHT OF STRANDED OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS IN SAUDI ARABIA”

By Representatives Bertiz, Villarín, Salo, Lacson, Pineda, Romero, Belaró, Mending, Belmonte (R.), Lopez (B.), Montoro, Velasco-Catera, Uybarreta, Abayon, Salón, Antonio, Canama, Chavez and Ortega (V.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 251, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING ARCHITECT BARTHOLOME B. VISTA AND AMBASSADOR J. EDUARDO MALAYA FOR THE PHP 11 MILLION RENOVATION OF THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA AT NO COST TO THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT”

By Representative Turabín-Hataman  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS

House Resolution No. 252, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE INSUFFICIENT FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MANAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF BAHAY PAG-ASA FACILITIES, RESULTING TO THE FAILURE TO FULLY AND PROPERLY IMPLEMENT REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10630 (RA 10630) STRENGTHENING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM”

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

House Resolution No. 253, entitled:

“RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION ON THE PROPRIETY AND LEGALITY OF NAPOLCOM’S WITHDRAWAL OF DEPUTATION OF MAYOR TOMAS R. OSMEÑA OF CEBU CITY AS NAPOLCOM’S REPRESENTATIVE IN HIS JURISDICTION”

By Representative Del Mar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon for House Bill No. 122;

Rep. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA, Lib. for House Bills No. 781 and 843;

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III for House Bills No. 31, 1087 and 1642;

Rep. Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano for House Bills No. 285, 511 and 779;

Rep. Juliette T. Uy for House Bills No. 122, 123 and 344;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bills No. 201, 220 and 363;

Reps. Feliciano Belmonte Jr., Ronaldo B. Zamora, Ruby M. Sahali, Victoria Isabel G. Noel and Rodolfo T. Albano III for House Resolution No. 16;

Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga for House Bills No. 122, 123, 262 and 264;

Reps. Rodrigo A. Abellanosa and Jose L. Atienza Jr. for House Resolution No. 253;

Rep. Amado T. Espino Jr. for House Bill No. 35;

Rep. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D. for House Bills No. 31, 325, 580 and 1181;

Reps. Mark Aeron H. Sambar, Carlos Roman L.

Uybarreta, Jericho Jonas B. Nograles and Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr. for House Bill No. 3197;

Rep. Edward Vera Perez Maceda for House Bills No. 19, 107 and 299;

Reps. Aileen C. Radaza, Lorna P. Bautista Bandigan, Michelle M. Antonio, Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao and Ann K. Hofer for House Bill No. 51;

Rep. Michelle M. Antonio for House Bills No. 12, 217 and 508;

Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto for House Resolutions No. 235 and 252;

Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. SyAlvarado for House Bills No. 51, 262, 208, 209, 210, 211, 264, 554, 698, 1597, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 2035, 2137, 2378, 2430 and 2467;

Rep. Antonio R. Floirendo Jr. for House Bills No. 44, 48, 123 and 248;

Rep. Jum J. Akbar for House Bills No. 262, 264, 342, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 796, 797, 798, 1870, 1871, 1872, 2287, 2396, 2430, 2514 and 2531;

Rep. Victoria Isabel G. Noel for House Bills No. 580, 2591 and 2592;

Rep. Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr. for House Bills No. 391, 392, 393, 394, 576, 577, 578 and 579;

Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III for House Bill No. 395;

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing for House Bill No. 2115;

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia for House Bills No. 208, 210 and 211;

Rep. Jonas C. Cortes for House Bills No. 209, 210 and 1914;

Rep. Horacio P. Suansing Jr. for House Bills No. 26, 84, 1083 and 13061593;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Bills No. 88 and 90;

Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva for House Bill No. 2405;

Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga for House Bills No. 2691, 2692, 2693, 2694, 2696 and 2695; and

Rep. Christopher “Toff” Vera Perez De Venecia for House Bills No. 1402 and 1404.

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

#### APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 14 for the session of August 23, 2016.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). There is a motion for the approval of the Journal.

Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; Journal No. 14, dated August 23, 2016 is hereby approved.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Gentlemen from COOP-NATCCO, the Hon. Anthony M. Bravo, PhD and the Hon. Sabiniano S. Canama. They are members of the Santo Niño Multi-Purpose Cooperative of Barangay Bilibiran, Binangonan, Rizal.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). May we ask the guests of our Representatives from COOP-NATCCO, magsi-tayo po tayo. (*Applause*) Magandang araw po. Welcome po to the House of Representatives. Mabuhay po kayo!

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

#### PRIVILEGE HOUR

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). There is a motion to open or declare a Privilege Hour.

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

The Chair declares a Privilege Hour.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the first to speak is the distinguished Gentleman from the Third District of Negros Oriental. We have Rep. Arnolfo “Arnie” A. Teves Jr. May he be recognized, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The honorable Rep. Arnolfo A. Teves Jr. of the Third District of Negros Oriental, certainly the better-looking Teves, is recognized.

You have the floor.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. TEVES

REP. TEVES. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Good afternoon everybody. I rise here again today because I would like to help the constituents not only of my district but I think of the whole country. Napansin ko kasi sa mga hospitals, lalo na sa private hospitals, I think they forgot their priority mandate which is to save lives. It has always been happening that they do not do anything to the patient in the absence of a downpayment.

Isa pa, kailan lang, I had this experience, I think, two to three weeks ago, where I was in one private hospital in Dumaguete, the Silliman University Medical Center, because my father was there. Somebody was asking for my help, one of our constituents who was confined at the Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital. Any of my constituents can call me directly as they, almost all of them, have my phone number. Anyway, this is what happened.



This lady has been calling me, asking for my help so that she could secure blood for her 13-year-old child. I am not sure if it was a son or a daughter who had dengue. At about four o'clock in the afternoon, the lady was telling me na 13,000 na lang daw iyong platelet ng anak niya. So, tsaka I think A+ iyong dugo so mahirap kunin. Sabi ko, "Siya, padalhan kita ng pera," but still she needed my help in securing donors.

Hindi ko siya naasikaso kaagad dahil inaasikaso ko pa iyong papa ko na nasa ospital din. Noong gabi, nakahanap na siya ng donor, but it so happened that there was no blood bag in the provincial hospital. I was already in a private hospital and so, I asked the private hospital if I could buy one blood bag or several blood bags to be used by that patient needing blood in the provincial hospital. Hindi daw puwede dahil taliwas daw sa protocol nila doon sa hospital. Sabi ko, "Puwede ba dalhin ko na lang dito iyong donor, kunan ninyo ng dugo, ako magbabayad at ipadala natin iyong dugo sa provincial hospital?" Again, ayaw pa rin nila pumayag. I got a little mad. So, I talked to some of the officers of the hospital. Buti na lang classmate ko iyong isa noong elementary. Nakilala niya ako. Sabi niya, "Natatandaan mo pa ako? We were classmates." So, I asked her. She had to ask permission from her higher-ups at saka sila pumayag na kunan, na dalhin doon iyong donor para kunan ng dugo at madala sa provincial hospital. So, it happened—nakunan ng dugo, inihatid ng anak ko iyong dugo sa provincial hospital. After a few days, nabuhay naman daw iyong bata.

What I am trying to drive at is, I think we should remind our hospitals, public or private, that their primary mandate is to save lives and not to make money. Alam natin negosyo lahat iyan pero hindi natin dapat kalimutan na una iyong pagsi-save ng buhay bago iyong pagkita ng pera.

I spoke to Rep. Raul Del Mar a few days ago. He told me na mayroon na itong batas na ginawa niya dati. One reason I rise here today is, I would like to send them a reminder, to all the hospitals in the country, na hindi nila puwedeng pagbawalan ang pagtanggap ng pasyente kung wala siyang pera. Una iyong tulong bago iyong pera because, again, their primary mandate is to save lives. Secondary na lang iyong kumita sila ng pera.

That is all, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Gentleman to the Committee on Rules.

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

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. I move for a suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER. (Rep. Quimbo). The session is suspended.

*It was 4:19 p.m.*

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:32 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The session is resumed.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status is that we are still in the Privilege Hour. However, I move that we suspend the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is suspended.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the distinguished Lady from the Fourth District of Bulacan, the Hon. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica. They are, first, the mayor of Meycauayan City, Mayor Henry Villarica, together with the Philippine Elementary School Principals Association, Samahan ng Kababaihan ng Meycauayan, Soroptimist International Meycauayan, and Soroptimist International of Meycauayan, Sto. Niño.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The guests of the Hon. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica of the Fourth District of Bulacan, including the better half, please stand up. (*Applause*) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

Mabuhay po kayong lahat, the guests of the Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the most bejeweled and richest Congressperson, but not in the SALN.

Go ahead, Dep. Majority Leader.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, now, may we recognize the Hon. Linabelle Ruth Villarica for her manifestation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Linabelle Ruth Villarica of the Fourth District of Bulacan, has the floor. You are recognized, Madam. (*Applause*)

REP. VILLARICA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Good afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a manifestation regarding the recent election of the new set of officers of the Association of Women Legislators Foundation, Inc. We took our oath of office just this morning administered by no less than our honorable Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez.

Registered with the SEC as a foundation on August 26, 2011, the Association was first organized way back five Congresses ago by then Representative and now Senator Cynthia Villar. Called then as the Association of Lady Legislators, it rose to become a permanent political bloc in the House of Representatives under the leadership of Rep. Gina De Venecia of the Fourth District of Pangasinan in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Congresses. Since then, Room 219 at the South Wing has been assigned to us for the organization's use.

It was last August 9, 2016 that this humble Representation was elected President by the Association composed of 87 women solons of the House of Representatives during which thirty-one of its members were elected to various positions. At the screen are the officers, the names of the new set of officers of the Association. The body also unanimously conferred the honorary title of Chairman Emeritus to the Hon. Gina De Venecia. I cannot promise to top Manay Gina's supremely gracious style of leadership which is legendary. So I shall step up not in competition but in full acknowledgment that we must do all we can to enlarge the voice of women. My administration would like to pursue major legacy projects pursuant to the Association's policy and tradition of advancing the legislative agenda on women and children and pursuing timely and responsive social undertakings. In the past, funds were raised for assistance to survivors of typhoon Yolanda and the Pediatric Cancer Unit of the PGH, among others. Perhaps, this time, we could look into a similar assistance to be extended to the widows and orphans from today's vicious drug war.

