



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17th CONGRESS, FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House of Representatives

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Wednesday, September 21, 2016

No. 25

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Sharon S. Garin called the session to order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is now called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Everybody is requested to rise for the singing of the National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer or meditation.

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll.

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

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we defer the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the approval of the Journal is deferred.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). 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 Communications, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 3606, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN VICENTE - CALENDOLA-SANANTONIO PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE CITY OF SAN PEDRO, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT THEREOF”

By Representative Arcillas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3607, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS IN THE SOUTHERN TAGALOG REGION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Arcillas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3608, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE

BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129 OR THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Arcillas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3609, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING THE COMPOSITION OF THE DANGEROUS DRUGS BOARD TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN OF THE GOVERNMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002’ ”

By Representative De Venecia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

House Bill No. 3610, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ADOPT AN ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT WASTE DISPOSAL PROGRAM, ESTABLISHING A MECHANISM THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Lanete
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 3611, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE RANDOM DRUG-TESTING IN ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Lanete
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

House Bill No. 3612, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF FREE/OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE (FOSS) IN THE PHILIPPINES, AMENDING RA 8293 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES’, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3613, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING PAG-ASA ISLAND CLUSTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KALAYAAN, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN

AS AN ECOTOURISM DESTINATION AND PROTECTED AREA, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Alvarez (F.), Abueg and Acosta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 3614, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES WHO IS FACING CHARGES BEFORE THE PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE, COURT, ADMINISTRATIVE OR ANY COMPETENT BODY, DUE TO AN INCIDENT RELATED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTY”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 3615, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 61 OF REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 3616, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 1 AND 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4200, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND PENALIZE WIRE TAPPING AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS OF THE PRIVACY OF COMMUNICATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Acop
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 3617, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES EMERGENCY POWERS TO ADDRESS THE TRAFFIC CONGESTION CRISIS IN METRO MANILA AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Belmonte (J.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3618, entitled:

“AN ACT REMOVING THE RESTRICTIONS UNDER SECTIONS 118 AND 119 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141, AS AMENDED”

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

House Bill No. 3619, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE ‘SUBSIDY INSURANCE COVERAGE OF CHILDHOOD IMMUNIZATION ACT OF 2016’ AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3620, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING REFORMS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MAGNACARTA OF PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS, THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 7, RULE XV OF RA 7305 PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3621, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) TO INCLUDE LABOR EDUCATION IN THE TERTIARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3622, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR MONTHLY HONORARIUM FOR BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Espino
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 3623, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING TRICYCLE DRIVERS’ TRAINING AND MOTORISTS’ AWARENESS PROGRAMS”

By Representative Espino
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3624, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND STRENGTHENING THE MULTI ONE STOP SHOP MARITIME ECONOMIC FISHERY LANDING SITES IN TICA O AND BURIAS ISLANDS, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bravo (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 3625, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL PUBLIC UTILITY BUS OPERATORS/COMPANIES REGISTERED AND OPERATING IN OR ENGAGED IN BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND GRANTED FRANCHISES THEREOF TO SECURE CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPROPRIATE STANDARDS SET BY THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION (ISO) FROM ACCREDITED CERTIFYING AGENCIES”

By Representative Erice
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3626, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS TO QUALIFIED INDIGENTS”

By Representatives Pineda and Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 3627, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4200 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND PENALIZE WIRE TAPPING AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS OF THE PRIVACY OF COMMUNICATION’, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Pineda and Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 3628, entitled:

“AN ACT DIVIDING AND CREATING NEW BARANGAYS IN THE CITY OF GENERAL TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE”

By Representative Ferrer (L.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 3629, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE TRANSMISSION OF SPAM MESSAGES OR UNSOLICITED COMMERCIAL AND PROMOTIONAL ADVERTISEMENTS THROUGH BROADCAST MESSAGING SERVICE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Sandoval
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3630, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL PUBLIC