Parallel to this initiative, I would like to invite, particularly the members of the Association, as well as the members of the super majority coalition, to support my Bill on fundamental equality, House Bill No. 219, which was already referred to the Committee on Women and Gender Equality. It was refiled from the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Congresses and it pertains to provisions in the Family Code which still give priority to the decision of the husband or the father despite the fact that spouses are presumed to be on equal status within a family unit. It is not only antiquated, it has already been superseded by the Magna Carta of Women. Thus, I enjoin my fellow women-lawmakers to be coauthors of House Bill No. 219.

The women legislators of this House look forward to the implementation of legacy projects for the advancement of women and their families and the

approval of progressive bills for women that can only redound to the strengthening of the Filipino family.

Our Association would like to congratulate, too, the Hon. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar of the DIWA Party-List, who now chairs the Committee on Women and Gender Equality. That is one tough assignment. I should know. When I was its Chairperson in the Sixteenth Congress, the Committee managed to secure only one law despite the fact that 41 House Bills and seven House Resolutions were acted upon. Republic Act No. 10906, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING STRONGER MEASURES AGAINST UNLAWFUL PRACTICES, BUSINESSES, AND SCHEMES OF MATCHING AND OFFERING FILIPINOS TO FOREIGN NATIONALS FOR PURPOSES OF MARRIAGE OR COMMON LAW PARTNERSHIP, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6955, ALSO REFERRED TO AS THE "ANTI-MAIL-ORDER BRIDE LAW," is one important law from a long list of legislative agenda that the CWGE shall continue to tackle in the Seventeenth Congress.

Hopefully, House Bill No. 219, on fundamental equality shall be a priority in the agenda of the CWGE's first meeting.

In closing, we women legislators need to catch up to narrow the gender gap in our society. Indeed, to move up from a 29 percent women representation in the House to the desired balance of 50-50 representation is a long way to go. Until then and under my watch, the Association of Women Legislators Foundation Incorporated shall do what it can to speed up our desired change.

Good afternoon and thank you, Mr. Speaker.  
*(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Thank you, Congresswoman Villarica. The manifestation is duly noted. We greet you with deep congratulations and we wish you luck with all your undertakings. Please know that all the male legislators in this Congress have the full acknowledgement that the women legislators are always better than us. We wish you luck.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, before we proceed, may we acknowledge the presence of guests of the distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Bulacan, the Hon. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado. They are Vice Mayor Ricardo Candido of Pulilan, Bulacan and Adrian Sy-Alvarado, the brother of the Gentleman, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Will the guests of the Honorable Sy-Alvarado please rise.  
*(Applause)* Mainit po na pagtanggap dito sa Bulwagan ng ating Batasan.

Maraming salamat po.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Likewise, Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of guests of the distinguished Majority Leader, the Hon. Rodolfo C. Fariñas. They are Mayor Meynardo Bautista, SB Members Ella Buentipo, Ephraim Bosque, Roxanne Tagudar, Norman Labanen, Grady Steve Barbero, Solomon Dickson, Generoso Bose and Alejandro Amit as IP representative. We also have Mark John Yamat, ABC president; Vice Mayor Apollo Bernardino; and another SB member, Marion Barbero.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Will the guests of the Majority Leader, the Hon. Rodolfo Fariñas, please rise. (*Applause*)

Naimbag nga aldaw, hapon sa inyo. Mabuhay po kayo, mga apo. Welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

The Privilege Hour is resumed.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, next to speak is the distinguished Gentleman from the Third District of Camarines Sur, the Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. May he be recognized, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The Hon. Gabriel Bordado Jr., the former Councilor, the undefeated Vice Mayor of Naga City, the giant killer, is recognized.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. BORDADO

REP. BORDADO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Last August 15, 2016, Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte submitted to the Seventeenth Congress of the Philippines the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017 amounting to P3.35 trillion.

I understand, Mr. Speaker, that we are now on our third day of budgetary hearings at the committee level. While our colleagues in the Committee on Appropriations review the submissions of every government agency, a neophyte Congressman like me also pores over the documents to study whether the allocations are reasonable, just and equitable. I must confess, Mr. Speaker, that the budget numbers spelled out in four thick volumes intimidate me. We are, however, tasked to understand the data and figures presented before us and ensure that our budget translates to better government services for every Filipino.

The increase in the national budget, financed through taxes and loans, should be felt by our constituents in terms of efficient service delivery. The increase in spending must result in easier access to social and economic services.

Mr. Speaker, we need to look into the absorptive capacities of all the departments to identify the causes of underspending which, in a way, deprive our people of the needed programs and projects to propel economic growth, particularly in the less-developed provinces. Budgetary allocations which remain unspent at the end of every fiscal year result not only in the non-delivery of services which would have otherwise benefited our constituents, but also deprive other departments with better absorptive capacities to spend more for the services that can uplift the living condition of our people.

Mr. Speaker, we must also consider regional allocations of public investments to see how equitable the distribution of public expenditures is in relation to the population being served, particularly those in the poverty threshold. Health, educational and agricultural services must reach the poorest citizens in the region. The provinces with the highest levels of poverty incidence, Mr. Speaker, must be given more budgetary allocation so that people in those areas would be able to catch up with their counterparts in developed urban centers of the country.

As we study the proposed budget, there is a need to review whether the allocation of resources has been done in a manner that no department or agency receives more resources at the expense of another; that no sector is sacrificed in favor of another sector; and that every allocation is justified in terms of needs and not in terms of wants. Budgetary cuts must only be done when necessary, while ensuring that this will not mean deprivation of basic services that will further imperil human development. Thus, any budgetary cuts must be looked into and explanations must be solicited from the agencies.

Initially, Mr. Speaker, this Representation was alarmed by the budgetary cut in the Department of Health reported in the papers, only to be rebutted by Health Sec. Paulyn Ubial. That is why we are studying the figures not just in the DOH, but also in the Department of Agriculture, as this is the Department that serves the most number of people below the poverty threshold. We are also looking at the Department of Education budget whether there is an effective increase in the allocation or whether the increase covers only the requirement of the K to 12 Program.

Mr. Speaker, this Representation lauds President Duterte for coming up with the budget that provides a clear philosophy and direction—just and disciplined fiscal policy geared towards social order and equitable progress with actual spending consistent with

congressional approval, and with clear accountability to the people while strengthening local government units as partners in the delivery of basic services.

Mr. Speaker, we must vigorously pursue the strategy of allocating resources to local government units based on their implementation of good governance standards, while at the same time helping them to improve their capability to generate resources and revenues.

At this stage, Mr. Speaker, I would therefore call for the setting of direction, and I agree with the direction set by the President. This must inspire the local officials to work harder to make their municipalities, cities and provinces competitive in terms of service delivery. After all, Mr. Speaker, the delivery of basic services must be the core competency of the LGUs. The quality of service delivery by the national government must be felt and appreciated by the citizens in the quality of service provided by the local government units.

Towards this end, the Seventeenth Congress must rise to the challenge of the President to make the budget responsive to the needs of the people. The crafting of the Budget Reform Act with the assistance of the Department of Budget and Management must be a priority agenda of this Chamber. Budgetary standards per capita or per targeted recipient must be developed and incorporated into the law. In this way, the allocation of resources will impact on the least developed areas, dispersing development to the fringes and peripheries of our nation, raising the standards of living not just in the cities and the metropolis, but also in the poorest and most remote communities. Only then, Mr. Speaker, can we claim that our proposed 2017 budget is truly, to use the words of President Duterte himself, the embodiment of our people's clamor for real change and a compassionate government.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we recognize the distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Camarines Sur, the Hon. Rolando G. Andaya Jr., for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The Hon. Rolando Andaya Jr. is recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Just a few questions, if the Gentleman from Camarines Sur is willing, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BORDADO. Yes, Mr. Speaker. I consider it an honor to be interpellated by the former Budget Secretary and former Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The Gentleman will please proceed.

REP. ANDAYA. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Allow me to do the Gentleman from Camarines Sur a favor by helping him dissect the budget, something which no one did for me. Since I am graduating now, I will do it for him.

REP. BORDADO. Yes. Actually, Mr. Speaker, the Honorable Andaya is virtually serving as my mentor in the process of budgeting.

REP. ANDAYA. Mas matanda ka sa akin ha, mentor-mentor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Just from the two departments that the Gentleman mentioned, namely the DA and the DOH, can you please tell me, were there increases from the current year to the proposed budget for 2017?

REP. BORDADO. Yes, in the case of the Department of Health, there has been a cut.

REP. ANDAYA. A decrease.

REP. BORDADO. A decrease.

REP. ANDAYA. How about the DA?

REP. BORDADO. The same manner with the Department of Agriculture, but in the case of the Department of Health, Mr. Speaker, the DOH Secretary issued a pronouncement the other day that there was actually an increase in the budget of the Department of Health because the PhilHealth funds...

REP. ANDAYA. No, Mr. Speaker, that is not an increase in the Department of Health; that is the increase in the health sector.

REP. BORDADO. Okay.

REP. ANDAYA. Only the Department of Health. So, there is a decrease. The Gentleman is correct, Mr. Speaker, there is a decrease.

REP. BORDADO. There is a decrease, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, okay. How about the Department of Agriculture, is it in the same situation, the decrease?

REP. BORDADO. Yes, there is also a decrease in the allocation for the Department of Agriculture by something like P3.6 billion.

REP. ANDAYA. Okay. Did the Gentleman bother to look at the budget of the PNP, the Philippine National Police?

REP. BORDADO. Not yet, Mr. Speaker, although there is an indication here that the Philippine National Police will be receiving an additional allocation of P25 billion, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. All right. So, as an aggregate amount, the DA gets a decrease, the DOH gets a decrease, the PNP gets a decrease. If we further break this down, for the Department of Agriculture, if we break it down to the PS, MOOE and Capital Outlay, did the Gentleman look at the result?