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT A LAND USE DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN FOR THE OPTIMUM UTILIZATION OF ITS RESOURCES IN ADDRESSING BASIC EDUCATION FACILITY SHORTAGES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3631, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION CENTER IN MABALACAT CITY, PAMPANGA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lazatin
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3632, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING PARENTS TO PLANT A SEEDLING FOR EVERY CHILD BORN TO THEM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Go (M.)
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION

House Bill No. 3633, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING A NATIONAL POLICY FOR SPORTS AS AN ENGINE FOR NATION BUILDING, SOCIAL PROGRESS AND PROMOTION OF TOTAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Roa-Puno
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 3634, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE KAPARKAN FALLS IN SITIO CAGANAYAN, MUNICIPALITY OF TINEG, PROVINCE OF ABRA AS AN ECOTOURISM SITE, ESTABLISHING THE KAPARKAN FALLS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bernos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 3635, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A ONE HUNDRED (100) BED CAPACITY DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA, LAGUNA TO BE KNOWN AS THE ‘SANTA ROSA CITY DISTRICT HOSPITAL’, AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Arcillas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3636, entitled:

“AN ACT UPHOLDING AND PROMOTING CAMPUS JOURNALISM AND CAMPUS PRESS FREEDOM, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7079, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF CAMPUS JOURNALISM’, PENALIZING VIOLATIONS AGAINST CAMPUS PRESS FREEDOM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 3637, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE SPACE DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION POLICY AND CREATING THE PHILIPPINE SPACE AGENCY (PSA) AND DEFINE THE PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF ITS ACTIVITIES”

By Representatives Aumentado and Jalosjos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3638, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MADAYMEN (FROM THE HALSEMA HIGHWAY ROAD JUNCTION KM67)-MASOLA-COLILI-SAPDAAN-SAGPAT (KAPANGAN - KIBUNGAN ROAD JUNCTION) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KIBUNGAN INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE”

By Representative Cosalan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 3639, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (DHUD), DEFINING THE MANDATES, POWERS, AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 3640, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING ANNUAL DRUG
TESTING TO ALL STUDENTS OF
SECONDARY, TERTIARY, VOCATIONAL,
AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Antonio
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS
DRUGS

House Bill No. 3641, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE FINANCIAL/
CREDIT ACCESS OF MICRO AND SMALL
ENTERPRISES (MSEs) BY EMPOWERING
THE BARANGAY DEVELOPMENT
COUNCILS TO EXTEND ZERO-
INTEREST CREDIT ACCESS TO MSEs
BY MANDATING ALL BARANGAYS TO
ALLOCATE NOT LESS THAN 5% NOR
MORE THAN 10% FROM ITS GENERAL
FUND TO THE PROVISION OF SUCH
CREDIT ACCESS, THEREBY AMENDING
R.A. NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE ‘LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF
1991’ AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Laogan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 3642, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT
OF STUDENT FARE DISCOUNTS IN ALL
RAIL TRANSPORT SYSTEMS”

By Representative Laogan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3643, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING AND ENHANCING
NATIONAL AND LOCAL HEALTH AND
NUTRITION PROGRAMS FOR PREGNANT
AND LACTATING WOMEN, INFANTS
AND YOUNG CHILDREN THE FIRST 1000
DAYS”

By Representative Rodriguez (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3644, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROTECT INFANT-FEEDING
MOTHERS AND REGULATE THE

MARKETING AND TRADE OF RELATED
PRODUCTS”

By Representative Rodriguez (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3645, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING FAVORABLE WORKING
CONDITIONS TO MOTHERS IN THE
PRIVATE SECTOR FOR THE PURPOSE OF
ATTENDING TO THE PERSONAL CARE
OF THEIR INFANTS, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE SECTION 14-A OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND
GENDER EQUALITY

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 348, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING DIRECTOR
LAVRENTE INDICO DIAZ (LAV DIAZ) FOR
BEING AWARDED THE 2016 VENICE FILM
FESTIVAL GOLDEN LION ON SATURDAY,
SEPTEMBER 10, 2016 (SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 11 IN THE PHILIPPINES)
FOR HIS FILM ANG BABAENG HUMAYO
(THE WOMAN WHO LEFT)”