REP. BORDADO. Actually, I have not studied...

REP. ANDAYA. Let me tell the Gentleman the result, Mr. Speaker.

REP. BORDADO. Yes.

REP. ANDAYA. If we look at the DA and the DOH, ...

REP. BORDADO. Okay.

REP. ANDAYA. ... we will see that, for the salaries of the employees in the Department of Agriculture, there is an increase, but in terms of MOOE and Capital Outlay, both have decreases. The same thing for DOH, there is an increase in the Personal Services, but there are decreases in MOOE and Capital Outlay. It is only the PNP which receives an increase in all three categories—PS, MOOE and Capital Outlay.

What does this mean, Mr. Speaker? You know, the budget, Mr. Speaker, is the single most important piece of legislation which the Constitution requires us to pass, hindi po ba?

REP. BORDADO. That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. We can afford to pass nothing else, but only one document is required by the Constitution and that is the budget.

REP. BORDADO. The budget, okay, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. The budget is the only place where the President can actually put his money where his mouth is. For all his talk, all of these things should actually be present in the budget. The budget is not merely a political tool but it is also a tool for development.

So what does this say? It means that, I am not saying it is not a priority, but peace and security, the PNP is of a higher priority than agriculture and health. More important than that, the deeper underlying meaning of this kind of allocation—I have not had the privilege of looking at the other departments, but this will be the same. I am sure of it, it will be the same situation—this only means that any increase in revenue, which we will get from the expansion of our economy next year, will only go to salary increases. That is what it means. That is why in all other departments, we see a decrease in Capital Outlay. When we talk about five percent of the GDP in terms of infrastructure spending, I do not see that happening with all these decreases coming in.

So, ano po ibig sabihin din noon? Ibig sabihin din noon, be prepared for the next round of tax increases. That is what it means, because when we do have this kind of an allocation, the next thing that will happen is a major round of tax increases.

To give an example, Mr. Speaker, in the budget presentation last Monday, they were talking about revenue-decreasing measures, re-indexing the income tax, corporate tax—lahat noon ay magandang pakinggan—that will result to a revenue loss of P130 billion.

Let me now go to a promise of the President in which he says he wants to double the salaries of ...

REP. BORDADO. Policemen.

REP. ANDAYA. ... teachers, policemen and soldiers only, not talking about the other members of bureaucracy.

REP. BORDADO. Okay.

REP. ANDAYA. Did anyone even bother to ask how much would that cost? Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, that costs P230 billion. Where will you get that P230 billion when you are already giving away P130 billion next year? So, that is what it means.

REP. BORDADO. Okay.

REP. ANDAYA. As I have said, budgeting is not about spending. Budgeting is about revenue generating. So, if you do not have the money to spend, wala rin hong silbing pag-usapan natin lahat ng budget na ito dahil wala rin naman tayong ipanggagastos.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much for the time given to me by the Gentleman from Camarines Sur.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. May we know the pleasure of the Gentleman, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, is the Honorable Bordado still available for a few questions?

REP. BORDADO. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The honorable Gentleman from SAGIP Party-List, which garnered the most number of votes in my district, the Hon. Rodante D. Marcoleta, is recognized to interpellate.

REP. MARCOLETA. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, I am glad that you took special interest in the budget as presented to us. He was citing several places or areas in our country where the poverty incidence rate is so big or so wide as compared to other areas which is, of course, correct. For example, in Central Luzon, probably, the poverty incidence rate could be in the range of 11 to 12 percent but in Mindanao, particularly in the ARMM, it is more than 50 percent.

REP. BORDADO. Among the people, Mr. Speaker, the poverty incidence is quite high.

REP. MARCOLETA. Yes. So, I cannot blame you, Your Honor, Mr. Speaker, if you insist on spending the right money for the right areas in order to see some equitable ...

REP. BORDADO. Distribution of the budget.

REP. MARCOLETA. ... distribution of wealth in the dispensation of our budget.

Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, a classic example of the wide disparity or inequity in this country is represented by what we call per capita income. Meaning to say, per total population, our GDP is divided by our total population and that is the per capita.

About two days ago in the budget hearing for DBCC, they presented a slide where the per capita in ARMM is only about P11,000. Meaning to say, if we divide the national output by our population representing the ARMM, each citizen in that region has a share of only about P11,000. Compared to the

citizens in the NCR, the slide shows that the per capita is P219,000. So, easily, we can compare the anomalous difference between the share of citizens in the ARMM with that in ...

REP. BORDADO. The National Capital Region.

REP. MARCOLETA. ... the National Capital Region. As a matter of fact, the share of the ARMM citizens is only six percent of what is shared by the citizens in NCR. Is that correct?

REP. BORDADO. Yes.

REP. MARCOLETA. So, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, you expressed particular interest in the budget and you said that you browsed over it and I congratulate you for doing so because I have not even seen 10 percent of it as I am still struggling to read some of it.

REP. BORDADO. Actually, Mr. Speaker, I just managed to check certain pages of the four volumes of the budget, and this was spurred by the fact that there was this news report regarding the drastic cut in the budget of the DOH and in the budget of the Department of Agriculture. I was really a bit worried as to why there was a drastic cut in the DOH budget, and also with the Department of Agriculture allocation.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, if we will be cutting the budget of the Department of Health, for instance, the immediate impact will be felt by the impoverished sector of the nation, the poor, the poorest of the poor. In the same manner with the Department of Agriculture, most of the people living in the so-called poverty threshold are dependent on agriculture for a living or for livelihood, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. We will go to that, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor. I think the DOH was able to explain itself days later when they referred to another budgetary outlay. I think the newspapers were unable to capture the very essence of the presentation of budget. Anyway, the DOH was able to explain that it was not really a negative budget.

REP. BORDADO. But, Mr. Speaker, I was intrigued by what the former Budget Secretary said a while ago. Congressman Andaya was claiming that there was a reduction, actually. Anyway, I will try to check, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Yes, but actually, that is not our interest today. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, I will be probably asking you if, in your initial reading of the

budget, were you able to, at least, see some initiatives in that budget where the anomalous disparity among the incomes in other areas of our country can be narrowed, because that is supposed to be our objective? We are here to determine whether or not the budget is supposed to be spent in a manner that people can equitably share in the national income.

Have you seen, at least, some initiatives in the budget where we are going into that direction where the wide disparity in income can be addressed, more or less, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor?

REP. BORDADO. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I fully agree with the Congressman that a wide disparity in incomes still exists up to now. I have not really studied the intricacies and the details of the budget, Mr. Speaker, and how I wish I would have the time to fully appreciate all the figures presented in these four volumes of our 2017 budget, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, did you notice that the P3.35 trillion budget represents something like 21 percent of our projected GDP, according to the DBCC? If you will note, they also said that the projected GDP this year is only about P14.5 trillion.

REP. BORDADO. Trillion.

REP. MARCOLETA. Meaning to say, they are projecting that the GDP for 2017 will be more than 10 percent. Mr. Speaker, do you believe that we will be able to attain a rate as much as, let us say, 9.5 to 10 percent next year compared to the output in 2016?

REP. BORDADO. I believe, Mr. Speaker, Congressman Marcoleta, that the Executive will have to double its work. As pointed out by the Honorable Andaya, budgeting is more focused on revenue generation. I agree, I agree, Congressman Marcoleta and Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Last question, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor. I think you will also note that the projected revenue or tax collection represents only about 15 point something percent of the GDP.

REP. BORDADO. GDP.

REP. MARCOLETA. Meaning to say, there is not much money expected from tax collection. So, if we are projecting this budget, as the Honorable Andaya already pointed out, I think that we should be able to focus more on where to get the revenue than being able to spend so much and dream about equalizing the prospects of national income to be distributed equitably to our citizens.

REP. BORDADO. Precisely, I fully agree with Congressman Marcoleta. I think we have to focus more on the revenue generation aspect of the scheme of things. We just cannot say, okay, we have to increase the wages in several sectors unless we have a clear source of revenues to, well, to backstop whatever increases in the wages are concerned.

REP. MARCOLETA. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Your Honor, for your interest in the budget.

REP. BORDADO. Thank you very much, Congressman Marcoleta. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). There is a motion here. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. The Privilege Hour is suspended.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, before we proceed, please allow me to correct a mistake.

Earlier, I have mistakenly attributed our guests from the Lone District of Abra to the Honorable Fariñas. They are really the guests of the Hon. Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos. They are as follows, again, let us acknowledge their presence: Mayor Meynardo Bautista, SB Members Ella Buentipo, Ephraim Bosque, Roxanne Tagudar, Norman Labanen, Grady Steve Barbero, Solomon Dickson, Generoso Bose, Alejandro Amit, Mark John Yamat; Vice Mayor Apollo Bernardino; and likewise, SB Member Marion Barbero.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Will the guests of the Hon. Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos please rise to be recognized. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

#### ROLL CALL

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we call the roll.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). 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. 15, dated August 24, 2016:*

## PRESENT

Abad	Calixto-Rubiano	Go (A.C.)	Plaza
Abaya	Caminero	Go (M.)	Primicias-Agabas
Abayon	Campos	Gonzales (A.P.)	Quimbo
Abellanos	Cari	Gonzales (A.D.)	Radaza
Abu	Casilao	Gonzalez	Ramirez-Sato
Abueg	Castelo	Gorriceta	Ramos
Acharon	Castro (F.H.)	Gullas	Relampagos
Acop	Catamco	Hernandez	Revilla
Acosta-Alba	Cayetano	Herrera-Dy	Roa-Puno
Aggabao	Cerilles	Hofer	Rodriguez (I.)
Aglipay-Villar	Chavez	Javier	Rodriguez (M.)
Akbar	Chipeco	Kho	Roman
Alcala	Co	Khonghun	Romero
Alejano	Cojuangco	Labadlabad	Romualdez
Almario	Collantes	Lacson	Roque (H.)
Almonte	Cortes	Lanete	Roque (R.)
Alonte-Naguiat	Cortuna	Laogan	Sacdalán
Alvarez (F.)	Cosalán	Lazatin	Sagarbarria
Alvarez (P.)	Cua	Leachon	Salceda
Andaya	Cuaresma	Lee	Salimbangon
Angara-Castillo	Cueva	Lobregat	Salo
Antonio	Dalipe	Lopez (B.)	Salon
Aragones	Dalog	Lopez (C.)	Sambar
Arbison	Daza	Lopez (M.)	Sandoval
Arcillas	De Jesus	Macapagal-Arroyo	Santos-Recto
Arenas	De Venecia	Maceda	Sarmiento (C.)
Atienza	De Vera	Madrona	Sarmiento (E.)
Bag-ao	Defensor	Malapitan	Savellano
Bagatsing	Del Rosario	Mangaoang	Sema
Banal	Deloso-Montalla	Mangudadatu (Z.)	Siao
Barbers	Dimaporo (A.)	Marcoleta	Silverio
Barzaga	Dimaporo (M.)	Marcos	Singson
Bataoil	Enverga	Martinez	Suansing (E.)
Batocabe	Erice	Matugas	Suansing (H.)
Bautista-Bandigan	Eriguel	Mellana	Suarez
Belaro	Ermita-Buhain	Mending	Sy-Alvarado
Belmonte (F.)	Escudero	Mercado	Tambunting
Belmonte (J.)	Espino	Montoro	Tan (A.)
Benitez	Estrella	Nava	Tan (M.)
Bernos	Evardone	Noel	Tan (S.)
Bertiz	Fariñas	Nogralés (J.)	Tejada
Billones	Fernando	Nolasco	Teves
Bolilia	Ferrer (J.)	Oaminal	Tiangco
Bondoc	Floirendo	Ocampo	Ting
Bordado	Fortuno	Olivarez	Tinio
Bravo (A.)	Fuentebella	Ortega (P.)	Tolentino
Bravo (M.)	Garbin	Ortega (V.)	Treñas
Brosas	Garcia (G.)	Pacquiao	Tugna
Bulut-Begtang	Garcia (J.)	Paduano	Tupas
Cagas	Garin (S.)	Palma	Turabin-Hataman
		Pancho	Umali
		Panganiban	Unabia
		Panotes	Ungab
		Papandayan	Unico
		Pimentel	Uy (J.)
		Pineda	Uy (R.)



Uybarreta	Villaraza-Suarez
Vargas	Villarica
Vargas-Alfonso	Villarin
Velarde	Violago
Velasco	Yu
Velasco-Catera	Zamora (R.)
Villanueva	Zubiri

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for a suspension.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Session is suspended.

*It was 5:28 p.m.*

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:36 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The session is resumed.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledged the presence of guests of the distinguished Gentleman from the Third District of Camarines Sur, the Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. This is a delegation from what is described as “The Most Competitive Component City” in the entire country, Naga City. They are headed by city Vice Mayor Nelson S. Legacion.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Will the guests of the Honorable Bordado please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. Dios mabalos. *(Applause)*  
The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Also, Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guest of the distinguished Gentleman from the Second District of Quezon City, the Hon. Winston “Winnie” Castelo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Who?

REP. DEFENSOR. The Hon. Winnie Castelo, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Can the Gentleman repeat that, please.

REP. DEFENSOR. Winnie Castelo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Oh, Winston Castelo.

REP. DEFENSOR. Yes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Please proceed.

REP. DEFENSOR. Our guest is Ms. Earth 2014, Ms. Jamie Herrell.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 226 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). With 226 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the distinguished Lady from the Sixth District of Manila, the Hon. Rosenda Ann Ocampo. They are from the Inang Bayan sa Sais, described as a potent force for women empowerment in Manila.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Will the guests of the honorable Congressperson Sandy Ocampo please rise. *(Applause)* Welcome to the House of Representatives. Magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat.

The Dep. Majority Leader may proceed.

## PRIVILEGE HOUR

*Continuation*

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

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

The Privilege Hour is resumed.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. to the Committee on Rules.

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

The speech of the Honorable Bordada, as well as the interpellations, is referred to the Committee on Rules.

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

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

The Privilege Hour is terminated.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Who is the guest?

REP. DEFENSOR. Ms. Earth 2014, Ms. Jamie Herrell.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Will our guest, Ms. Earth, please rise so she can be acknowledged. Where are you? (*Applause*) Please come closer, I cannot see you. (*Laughter*) Are you sure you are the guest of Congressman Castelo or Congressman Quimbo? Welcome to the House of Representatives.

Yes, Dep. Majority Leader—this is a very difficult job—go ahead.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. I move for a suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The session is suspended.

*It was 5:38 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:46 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The session is hereby resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. I move for the election of the Hon. Arnel U. Ty as Deputy Majority Leader.

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

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES

REP. FARIÑAS. May I move for the election of the following Members to various committees:

*The Majority Leader, Rep. Rodolfo C. Fariñas, read the names of the House Members elected to the various committees, per Journal No. 15, dated August 24, 2016.*

#### COMMITTEE ON RULES

as members:

Rep. Vini Nola A. Ortega

Rep. Michael L. Romero, PhD

Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III

#### COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

as Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Maria Valentina G. Plaza

as members:

Rep. Raul V. Del Mar

Rep. Ansaruddin A.M. A. Adiong

Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva

Rep. Evelyn P. Mellana, and

Rep. Gavini “Apol” C. Pancho

#### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

as members:

Rep. Alberto T. Ungab

Rep. Rogelio Neil P. Roque

Rep. Salvio B. Fortuno

Rep. Munir M. Arbison

Rep. Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada

Rep. Isagani S. Amatong

Rep. Henedina R. Abad

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco

Rep. Ansaruddin A.M. A. Adiong

Rep. Benjamin C. Agarao Jr.

Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla

Rep. Arcadio. H. Gorriceta

Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong

Rep. Geraldine B. Roman

Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento

Rep. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso

Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil

Rep. Evelyn P. Mellana

Rep. Gavini “Apol” C. Pancho

Rep. Lorna C. Silverio

Rep. Juliette T. Uy, and

Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri

#### COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

as members:

Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia

Rep. Romeo M. Acop

Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil

Rep. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles

Rep. Henedina R. Abad, and

Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao

#### COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

as members:

Rep. Sabiniano S. Canama

Rep. Lorna C. Silverio  
Rep. Maria Valentina G. Plaza, and  
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto

#### COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

as members:

Rep. Maximo B. Dalog  
Rep. Munir M. Arbison  
Rep. Erlpe John "Ping" M. Amante  
Rep. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang  
Rep. Alberto T. Ungab  
Rep. Romeo M. Acop  
Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil  
Rep. Luis "Jon-Jon" A. Ferrer IV  
Rep. Benjamin C. Agarao Jr., and  
Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

#### COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

as member:

Rep. Lorna C. Silverio

#### COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

as members:

Rep. Rogelio Neil P. Roque  
Rep. Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, and  
Rep. Randolph S. Ting

#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

as members:

Rep. Carlo V. Lopez  
Rep. Jeffrey D. Khonghun  
Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia  
Rep. Frederick W. Siao  
Rep. Raul "Boboy" C. Tupas  
Rep. Maria Valentina G. Plaza  
Rep. Benhur L. Salimbangon  
Rep. Juliette T. Uy  
Rep. Henedina R. Abad  
Rep. Rene L. Relampagos  
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato  
Rep. Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, and  
Rep. Celso L. Lobregat

#### COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND PRIVILEGES

as members:

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia and  
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato

#### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

as members:

Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go

Rep. Imelda R. Marcos  
Rep. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso  
Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil  
Rep. Strike B. Revilla  
Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, and  
Rep. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia

#### COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

as members:

Rep. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr.  
Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go  
Rep. Emmanuel F. Madrona  
Rep. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos  
Rep. Florida "Rida" P. Robes  
Rep. Romeo M. Acop  
Rep. Jennifer Austria Barzaga  
Rep. Juliet Marie D. Ferrer  
Rep. Gavini "Apol" C. Pancho  
Rep. Cristina "Chiqui" Roa-Puno  
Rep. Jorge "Bolet" Banal  
Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo, and  
Rep. Arcadio H. Gorriceta

#### COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

as members:

Rep. Henry S. Oaminal  
Rep. Ronald M. Cosalan  
Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva  
Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao  
Rep. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia, and  
Rep. Geraldine B. Roman

#### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

as members:

Rep. Florida "Rida" P. Robes  
Rep. Maria Valentina G. Plaza  
Rep. Strike B. Revilla  
Rep. Henedina R. Abad, and  
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas

#### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

as member:

Rep. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia

#### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

as members:

Rep. Rogelio J. Espina, M.D.  
Rep. Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada  
Rep. Mark O. Go

Rep. Romeo M. Acop  
Rep. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso  
Rep. Jennifer Austria Barzaga  
Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma  
Rep. Jorge “Bolet” Banal  
Rep. Nancy A. Catamco  
Rep. Rene L. Relampagos  
Rep. Arcadio H. Gorriceta, and  
Rep. Geraldine B. Roman

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND  
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

as members:

Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba  
Rep. Rogelio J. Espina, M.D.  
Rep. Emmanuel F. Madrona  
Rep. Raul “Boboy” C. Tupas  
Rep. Maximo B. Dalog  
Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva  
Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III  
Rep. Evelyn P. Mellana  
Rep. Edwin C. Ong  
Rep. Winston “Winnie” Castelo  
Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte  
Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla  
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, and  
Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT

as members:

Rep. Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano  
Rep. Alberto T. Ungab  
Rep. Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV  
Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III  
Rep. Strike B. Revilla  
Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao  
Rep. Winston “Winnie” Castelo, and  
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

as members:

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco and  
Rep. Rene L. Relampagos

COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS  
CULTURAL COMMUNITIES  
AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

as members:

Rep. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang and  
Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.