By Representative Violago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
INFORMATION

House Resolution No. 349, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING MS.
JOSEPHINE MEDINA FOR WINNING
A BRONZE MEDAL IN TABLE TENNIS
WOMEN’S SINGLES CLASS 8 AT THE
RIO PARALYMPICS IN RIO DE JANEIRO,
BRAZIL”

By Representative Zamora (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 350, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT THE
INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF ‘KALSADA
PROGRAM’ OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE ‘KONKRETO AT AYOS NA
LANSANGAN ANG DAAN TUNGO SA
PANGKALAHATANG KAUNLARAN’ AS
IMPLEMENTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM) AND
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG)”

By Representative Catamco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND HIGHWAYS

House Resolution No. 351, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE EFFECTS OF THE COAL DUST FROM THE COMMERCIAL STOCKPILE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, AND ON THE HEALTH AND LIVELIHOOD OF THE RESIDENTS OF PORT AREA, VITAS, TONDO, MANILA”

By Representatives De Jesus and Brosas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 352, entitled:

“RESOLUTION MANDATING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD (LTFRB) TO REVIEW AND CLARIFY THE NATURE, PURPOSE, AND RESTRICTIONS OF GARAGE-TERMINAL (GT)/UTILITY VEHICLE (UV) EXPRESS FRANCHISES, AND FOR THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE FRANCHISES”

By Representative Herrera-Dy
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Resolution No. 353, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND THE VFA COMMISSION TO ALLOW AN INSPECTION BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DETENTION FACILITIES WHERE US MARINE LANCE CORPORAL JOSEPH SCOTT PEMBERTON IS SERVING HIS SENTENCE FOR THE DEATH OF FILIPINO TRANSGENDER JEFFREY ‘JENNIFER’ LAUDE, PURSUANT TO THE EXPRESSED INDEPENDENT FOREIGN POLICY OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE”

By Representative Roque (H.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Resolution No. 354, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARM FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS AND CONFERRING THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF

DISTINCTION TO THE PHILIPPINE DRAGON BOAT TEAM FOR WINNING A GOLD MEDAL IN INTERNATIONAL CANOE FEDERATION (ICF) WORLD DRAGON BOAT CHAMPIONSHIPS”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 355, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARM FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS AND CONFERRING THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF DISTINCTION TO JOSEPHINE MEDINA FOR BEING THE FIRST FILIPINO TO EARN IN SIXTEEN YEARS A BRONZE MEDAL IN 2016 SUMMER PARALYMPICS”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 356, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARM FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS AND CONFERRING THE CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF DISTINCTION TO JANELLE MAE FRAYNA FOR BECOMING THE FIRST WOMAN CHESS GRANDMASTER IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 357, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING JANELLE MAE FRAYNA FOR HER DISTINCTION AS THE COUNTRY’S FIRST WOMAN CHESS GRANDMASTER”

By Representatives Pineda and Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 358, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE TV PROGRAM ‘FPJ’SANG PROBINSYANO’ AND ENDORSING RODEL NACIANCENO (COCO MARTIN) AS THE CELEBRITY ADVOCATE FOR A DRUG FREE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Barbers
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

House Resolution No. 359, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE

ON WAYS AND MEANS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9335, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'ATTRITION ACT OF 2005', WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRICTLY IMPLEMENTING SAID ACT IN ORDER TO OPTIMIZE THE REVENUE GENERATION CAPABILITY AND COLLECTIONS OF THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR) AND THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC)"

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 360, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF BARANGAY HEALTH STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WITHIN THE PREMISES OF PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS UNDERTAKEN BY THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH"

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

House Resolution No. 361, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING JOSEPHINE MEDINA FOR WINNING THE BRONZE MEDAL IN THE TABLE TENNIS - SINGLES CLASS 8 EVENT IN THE 2016 PARALYMPIC GAMES HELD IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL"

By Representative Bernos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 362, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING LAV DIAZ, THE DIRECTOR, SCREENWRITER, CINEMATOGRAPHER AND EDITOR OF THE MOVIE 'ANG BABAENG HUMAYO', AS WELL AS THE ACTORS AND PRODUCERS THEREOF, FOR WINNING THE GOLDEN LION FOR BEST FILM AWARD IN THE 73RD VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL"

By Representative De Venecia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Rep. Florida "Rida" P. Robes for House Bill No. 3605;

Rep. Rolando "Klaxex" A. Uy for House Bills No. 334 and 1208 and House Resolutions No. 16 and 17;

Rep. Johnny Ty Pimentel for House Bills No. 334 and 1208;

Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D. for House Bills No. 2505, 2906 and 3509;

Reps. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang, Arcadio H. Gorricketa, Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, Divina Grace C. Yu and Arthur R. Defensor Jr. for House Bills No. 1427, 1428, 1429, 2738, 2902, 3115 and 3247;

Rep. Emmanuel F. Madrona for House Bills No. 1427, 1428, 1429, 2738 and 3115;

Rep. Amado T. Espino Jr. for House Bills No. 337, 1427, 1428, 2738, 2902 and 3115;

Rep. Richard C. Eusebio for House Bills No. 1428, 2738, 2902 and 3115;

Rep. Teodoro "Ted" G. Montoro for House Bills No. 515, 516, 517, 1038, 1039, 1378, 1536, 1537, 1836, 1837, 2263, 2264, 2265, 3027 and 3435;

Rep. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano for House Bills No. 122, 2691, 2692, 2693, 2694, 2695 and 2696;

Rep. Maximo B. Dalog for House Bill No. 3532 and House Resolution No. 328;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bills No. 533, 535 and 3491;

Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun for House Bills No. 236 and 1208;

Rep. Victor A. Yap for House Resolution No. 308;

Rep. Mercedes "Didi" C. Cagas for House Bills No. 1864 and 2505;

Rep. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia for House Bill No. 3460;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy Alvarado for House Bills No. 2068 and 3336;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Bills No. 260, 822, 902, 967, 1171, 1179, 1528, 1533, 1558, 1853; 2259, 2261, 2405, 2445, 2451, 3520, 3607, 3608 and 3635;

Reps. Randolph S. Ting, Eleanor C. Bulut Begtang and Juliette T. Uy for House Bill No. 56;

Rep. Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III for House Bill No. 2965;

Rep. Pedro B. Acharon Jr. for House Bill No. 51;

Rep. Paolo Everardo S. Javier for House Bill No. 3532 and House Resolution No. 328;

Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas for House Bills No. 20 and 3499;

Rep. Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano for House Bill No. 964;

Reps. Cristal L. Bagatsing and Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso for House Bills No. 262, 264 and 2430;

Rep. Enrico A. Pineda for House Bills No. 262 and 264;

Rep. Arlene B. Arcillas for House Bill No. 208;

Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri for House Bills No. 208, 209, 210, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1915 and 1916;

Reps. Ron P. Salo and Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera for House Bills No. 3350, 3351, 3352 and 3353;

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing for House Bill No. 3022;

Rep. Eugene Michael B. De Vera for House Bill No. 3493;

Rep. Teodoro “Ted” G. Montoro for House Bills No. 3089, 3096, 3283 and 3379 and House Resolutions No. 137, 139 and 140;

Reps. Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera, Arnel U. Ty and Mark O. Go for House Bill No. 1894;

Reps. Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr., Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon and Edgar R. Erice for House Joint Resolution No. 4;

Rep. Raul “Boboy” C. Tupas for House Bills No. 307, 308, 381, 382 and 1291;

Rep. Jorge “Bolet” Banal for House Bill No. 159 and House Joint Resolution No. 4;

Rep. Marisol C. Panotes for House Bills No. 477, 478, 797, 1871, 2287, 2396, 2514 and 2531;

Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III for House Bills No. 478, 479, 480, 796, 797, 798, 1870, 1871, 1872, 2287, 2396, 2514 and 2531;

Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun for House Bill No. 153 and House Resolution No. 302;

Rep. Greg G. Gasataya for House Bill No. 1613;