COMMITTEE ON INTER-PARLIAMENTARY  
RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

as members:

Rep. Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas  
Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon  
Rep. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso  
Rep. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno  
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, and  
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

as members:

Rep. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar  
Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers  
Rep. Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV  
Rep. Edwin C. Ong  
Rep. Juliette T. Uy  
Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte  
Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, and  
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto

COMMITTEE ON METRO MANILA  
DEVELOPMENT

as members:

Rep. Carlo V. Lopez and  
Rep. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar

COMMITTEE ON MINDANAO AFFAIRS

as members:

Rep. Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada  
Rep. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos  
Rep. Erlpe John “Ping” M. Amante  
Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba  
Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao  
Rep. Ansaruddin A.M. A. Adiong  
Rep. Isagani S. Amatong, and  
Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo

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AND SECURITY

as members:

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Rep. Henry S. Oaminal  
Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III  
Rep. Romeo M. Acop  
Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado  
Rep. Juliette T. Uy  
Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño  
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas  
Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo  
Rep. Nancy A. Catamco, and  
Rep. Prospero A. Pichay Jr.

COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS  
AFFAIRS

as Vice Chairpersons:

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Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing and  
Rep. Winston “Winnie” Castelo

as members:

Rep. Maria Carmen S. Zamora  
Rep. Rogelio “Ruel” D. Pacquiao  
Rep. Micaela S. Violago  
Rep. Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano  
Rep. Raul V. Del Mar, and  
Rep. Strike B. Revilla

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HIGHWAYS

as Vice Chairpersons:

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Rep. Deogracias B. Ramos Jr.  
Rep. Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr.  
Rep. Arcadio H. Gorriceta  
Rep. Munir M. Arbison, and  
Rep. Juliet Marie D. Ferrer

as members:

Rep. Emi G. Calixto-Rubiano  
Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas  
Rep. Milagrosa “Mila” T. Tan  
Rep. Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco  
Rep. Alex “AA” L. Advincula  
Rep. Sol Aragonés  
Rep. Wilfredo S. Caminero  
Rep. Zajid G. Mangudadatu  
Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta  
Rep. Jum J. Akbar  
Rep. Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan  
Rep. Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos  
Rep. Jonas C. Cortes  
Rep. Amado T. Espino Jr.  
Rep. Bayani F. Fernando  
Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga  
Rep. Glona G. Labadlabad  
Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II  
Rep. Suharto T. Mangudadatu  
Rep. Eric M. Martinez  
Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II  
Rep. Marisol C. Panotes  
Rep. Johnny Ty Pimentel  
Rep. Renato J. Unico Jr.  
Rep. Ansaruddin A.M.A. Adiong  
Rep. Benjamin C. Agarao Jr.  
Rep. Isagani S. Amatong  
Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño

Rep. Geraldine B. Roman  
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto  
Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento  
Rep. Raul V. Del Mar  
Rep. Erlpe John “Ping” M. Amante  
Rep. Frederick W. Siao  
Rep. Salvio B. Fortuno  
Rep. Jeffrey D. Khonghun  
Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers  
Rep. Raul “Boboy” C. Tupas  
Rep. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang  
Rep. Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo  
Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma  
Rep. Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV  
Rep. Strike B. Revilla, and  
Rep. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso

COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

as members:

Rep. Ben P. Evardone  
Rep. Ramon V.A. “Rav” M. Rocamora  
Rep. Vicente “Ching” S.E. Veloso  
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, and  
Rep. Juliette T. Uy

COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND  
ELECTORAL REFORMS

as members:

Rep. Maria Carmen S. Zamora  
Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo  
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato  
Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers  
Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun  
Rep. Edwin C. Ong, and  
Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado

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as Vice Chairpersons:

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Rep. Lorna C. Silverio

as members:

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Rep. Jerry P. Treñas  
Rep. Franz E. Alvarez  
Rep. Gus S. Tambunting  
Rep. Rene L. Relampagos  
Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte  
Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong  
Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba  
Rep. Mark O. Go  
Rep. Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano  
Rep. Carlo V. Lopez

Rep. Juliette T. Uy, and  
Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER  
EQUALITY

as Vice Chairpersons:

Rep. Sol Aragonés  
Rep. Len B. Alonte-Naguiat, and  
Rep. Geraldine B. Roman

as members:

Rep. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica  
Rep. Maria Carmen S. Zamora  
Rep. Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas  
Rep. Ruby M. Sahali  
Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing  
Rep. Cristal L. Bagatsing  
Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales  
Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D.  
Rep. Micaela S. Violago  
Rep. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes  
Rep. Henedina R. Abad  
Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong  
Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.  
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto  
Rep. Juliette T. Uy, and  
Rep. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez

COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS  
DEVELOPMENT

as members:

Rep. Eric L. Olivarez  
Rep. Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos  
Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo  
Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II  
Rep. Dale “Along” R. Malapitan  
Rep. Francisco Jose F. Matugas II  
Rep. Arnolfo “Arnie” A. Teves Jr.  
Rep. Carlo V. Lopez  
Rep. Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas  
Rep. Christopher “Toff” Vera Perez De Venecia  
Rep. Alfred D. Vargas, and  
Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BASES  
CONVERSION

as Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla

as members:

Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II  
Rep. Federico “Ricky” S. Sandoval II  
Rep. Geraldine B. Roman

Rep. Jeffrey D. Khonghun  
Rep. Mark O. Go, and  
Rep. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BICOL RECOVERY  
AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

as Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.

as members:

Rep. Fernando V. Gonzalez  
Rep. Marisol C. Panotes, and  
Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EAST ASEAN  
GROWTH AREA

as Vice Chairpersons:

Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta  
Rep. Suharto T. Mangudadatu, and  
Rep. Isagani S. Amatong

as members:

Rep. Ruby M. Sahali  
Rep. Jum J. Akbar, and  
Rep. Frederick W. Siao

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON GLOBALIZATION  
AND WTO

as Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto

as members:

Rep. Raul V. Del Mar and  
Rep. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

as Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado

as members:

Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes and  
Rep. Juliette T. Uy

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACE,  
RECONCILIATION AND UNITY

as Vice Chairpersons:

Rep. Jesus N. Sacdalan and  
Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

as member:

Rep. Mauyag “Jun” B. Papandayan Jr.

## SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION

as Vice Chairperson:  
Rep. Benjamin C. Agarao Jr.

as members:  
Rep. Jesus "Boying" F. Celeste and  
Rep. Rogelio Neil P. Roque

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SOUTHERN  
TAGALOG DEVELOPMENT

as members:  
Rep. Len B. Alonte-Naguiat  
Rep. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr.  
Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto, and  
Rep. Cristina "Chiqui" Roa-Puno

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS

as Vice Chairperson:  
Rep. Nancy A. Catamco

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Members so named by the Majority Leader are elected to their respective committees.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Minority Leader be recognized.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The Minority Leader, Rep. Danilo E. Suarez, is recognized.

REP. SUAREZ. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully move that the following members of the Minority be designated as additional Deputies of the Minority Leader: Rep. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. and Rep. Luis Jose Angel N. Campos Jr.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

DESIGNATION OF ADDITIONAL  
MINORITY MEMBERS  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

REP. SUAREZ. Mr. Speaker, I also move, in accordance with Section 28 (ss) of Rule No. IX, that

the above-mentioned Deputies, Representatives Roque (H.) and Campos be designated as additional Minority members to the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. I move for a suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The session is suspended for a few minutes.

*It was 5:56 p.m.*

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:59 p.m., the session was resumed with the Speaker presiding.*

THE SPEAKER. The session is resumed.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, last August 17, we elected Reps. Bai Sandra Sinsuat A. Sema and Ferdinand L. Hernandez as Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, I move that we allow the two Deputy Speakers-elect to take their oath.

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

May we request the Deputy Speaker-elect, Rep. Bai Sandra Sema, to proceed to the rostrum (*Applause*) with the members of her family for her oath-taking, together with the ARMM Representatives.

*At this juncture, Rep. Bai Sandra Sinsuat A. Sema, accompanied by the members of her family and other ARMM Representatives, ascended the rostrum and took her oath before the Speaker.*

OATH-TAKING OF REP. SEMA  
AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, BAI SANDRA A. SEMA of the First District of Maguindanao and Cotabato City, having been elected as Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge

to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I will impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me, Allah. *Subhanawataallah.*  
 Congratulations! *(Applause)*

REP. SEMA. Maraming salamat po.

THE SPEAKER. May we request Deputy Speaker-elect, Rep. Ferdinand L. Hernandez, to proceed to the rostrum for his oath-taking.

*At this juncture, Rep. Ferdinand L. Hernandez, accompanied by other Members of the House of Representatives, ascended the rostrum and took his oath before the Speaker.*

#### OATH-TAKING OF REP. HERNANDEZ AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me your oath of office.

I, FERDINAND LEDESMA HERNANDEZ of the Second District of South Cotabato, having been elected as Deputy Speaker, House of Representatives, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.  
 Congratulations! *(Applause)*

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, last August 9, the House adopted Resolution No. 8 commending Hidilyn Diaz for her exceptional feat in winning the Rio 2016 Olympic Silver Medal in the Women's 53-Kg Weightlifting Division on August 7, 2016 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. *(Applause)*

The House also adopted Resolution No. 9 on August 22, 2016 conferring the Congressional Medal of Distinction to Miss Hidilyn F. Diaz for winning the Silver Medal in the Women's Weightlifting 53-Kg category in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Summer Olympic Games.

Before we award the Congressional Medal of Distinction to Ms. Diaz, I move that we recognize the following Members for their individual manifestation: the first is Rep. Celso L. Lobregat. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. Representative Lobregat is recognized.

#### REMARKS OF REP. LOBREGAT

REP. LOBREGAT. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, Hidilyn Diaz, Philippines Sports Commission Chairman Butch Ramirez, Councilor Bong Atilano in charge of Hidilyn's training, Coach Alfonsito Aldanete, ladies and gentlemen:

This afternoon, August 24, 2016, it is with deep pride and the highest of honor that we welcome and congratulate Hidilyn Diaz, the Filipina who won the Silver Medal in weightlifting in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics and by doing so, ended the Philippines' 20-year-old medal drought in the Olympics. It is of record that this lass from Mindanao, particularly from Barangay Mampang, Zamboanga City, is the first Filipina and first Mindanaoan to ever win an Olympic medal.

I ask my colleagues to please rise and give Hidilyn a loud and warm round of applause which she truly deserves. *(Applause)*

Hidilyn Diaz, now 25 years old, was born in Zamboanga City on February 20, 1991. She comes from very humble beginnings. Her father, Eduardo P. Diaz, is now a retired tricycle driver, and her mother, Emelita, a housewife. Hidilyn is the fifth of six children.