Rep. Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera for House Bills No. 2565 and 2566;

Reps. Deogracias B. Ramos Jr. and Raul “Boboy” C. Tupas for House Bills No. 458 and 3181;

Reps. Alexandria P. Gonzales and Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao for House Resolution No. 328;

Rep. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr. for House Bills No. 591 and 3016;

Reps. Richard C. Eusebio and Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez for House Bill No. 3336;

Rep. Eric M. Martinez for House Bills No. 1955, 2288, 2289 and 2290;

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia for House Bills No. 1204, 1205, 1206, 1207, 1209, 1210, 1211, 1212, 1213, 2812, 2926, 2973, 2974, 2975, 2976, 2977, 3159 and 3319 and House Resolution No. 328;

Rep. Juliette T. Uy for House Bills No. 533, 534, 535, 2774, 2775 and 2926;

Rep. Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang for House Bills No. 391, 392 and 3532 and House Resolution No. 328;

Reps. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D., Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III and Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera for House Resolution No. 328;

Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. for House Bills No. 515, 516, 517, 1038, 1039, 1378, 1836, 2263, 2264 and 3435;

Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for House Bills No. 515, 516, 517, 1038, 1039, 1378, 1536, 1537, 1836, 1837, 2263, 2264, 2265 and 3435;

Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta for House Bills No. 533, 534, 535, 1887, 2774, 2775 and 2926;

Rep. Emmanuel A. Billones for House Bill No. 3319;

Rep. Franz E. Alvarez for House Bill No. 1887;

Rep. Conrado M. Estrella III for House Bills No. 391, 392, 393, 394, 575, 576, 577, 578 and 579;

Rep. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA, LLB. for House Bills No. 40, 467 and 578; and

Rep. Manuel Luis T. Lopez for House Bills No. 2563, 2564, 2565 and 2566.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated February 29, 2016 of Atty. Abdel Jalil A. Escander, State Auditor IV, Office of the Audit Team Leader, Regional Legislative Assembly, Commission on Audit, transmitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Audit of the Regional Legislative Assembly Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Cotabato City.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 1, 2016 of Roland A. Rey, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. V, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports (AARs) on the audit of the accounts and operations on the following Water Districts in Region V:

1. Bacacay Water District, Bacacay, Albay (CYs 2014-2015);
2. Casiguran Water District, Casiguran, Sorsogon (CY 2015);
3. Gubat Water District, Gubat, Sorsogon (CY 2015);
4. Pilar Water District, Pilar, Sorsogon (CY 2015);
5. Ragay Water District, Ragay, Camarines Sur (CY 2015);
6. Balatan Water District, Balatan, Camarines Sur (CY 2014);
7. Bato Water District, Bato, Camarines Sur (CY 2014);
8. Camalig Water District, Camalig, Albay (CY 2014);
9. Camarines Norte Water District, Daet, Camarines Norte (CY 2014);
10. Libmanan Water District, Libmanan, Camarines Sur (CY 2014); and
11. Sipocot Water District, Sipocot, Camarines Sur (CY 2014).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 1, 2016 of Roland A. Rey, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. V, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports (AARs) on the audit of the accounts and operations on the following Water Districts in Region V:

1. Aroroy Water District, Aroroy, Masbate (CY 2015);
2. Baao Water District, Baao, Camarines Sur (CY 2015);
3. Del Gallego Water District, Del Gallego, Camarines Sur (CY 2015);
4. Legazpi City Water District, Legazpi City (CY 2015);
5. Masbate-Mobo Water District, Masbate City (CY 2015);
6. Nabua Water District, Nabua, Camarines Sur (CYs 2014-2015);
7. Partido Development Administration, Tigaon, Camarines Sur (CY 2015);
8. Pasacao Water District, Pasacao, Camarines Sur (CY 2015);
9. Tabaco City Water District, Tabaco City ((CYs 2014-2015);
10. Virac Water District, Virac, Catanduanes (CY 2015);
11. Calabanga Water District, Calabanga, Camarines Sur (CY 2014);
12. Gubat Water District, Gubat, Sorsogon (CY 2014);
13. Iriga City Water District, San Roque, Iriga City (CY 2014);
14. Metropolitan Naga Water District, J. Miranda Avenue, Naga City (CY 2014);
15. Pandan Water District, Pandan, Catanduanes (CY 2014);
16. Pilar Water District, Pilar-Sorsogon (CY 2014); and
17. Pili Water District, Pili, Camarines Sur (CY 2014).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 3, 2016 of Magdalena B. Espares, State Auditor IV, Audit Team Leader, Commission on Audit, transmitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report for Calendar Year 2015 on the Camarines Sur Polytechnic Colleges, Nabua, Camarines Sur and Bicol State College of Applied Sciences and Technology, Naga City.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 8, 2016 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Regional Office No. VI, Commission on Audit, transmitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Bugasong Water District, Bugasong, Antique for the years ended December 31, 2013 to 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated September 7, 2016 of Roger E. Dino, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas issuances, to wit:

1. Circular No. 923 dated 31 August 2016;
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2016-073 dated 24 August 2016;
3. Circular Letter No. CL-2016-074 dated 26 August 2016; and
4. Memorandum No. M-2016-011 dated 31 August 2016.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Floor Leader is recognized.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, with leave of the House, I move that we open the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is now open.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I now move that the Gentleman from the Second District of Zamboanga del Norte, the Hon. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos, be recognized to avail of the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Rep. Seth Jalosjos of the Second District of Zamboanga del Norte is now recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. JALOSJOS

REP. JALOSJOS. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Actually, I would like to clarify that I am from the First District of Zamboanga del Norte.

Good afternoon, Mme. Speaker, colleagues. I stand before you today to make a formal and material manifestation based on what I personally know and based on documents and information given to me. This manifestation is also for the purpose of exercising my privilege under applicable rules. This is a matter of duty and I thank the honorable Speaker and the Majority Leader for this opportunity and this time.

This is not the first time that I made use of the Privilege Hour to expose certain personalities in my province and my district. However, the first time I actually exposed these personalities, my expositions,

my statements, the truth about everything fell on deaf ears. Hindi ako pinakinggan noong una. Sinabihan ako na kathang-isip ko lamang daw ang mga pinagsasabi ko. Wala naman daw akong ebidensya to prove my allegations and yet, here I am still, unafraid to tell because I know the truth, and I will not be afraid to tell the truth because, for this instance, the truth will set us free.

The war on drugs, lagi pong ito ang headline hindi lamang sa ating telebisyon kundi maging sa international news. Our small country is now the center of attention because of the unwavering war on illegal drugs waged by our very own President. In his own words, he wants to eradicate the vestiges of this drug menace pero magbibigay po ako ng babala sa ating mahal na Presidente. Hindi po ninyo maipapanalo ang laban kontra droga kung hindi po ninyo malalaman ang totoong estado ng kalakaran ng droga sa aming probinsiya. Ang masasabi ko po, hindi po ito kompletong mawawala dahil sa aming probinsiya, mismong mga pulis at pulitiko ang nasa likod nito. Hihimay-himayin ko po at ipapakita ko sa inyo ang kalakaran ng pagbebenta ng droga sa aming probinsiya nang sa ganoon ay maintindihan ninyo at malaman ang katotohanan.

Alam ko na pagkatapos ng privilege speech kong ito, ang mga testigo, mga assets, mga informants ay maglalahong parang bula sa aming probinsiya. Ngunit hindi ako nagdalawang-isip na ibulgar ang katotohanan dahil katuwang tayo sa paglaban sa droga. Sisimulan ko ang aking pagsasalaysay sa pamamagitan ng isang drug matrix ng aming probinsiya. I will identify the names of the drug lord inmates in the Dipolog BJMP, the names of the drug protectors, the money trail, the other very recent information which should already warrant deployment of full force by the PNP, the PDEA, the NBI, and other units to our province. We actually already have a drug matrix in Zamboanga del Norte, and I came ready with it. This matrix is verifiable, but out of courtesy to our law enforcement units, I will not make this public. Abangan na lang ninyo sa susunod na kabanata.