Hidilyn's weightlifting career began at a very tender age of 11 when she first competed in the 2002 Batang Pinoy in Puerto Princesa and won a gold medal. If my memory serves me right, it was under the 32-kilogram category. At that time, during the administration of then Mayor Maria Clara Lobregat, the city government of Zamboanga already had a grassroots program that supported and assisted young athletes to train, develop and participate in local competitions.

Hidilyn's first international medal was in 2007, the 25<sup>th</sup> SouthEast Asian Games in Thailand where she got a bronze and she also set a Philippine record. I was then Mayor of Zamboanga City and I recall that by virtue of City Ordinance No. 267, we awarded Hidilyn the appropriate financial incentive.

In 2008, Hidilyn was selected as a wild card entry to the Summer Olympics in Beijing, China. She was the first female to compete in weightlifting for the Philippines in the Olympics and although she did not get any medals, her performance was considered promising for her age. Hidilyn broke the record that she set in the 2007 SouthEast Asian Games.

In 2011, Hidilyn participated in the 26<sup>th</sup> Southeast Asian Games in Indonesia and won the silver medal.



Again, I recall that as Mayor, the city government provided her with the appropriate financial incentive, courtesy of Ordinance No. 267.

In 2012, Hidilyn Diaz participated for the second time in the Olympics in London. It was indeed a painful loss as she ended with a result of DNF, (Did Not Finish), as she was unsuccessful in lifting 118 kilograms in the clean and jerk after three attempts. Yes, she failed; yes, she stumbled; yes, she fell, but Hidilyn exemplified the resiliency and tenacity of the Filipino and bucked her past Olympic failure. She did not run away from the battle, she did not give up. She rose, she focused, trained and prepared herself for the next Olympics.

On her journey to the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics, she competed and won the following: 2013, SouthEast Asian Games, Myanmar, silver; Asian Weightlifting Championship, 2015, Thailand, gold; World Weightlifting Championship, Houston, Texas, 2015, bronze; and 2016, Asian Weightlifting Championship, Uzbekistan, bronze.

Finally, after 20 long years, a Filipina, a Mindanaoan, a Zamboangueña, weighing only 53 kilos or 117 pounds, measuring less than 5 feet—1.49 meters to be exact or 4 feet and 10 and one-half inches—wins a silver medal in the 2016 Olympics. Hidilyn, you have proven to all Filipinos, especially the youth, that with hard work, determination, perseverance, and true grit, no dreamer is too small and no dream is too big to be realized. Hidilyn, you make us proud and you stand tall, tallest among all Filipinas, for you are the first and only Filipina to achieve this feat, a medal, a silver medal at that in the Olympics.

Hidilyn, today is your day at the House of Representatives. You will be receiving the Congressional Medal of Distinction and a Resolution congratulating and commending you, and as we celebrate your victory and show our gratitude, the House leadership and the Members of this House will later be presenting you a substantial monetary award as a sign of our appreciation and recognition of your outstanding performance in the Olympics, and for your unceasing dedication to the sport.

Hidilyn, on a personal note, I know you dream of buying the lot beside your house in Mampang. I hope that using part of this monetary award for buying the said lot, you can make your dreams come true.

To Speaker Bebot Alvarez, Majority Leader Rudy Fariñas, Minority Leader Danny Suarez, and to the Members of the House of Representatives, thank you, *muchas gracias* for the monetary award which was achieved through your personal, voluntary and generous contributions through agreed salary deductions. You all have made Hidilyn's dream come true.

Hidilyn, as I end, again, congratulations and thank you for sharing everything that you have done with us, and remember, “with hard work, determination,

perseverance, and true grit, no dreamer is too small or a dream too big to be realized.”

*Enhorabuena, gracias. Adelante Zamboanga. Go for the gold in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. (Applause)*

REP. FARINAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that Rep. Ma. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno be recognized for her manifestation.

THE SPEAKER. Rep. Ma. Cristina Roa-Puno is recognized.

#### REMARKS OF REP. ROA-PUNO

REP. ROA-PUNO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues in the Seventeenth Congress, distinguished guests today at the House of Representatives:

Good evening. It has been over two weeks since our honoree sent shockwaves throughout the country with her landmark performance at the Rio Olympics, and the fever has yet to die down. We are proud to honor today Airwoman First Class Hidilyn Diaz for bringing us to heights we had not reached in two decades. Yes, it has been that long since the country last experienced the euphoria of winning an Olympic medal.

As a veteran sports anchor and correspondent of 22 years, I witnessed first-hand, back in 1996, what many now remember as the “Robbery in Atlanta,” Onyok Velasco's failed bid for the first Olympic gold medal for the country. Our boxer deserved the gold, but he came home with the silver. Still, what ensued was a kind of high our country had not known before. We excitedly took to the streets to welcome Onyok the hero, a small boxer with a heart big enough to make his mark among the best athletes in the world.

Today, another hero emerges: a non-boxer; a Mindanaoan; a Filipino woman! Brandishing girl power at its best, she showed the world that the Filipino is strong, in every sense of the word. But surely, her victory did not come easy.

In my line of work, I have seen storied journeys of countless Filipino athletes. I have seen the proverbial blood, sweat, and tears that athletes copiously shed as they strive to be the best in their fields. Often the tears are of defeat, of frustrations, sometimes of despair, a reality Ms. Diaz knows all too well. But on that fateful evening of August 7, we witnessed Hidilyn shed triumphant tears—tears of pure joy and elation, perhaps even of relief and exhaustion. There could not have been a dry eye among the Filipinos who witnessed our five-foot weightlifting giant bag the silver medal in the 53-kilogram category in the Rio Olympic Games.

Hidilyn was a last minute wild card entry in Beijing in 2008. She gained strength but suffered an injury in London in 2012. The Asian Games eluded her in 2014

and she almost quit because of it. Two years later, here you are, Hidilyn, a decorated Olympian. You have lifelong dreams of buying your Tatay a tricycle and gifting your beloved Nanay an Olympic medal for her birthday. Both dreams you now have fulfilled. Or perhaps, by your own account, you found God and the meaning of prayer, which became your real inspiration to keep going. Whatever the reason, you knew you had a mission and a real shot at an Olympic medal. Today we celebrate the fulfillment of your dream and indeed, you have accomplished much more.

You have also brought to the fore the many problems that besiege our national athletes: dismal living conditions, substandard training centers, deficient coaching, inadequate nutrition, lack of financial support and the list goes on. But the more important lesson is this: you have reminded us that in spite of these challenges, it is wrong to simply give up on our struggling athletes; that the country should not lose hope in your fellow weightlifter Nestor Colonia who is here with us today, nor abandon the 10 other Pinoy Olympians who came home empty-handed from Rio; that we should never forsake the rest of them, the fearless, nameless, faceless Filipino athletes who continue to go against the grain and push their limits for the chance to one day fight for our flag and our country.

The message is clear. We, as a nation, need to treasure, nurture and embrace our athletes not only when they win but more importantly, during times when victory seems most out of reach. There is, after all, no such thing as instant gratification in sports. We need not look farther than our neighboring ASEAN countries to realize this.

Vietnam's rise in sports is the ideal narrative. Once an insignificant player even in Southeast Asia, they painstakingly rose from the ranks and finally broke ground and topped the SEA Games in 2003, and they have not looked back since. Now consistently named among the top three in the region, Vietnam brought home Olympic silvers in taekwondo in 2000 and weightlifting in 2008, and finally a gold in shooting in Rio, a day before Hidilyn made her mark in history.

Then there is Joseph Schooling of Singapore who bagged his nation's first ever gold by out-swimming Michael Phelps, the Olympics' most bemedalled athlete. With the right strategy, commitment and patience, we too, no matter how small, can reach greater heights like Ms. Diaz did.

It is timely and fortuitous that today, the halls of Congress, both in the Upper and Lower Chambers, are filled with individuals who either champion the athlete's cause or are champion athletes themselves.

The people's champ Manny Pacquiao, now a Senator, chairs the Senate Committee on Sports. Here in the Lower House, we have among us, Makati Cong. Monsour del Rosario, himself an Olympian and Secretary General of the Philippine Taekwondo

Association. 1Pacman Party-List Representative, Mikee Romero, from whom you will hear shortly, is a bemedalled national athlete in polo and trapshooting, and is also a sports leader in basketball, baseball and cycling. Taguig Representative, Pia Cayetano, an elite triathlete and former member of the Philippine volleyball team, continues to advocate for amateur and student athletes. Rep. Manny Lopez from Manila headed the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines for many years, while Reps. Bambol Tolentino from Cavite and Prospero Pichay from Surigao del Sur, remain at the helm of Philippine cycling and chess, respectively. The Party-List PBA or Puwersa ng Bayang Atletas fights staunchly for the welfare of athletes.

As a former athlete, sportscaster and avid sports fan, this Representation is likewise committed to seeing our country's sports programs flourish. We all vow to prioritize sports, and we enjoin our colleagues to do the same.

Various legislations are already in place. With Republic Act No. 10699 already in effect, Ms. Diaz received a P5-million cash incentive for her Olympic silver finish. Many more are in the offing, among them, bills seeking to create a Department of Sports, to establish amateur sports training centers, to enact a magna carta for student-athletes, to expand rewards and retirement benefits for Olympians, to create a coaching academy and to increase the hours of physical education in schools.

May Miss Diaz's victory provide the impetus for more successes in the field of sports not only in medal victories which our country desperately craves, but also in policy and legislative reforms which the nation badly needs.

Airwoman First Class Diaz, brace yourself because change is truly coming for you, through you and because of you. Sinabi mo, Hidilyn, na minsan ay nawalan ka ng tiwala sa sarili mo. Nagpapasalamat kami dahil sa kabila nito ay nagpasya kang lumaban pa rin sa Rio. Kaya namnamin mo lahat ng papuri at biyayang iyong tinatamasa dahil lahat ito ay bunga ng iyong sakripisyo at pagpupursigi. Tularan ka sana ng mas marami pang kabataan sa iyong pagiging mabuting anak, sa pagmamahal mo sa bayan at sa iyong pananalig sa Diyos. Makaka-asa ka, Hidilyn, na ang sambayanan ay nasa likod mo patungo sa iyong inaasam na gintong medalya sa 2020 Tokyo Olympics. Mabuhay ka, Hidilyn, at mula sa kaibuturan ng aming mga puso, maraming-maraming salamat sa iyo.