There are four known drug lords in the BJMP in Dipolog City. These are RG Guico, Yong Yong Lim, a certain person named Piggy Back and one Kevin Lim. According to intelligence reports, these drug lords or their leaders, in the safety of the secure walls of the BJMP, issue orders and manage the drug operations within the province. They also coordinate with certain drug personalities now presently detained in the National Bilibid Prison. RG Guico, tagged by the PDEA as the top drug lord of Zamboanga del Norte, was gunned down right outside the Bulwagan ng Katarungan of Dipolog City last August 19 this year while he was being escorted by his jail guards to a scheduled hearing.

Mme. Speaker, ganoon po ka grabe ang lantaran na pagpatay sa mga witnesses, ang pagpatay sa mga suspects ng mga point persons namin na magbibigay impormasyon sa iligal na droga. Nangyayari po ito sa umaga, nangyari po ito sa gitna ng Dipolog City BJMP, which I believe is riddled with CCTVs. Up to now, wala pong investigation at wala pong movement kung saan o kung sino, o maski saan nanggaling ang mga snipers kuno.

Now, these drug lords are under the protection of a police officer, namely SPO2 Roy P. Vertudes. From the information gathered, he directly controls the distribution of illegal drugs in the province just like Jayvee Sebastian. He also issues the orders for hits, or what is commonly known as killings or assassinations. SPO2 Vertudes directly coordinates with operators and handlers of the illegal drug trade. These operators and handlers further coordinate with the BJMP in Ozamiz City. The transactions of drug money are done through money remittance centers in Dipolog City, which directly send the drug money to money remittance centers in Ozamiz City. These businesses accept and process remittances from drug runners without verifying the identities of these personalities. Per information, copies of these fake identities have already been secured. Details of remittances of drug money have also been secured. On a regular basis, proceeds of illegal drug activities are channeled through the remittance centers to Ozamiz City. Nalaman at naverify na po ng intelligence community kung alin sa mga remittance centers ang ginagamit sa drug trade. These are drug personalities inside prison institutions. Despite these persons being behind bars, they are still in drug operations.

Alam po natin na ang BJMP ay nasa pangangasiwa ng DILG and that, for certain, kung hindi man ito nalalaman ng pamunuan ng DILG, ang organisadong paglalaman ng illegal drug activities sa iba't ibang kulungan sa ating bansa, this is what we call gross neglect of duty sa mga namumuno sa ating sangay sa gobyerno. Balik po tayo kay SPO2 Roy Vertudes. Ito pong SPO2 Roy Vertudes ay mistulang "untouchable" sa aming probinsiya. Ipapakita ko po kung bakit.

On December 5, 2014, a certain Mr. Arthur S. Barbaso was ambushed and shot to death in Galas, Dipolog City. He was ordered killed by SPO2 Vertudes because Arthur Barbaso disclosed to some other persons that SPO2 Vertudes was a drug protector. The witness to this gruesome murder is Ronald Realiza. Kasama po siya sa nag-ambush ng riding in tandem. Sa isang sworn affidavit, isinalaysay ni Ronald Realiza ang partisipasyon ni SPO2 Vertudes sa karumal-dumal na pagpatay kay Arthur Barbaso. Nandito po ang ating affidavit and records. Ronald Realiza stated that SPO2 Vertudes is the source of shabu. Despite

these incriminating evidences, SPO2 Vertudes remains untouchable.

Bakit ko po nasasabing untouchable? Heto po ang dahilan. SPO2 Vertudes was then charged with murder in the City Prosecutor's Office. The case was under preliminary investigation, entitled: Rosemarcy B. Jimenez vs. SPO2 Roy P. Vertudes. However, then Secretary of Justice and now Senator Leila De Lima intervened. Senator De Lima issued Department Order No. 253, dated February 10, 2015. Kung mababasa po ninyo sa mismong order, Secretary De Lima designated Provincial Prosecutor Rommel C. Cudal of the Office of the Provincial Prosecutor of Zamboanga Sibugay, as acting City Prosecutor of Dipolog City, to conduct preliminary investigation on the said specific case against Roy P. Vertudes. The said action of Secretary De Lima begs several questions. Mme. Speaker, first, why did Senator De Lima personally take interest in the case and intervene by way of a memorandum? Mme. Speaker, why did she make that order? Ano ba ang kasagutan? Ang sagot po diyan ay: The drug protector of SPO2 Vertudes is also being protected by the biggest fish in the province of Zamboanga del Norte, no less than our provincial governor. Ladies and Gentlemen, SPO2 Roy Vertudes is untouchable because he is the head security of Roberto Uy, the incumbent, now suspended governor of the province of Zamboanga del Norte.