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

REP. FARINÁS. Mr. Speaker, I move that Rep. Michael L. Romero, PhD be recognized.

THE SPEAKER. Rep. Michael L. Romero, PhD is recognized.

## REMARKS OF REP. ROMERO

REP. ROMERO. Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress, distinguished sports leaders, our guest of honor Olympic medalist Hidilyn Diaz, and of course, to our PSC Chairman Butch Ramirez:

I consider myself as one of the vanguards of Philippine sports, having served as NSA or National Sports Association President of both Shooting and Cycling. But as both an athlete and a sports leader, I would never trade my experience in 2012.

I, together with now Cong. Manny Lopez and former Cong. Monico Puentevella, led the 2012 London Olympics. As we paraded, guess who was our flag bearer during the 2012 London Olympics? Our flag bearer was none other than Hidilyn Diaz. During this 2012 London Olympics, she was just 21 years old and at that stage, she had a very difficult time. As what Cong. Celso Lobregat said, she had a DNF—Did Not Finish—meaning, hindi po niya natapos ang kanyang binubuhay. That was four years ago but with hard work, sheer perseverance, heto na po siya ngayon, nakatayo sa atin.

If you think it is easy to win an Olympic medal, let me then give you a brief background on Philippine sports and our country's quest for those very elusive Olympic medals. We started our Olympics campaign in 1924 with just one participant. Four years after, during the Amsterdam Olympics, our first Filipino swimmer, Teofilo Ildefonso finished third in the 200-meter swimming. Four years after, in the LA Olympics, three Filipinos were awarded bronze medals, making our country have four medals. In the 1936 Berlin Olympics, the Philippines won a bronze medal in the Hurdles event courtesy of Miguel White.

After our independence from the United States, the country did not win any medal until almost 30 years or during the 1964 Tokyo Olympics where boxer Anthony Villanueva got our very first silver medal. Boxing would later bring all the remaining medals of the country with Leopoldo Serrantes winning bronze 24 years after or during the 1988 Seoul Olympics. In the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, only boxer Roel Velasco won a bronze medal. Four years later, in the 1996 Atlanta Olympics, brother-boxer Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco won our second silver medal.

There would be no medal or another medal drought which lasted for 20 years or equivalent to five Summer Olympics. This drought, lucky for us, was broken in the 2016 Rio Olympics by the first and only woman Olympic medalist in our country, the pride of Zamboanga, Hidilyn Diaz, winning for our country its third silver medal two weeks ago.

So, if you think it is easy to win an Olympic medal, let me tell you that from 1928 until today, 2016, or in 92 years, the Philippines has only won a total of 10

Olympic medals—three silver and seven bronze medals. We only had eight Filipinos and one Filipina after 92 years until today to ever step in the podium of Olympic winners. I am very proud to say that out of the nine Filipino medalists from 1928, there is one that stands before us today in this august Chamber, making us all proud and making this country very, very proud—the first female silver medalist and, again, coming from, of course, *uso ngayon*, Mindanao, Hidilyn Diaz.

So, I just want to say that her achievement, for us in Philippine sports, is a big rallying point and her achievements should be what all Philippine sports should be looking at. She is a real heroine, and I think in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, she would definitely go for the gold and hopefully get that very, very elusive gold medal. Tama ba? She is just 25 years old; at 29, she might just do it. So, I present to you, again, please give her a round of applause, Ms. Hidilyn Diaz, our first female Olympian, our Olympic silver medalist. *(Applause)*

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, finally, I move that Rep. Manuel Luis T. Lopez be recognized for his manifestation.

THE SPEAKER. Representative Manuel Luis T. Lopez is recognized.

## REMARKS OF REP. LOPEZ

REP. LOPEZ (M.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, Majority Leader, fellow colleagues in the Seventeenth Congress, my friends from Philippine sports, especially the Chairman of the Philippine Sports Commission, William "Butch" Ramirez, mga kababayan ko:

Isang magandang gabi po sa inyong lahat. Noong ika-8 ng Agosto, ang inyo pong abang lingkod delivered a privilege speech. I already mentioned and spoke about what I wanted to say. Kung ano pa man po ang tinatamasa ni Hidilyn Diaz ngayong araw na ito sa pagbibigay ng puri, karangalan sa sambayanang Pilipino ay hindi nangyari ng isang saglit lang.

Saksi po ako noong 2008 Beijing Olympics, noong ako po ang nagre-representa ng ating koponan sa amateur boxing, si Hidilyn Diaz ay lumahok at sa kasamaang-palad—at marahil ay hindi pa ninyo siya nababalitaan noon—ay umuwing luhaan itong si Hidylin Diaz. Kami po ay sumubok minsan pa doon sa tinatawag nating London Olympic Games four years ago at mas masakit po ang tinatamasa ng ating kababayan, hanggang sa punto na siya po ay umaayaw na.

Ang karamihan po ng mga namamahala ng palakasan dito sa Pilipinas binabalewala ang ating mga atleta. Inuulit ko po, binabalewala. Si Hidylin po ang makapagsasabi sa atin dito na ang kanyang pinagmulan

na allowance na P40,000 kada buwan, na nararapat lamang na mabigay sa isang Olympian, ay binaba po sa P8,000.

Iyan po ba ay nararapat para sa isang atleta na nagrerepresenta ng ating Inang Bayan? Marahil ang sagot ng karamihan sa atin, “hindi po.” Kaya po hinihikayat ko itong Mababang Kapulungan na sana naman ay maawa po tayo sa mga manlalarong atleta.

Ako po ay saksi rito. Noong 1996 Atlanta Olympics, ang ating boksingero na si Onyok Velasco ay nagkamit ng pilak na medalya. Pinangakuan at pinasa nitong Mababang Kapulungan ang added incentive. Pumasa po iyan dito under then Speaker Joe De Venecia, subalit noong dumating po sa Mataas na Kapulungan, sa pangunguna ng biyenan po ng ating kasamahan na si Boyet at Alexandria Gonzales, ay medyo nagkaproblema po.

To make a long story short, we should support all our athletes. I think the mere fact that Hidilyn’s silver medal, that occurs every other 20 years, that happens only once in a blue moon, should never be forgotten by this august Body. So I call upon you, my fellow Members, especially those involved in Philippine sports, that we should try and change the system—remove the scalawags, the bad eggs that have been prevailing in Philippine sports that has been the cause of the demise of Philippine sports.

Magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat. , Pinupuri ko pong muli, at mabuhay po, ang ating Hidilyn Diaz. Mabuhay po ang bayang Pilipinas. *(Applause)*

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, may I request that our honoree, Ms. Hidilyn Diaz, be invited to the rostrum to receive the Congressional Medal of Distinction conferred upon her by the House of Representatives, together with copies of Resolution No. 8 and Resolution No. 9.

Mr. Speaker, also as a sign of appreciation and recognition for her outstanding performance in the Olympics, and for her unceasing dedication to the sport of weightlifting, the Members of the House have contributed among themselves the amount of P1.5 million to be awarded to Ms. Hidilyn Diaz. *(Applause)*

Mr. Speaker, I move that the Secretary General be directed to read the title and text of Resolution No. 9.

THE SPEAKER. We welcome and invite Ms. Hidilyn Diaz to proceed to the rostrum, to be accompanied by Mr. William “Butch” Ramirez, Chairperson of the Philippine Sports Commission; Mr. Elbert Atilano, Sr. Vice-President and Chairman of the Technical Committee for Training of the national team and Team Manager for the Rio Olympic Games of the Philippine Weightlifting Association Inc.; and Mr. Alfonsito Aldanete, Technical Head Coach of the Philippine Weightlifting Association, Inc.

The Secretary General is directed to read the title and text of Resolution No. 9

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Resolution No. 9, entitled: RESOLUTION CONFERRING THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF DISTINCTION TO MS. HIDILYN F. DIAZ FOR WINNING THE SILVER MEDAL IN THE WOMEN’S WEIGHTLIFTING 53-KG CATEGORY IN THE 2016 RIO DE JANEIRO SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES,

WHEREAS, in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Summer Olympic Games, Ms. Hidilyn F. Diaz participated and won the silver medal in the Women’s Weightlifting 53-kg Category;

WHEREAS, Ms. Diaz’s silver medal is the first silver medal won by a female Filipino athlete in the Olympic games;

WHEREAS, Ms. Diaz’s win ended the twenty (20)-year medal drought of the Philippines in the Olympic games;

WHEREAS, throughout the competition, and in her winning the silver medal, Ms. Diaz has shown and proven that the Filipino athlete is world class and capable of competing in the international level;

WHEREAS, Ms. Diaz is a source of pride and inspiration to the Filipino people and is truly worthy of praise and emulation, especially for the youth: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, To confer the Congressional Medal of Distinction to Ms. Hidilyn F. Diaz for winning the silver medal in the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Summer Olympic Games.*

*Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished Ms. Hidilyn F. Diaz. (Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. Please accept the cash given by the Members of the House of Representatives in the amount of P1,500,000. *(Applause)*

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, in order to allow our Members to meet and extend their greetings to our distinguished guest, I move that we suspend our session for a few minutes.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE SPEAKER. The session is suspended.

*It was 6:42 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 6:46 p.m., the session was resumed with Dep. Speaker Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo presiding.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of personal and collective privilege regarding the election of the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader, and the Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The honorable Majority Leader, Atty. Rodolfo C. Fariñas of the First District of Ilocos Norte, is recognized.

You have the floor, Majority Leader.

#### QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. FARIÑAS

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, there has been a lot of questions raised regarding the position of Minority Leader. It happened days after our opening session and the point of contention now is whether we follow tradition or we follow the rules. Those who are invoking that Representative Baguilat is the duly elected Minority Leader claim to have tradition and customs and usage on their part, but let me state the basis of their claim.

We will flash to you, Mr. Speaker, for the guidance of all concerned and future Congresses, how the selection or election of the Minority Leader has evolved. We will show you a matrix of how this election has evolved. In the Thirteenth Congress, it was specifically stated in Section 7 how the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader are elected and likewise, the Speaker. Under Section 7, it says:

Those who voted for the winning candidate for Speaker shall constitute the Majority in the House and they shall elect from among themselves the Majority Leader who can be changed only by a majority vote of all the Majority Members at any time.

In the second paragraph, Mr. Speaker, it says expressly:

Those who voted for the losing candidate for Speaker shall constitute the Minority in the House. The Member who garners the second highest number of votes for the position of Speaker shall assume the position of Minority Leader and he/she can be changed only by a Majority vote of all the Minority Members.

Third paragraph, it says:

In case two or more losing candidates obtained the same second highest number of votes for the position of Speaker, a run-off election will be held among the Minority Members to determine through a majority vote thereof who among those who so obtained the same second highest number of votes shall be the Minority Leader.

So, it was very clear in the Thirteenth Congress that the runner-up becomes the Minority Leader. In the Thirteenth Congress, the candidates for Speaker were Jose De Venecia Jr., Francis Escudero, Jacinto Paras and Ronaldo Zamora. So, pursuant to that rule, the second, Francis Escudero, became the Minority Leader.

May we flash the rules again, please. So, this is the matrix.

Then, they abandoned that rule, effective in the Fourteenth Congress, but during that election in the Fourteenth Congress, they adopted provisionally the Rules of the Thirteenth Congress where that particular paragraph about a runner-up becoming the Minority Leader was part of the Rules. In the Fourteenth Congress, there was only one candidate for Speaker, it was Jose De Venecia. So, in the Fourteenth Congress, they discarded that runner-up becoming the Minority Leader and adopted this rule. In the matrix, the bold portions thereat—let us just limit ourselves to the particular and relevant provisions—it says: “The Minority Leader shall be elected by the members of the Minority and can be changed by a majority vote of all the Minority members at any time.”

The first paragraph is a carryover for what, up to now, we have adopted. It says there:

Members who vote for the winning candidate for Speaker shall constitute the Majority in the House and they shall elect from among themselves the Majority Leader. The Majority Leader may be changed by a majority vote of the Majority Members at any time.

So, why do you think did they change this? Rightfully, Mr. Speaker, because from the Constitution itself, Section 16, Article VI of the Constitution, it provides under paragraph 1: “The Senate shall elect its President and the House of Representatives, its Speaker, by a majority vote of all its respective Members.” The second paragraph says: “Each House shall choose such other officers as it may deem necessary.”

Under our jurisdiction, Mr. Speaker, we select or elect our leaders. So, in this case, rightfully, we elected the Speaker and whoever wins becomes the Speaker, naturally; and those in the Majority should elect their Majority Leader and those in the Minority should also elect their Minority Leader. Otherwise, that old rule that has been discarded makes the loser a winner. You did not elect the Minority Leader. By that antiquated rule which has been thrown out, the losing candidate becomes a leader. How can a leader be the one who lost an election? We choose our leaders and leaders are elected by the sovereign people, whoever they are. In this case, the Minority should really elect their Minority Leader.

So, in the Fifteenth Congress and Sixteenth Congress, the same rule has been adopted, that we elect our Majority Leader and the Minority will elect their Minority Leader. Now, unfortunately, in the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Congresses, the rule was not followed. The rule was violated and whoever was the next losing candidate to the Speaker, they adopted as the Minority Leader; but that was a violation of the rule. Even the Fifteenth Congress, it violated the Rules of the Fourteenth Congress which was provisionally adopted; the same thing in the Sixteenth Congress, but nobody objected.

Now, in the Seventeenth Congress, we provisionally adopted the Rules of the Sixteenth Congress which had been the same in the Fourteenth, Fifteenth and Sixteenth Congresses and fortunately, a stickler for the rules, the honorable Rep. Jose “Lito” Atienza stood on the floor and clarified—How will we determine the Minority Leader? And the Speaker asked the temporary Majority Leader to answer and the latter cited this specific rule, and this is the rule: that whoever elects or votes for the winning candidate for Speaker will be the Majority and those who did not vote—whether they voted for another candidate or did not vote at all—will become the Minority and they will elect their leader.

That was the categorical answer given by the acting or temporary Majority Leader and nobody objected. Otherwise, they should have stood up and claimed that we have to follow tradition because by tradition, whoever is the second candidate garnering—the losing candidate with the highest number of votes should be the Minority Leader. They never questioned that.

In fact, one Gentleman had claimed that it was only an opinion by one who was not even elected as Majority Leader but as temporary Majority Leader or acting Majority Leader. But, Mr. Speaker, the opinion of the acting Majority Leader was sought by the Chair, and the Chair adopted the opinion of this acting Majority Leader and the Body adopted. Mr. Speaker, this Representation happens to be the Chairman of the Rules Rewriting Committee in the Fifteenth Congress.

So, it was a contemporaneous interpretation or opinion given specially by the Ad Hoc Committee on Rules Rewriting. I was the Chairman of the Committee that wrote the Rules of the Fifteenth Congress. I know the rules and so, I beg our colleagues that they should see light as it is. They claimed that they will go to the Supreme Court, Mr. Speaker, but I am already telling them, they will lose in the Supreme Court because, what will be their course of action in the Supreme Court is, they will ask the help of the Supreme Court through certiorari and certiorari is only available when there is no plain, adequate or speedy remedy available. There is plain, adequate and speedy remedy available here by throwing the question to the Body and the Body will decide. But, Mr. Speaker, how can one go

to the Supreme Court and ask for succor or help of the Supreme Court and say, “Mr. Supreme Court, Mr. Justices, pambihira, iyong Congress noong nakaraan hindi naman sinusunod ang rules, e ngayon sinunod nila iyong rule, e ayaw naming sundin iyong rule, ang gusto namin iyong pinalitan na o iyong lumang ugali na hindi sumusunod sa rules. Kaya tulungan po ninyo kami.”

Do you think the Supreme Court would even listen to them if their claim or course of action is, we follow the rule instead of following tradition, albeit a thrown-away, old rule? That rule has been thrown away, but if they want to go challenge it, I beg them, “Join us, you are welcome to join the Majority.”

I do not speak for the Minority, I hope the Minority will also welcome them, but this is where their oft-quoted paragraph will come into play. Now, the day after the election, it was manifested on the floor that those who did not vote for the winning candidate constituted themselves as Minority and invited everybody, including the eight, to join in the election of Minority Leader, but they did not; they did not participate. They should have gone there and participated but now, they want to say and lay claim to the title of “Minority Leader” by a discarded rule.

If they go there, Mr. Speaker, and the Supreme Court will say that we were wrong, I will resign as Chairman of the Committee on Rules. Nakakahiya naman, nagbigay ako ng opinyon dito na mali-mali pala, but if we will be upheld by the Supreme Court, we will still welcome them to join the Majority. The eight are welcome to join the Majority. I see that their brethren in the Liberal Party are with us already, including our Deputy Speaker here who is the head of the Liberal Party, being the Deputy Speaker. Maybe, we can all be together and we welcome them in the Majority, Mr. Speaker.

So, I hope this will make it very clear as to what happened. This Congress, the Seventeenth Congress only adopted the rule as it is clearly stated. Again, I state,

Ours is a sovereign republican government where sovereignty resides in the people and all government authority emanates from them.

Nobody can hold public office if the people do not give their mandate, albeit a Minority Leader; one cannot be a Minority Leader by default or by losing.

It was very clear, Mr. Speaker, on the record, that Representative Baguilat never ran for the office of Minority Leader. He wanted to be the Speaker. In fact, I am wondering why they nominated him as a candidate for Speaker when all they wanted was for him to be the Minority Leader. Then, the Honorable Alvarez should have been unopposed as Speaker and then, they could have gathered together and elected

their Minority Leader. But Representative Baguilat, on the record, ran for the Office of Speaker and pursuant to our Rules, he cannot be the Minority Leader because it is very clear, as I have shown you in the three or four past Congresses, the Minority shall elect their Minority Leader. This is provided for by the Constitution that each respective House shall choose their other officers—be it the Minority Leader, be it the Majority Leader; be it the Chairman for every Committee. They should be elected by the House, as what we are doing right now, Mr. Speaker. Even memberships, even vice chairpersons, they are elected or chosen by the House. Nobody can become or can hold any public office without a mandate from whomever they claim to be serving.

So, Mr. Speaker, thank you, and I hope this will clarify the matter. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Unless there are other Members who wish to interpellate and normally, we will not—it is prohibited to actually applaud but I will excuse our Members, considering the erudite opinion of the Majority Leader.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the honorable Majority Leader to the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The privilege speech—with the legal treatise and the position of the House of the Representatives—is hereby referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn until Monday, August 29, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The motion has not yet been approved.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, before that, may I just make an announcement for the benefit of everybody. Effective Monday, by the instruction of the Speaker and upon agreement in the Committee on Rules, roll calls will be conducted every session day. Every session

day, there will be a roll call. So, para alam po ng mga Miyembro, araw-araw po ay magkakaroon na tayo ng roll call dito po sa House of Representatives.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, we would like to correct the announcement.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). What is the pleasure of the Gentleman?

REP. ATIENZA. We are not reporting on Monday, Mr. Speaker. It is a holiday and so, we will resume on Tuesday.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The Dep. Majority Leader was about to make a clarification. Let us allow him.

#### ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. BONDOC. The correction is accepted, Mr. Speaker, and I apologize for the error.

I move that we suspend the session until Tuesday, August 30, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you.

REP. BONDOC. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Do we suspend or do we adjourn? I did not hear it clearly.

REP. BONDOC. We adjourn, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). So, the session is adjourned until ...

REP. BONDOC. Tuesday, August 30, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until Tuesday, August 30, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon, and everybody is advised to do your bread-and-butter service to the country.

*It was 7:03 p.m.*