Despite being pointed to by witnesses in sworn affidavits as the protector and coddler of the illegal drug activities and killings in Dipolog City and the province of Zamboanga del Norte, Vertudes and his team have never been investigated, arrested or even implicated. Despite all the damning evidence against him and his team, he remains free. Kahit na ilang testigo pa siguro ang lumutang, wala pa ring silbi kasi protektado itong si SPO2 Vertudes.

Now, let us know their modus operandi. According to eyewitnesses, the entry point for illegal drugs in Dipolog City is through the Dipolog Port. Although there is already an existing port in Dapitan City which, Mme. Speaker, is only a stone's throw away from Dipolog, hindi po namin maintindihan kung bakit kailangang mag-create pa ng another port that is LGU-run, that is not authorized by the PPA and does not give jurisdiction to the PCGA. Ano po ba ang dahilan, and nasa ilalim pong pagtatayo ng LGU-run port when, like I said, tinatakbo ko po from Dapitan all the way to Dipolog, which is only 13 kilometers?

I raised this issue during the PDEA committee hearing, and I told them if they can look into this because these are serious allegations. I am sure their people are competent enough to conduct the investigation, and to see kung dito nga talaga pumapasok ang illegal na droga, having this port as entry and exit points of illegal drugs and other illegal activities such as illegal mining

of pebbles, which can easily be distributed to as far as Cebu, Bukidnon, Cagayan de Oro and Ozamiz.

We have several persons confirming that there is a stockpile of drugs in Dipolog City. Nakakapagtaka rin po na sa sobrang masugid na kampanya sa droga ng ating mahal na Presidente, mistulang walang nangyayari sa Dipolog City. Ni wala pong high-profile drug personality ang nadakip at nai-prisinta sa media. Ang isang pangyayari na tumatak lamang ay ang pag-assassinate sa high-profile drug personality na si RG Guico, who was a detained prisoner going to the Bulwagan ng Katarungan, who was assassinated by a sniper who shot him from long distance using a high-powered firearm. Bakit po pinatay ng isang sniper ang isang detained prisoner na papunta sa Bulwagan ng Katarungan? It is obvious that they wanted to silence him katulad ng maraming iba na gustong magsalita kung sino ang nasa likod ng drug business sa Dipolog City and in the province of Zamboanga del Norte.

Mme. Speaker, ako rin po ay biktima ng isang assassination plot. I survived an assassination plot against my life during the campaign period. Pinagbabaril po ako at ang mga kasama ko sa isang maliit na town na La Libertad. Hanggang ngayon po, hindi pa rin nakakasuhan; hindi pa rin gumagalaw ang PNP hanggang ngayon; na-transfer lang ang mga pulis na involved sa pagtangka sa pagpatay or sa pagpapalano sa pagpatay o pagkuha sa aking buhay at sa buhay ng mga kasamahan ko. Hindi po namin maintindihan kung paano or something like that could happen when during our rally, it only takes a walk, not even a five-minute walk, from the police station of La Libertad. So, lahat po ng pulis doon ay kinasuhan natin dahil wala ni isang pulis ang rumesponde until siguro makita nila na ubos na kami. Madali lang ito ma-explain.

Si SPO2 Vertudes and his cohorts are untouchable because there is someone powerful enough, rich enough and influential enough to shield them from such arrests and legal action. Mismong si Mme. Secretary De Lima nga ang nagbigay ng order para sa isang prosecutor na imbestigahan ang mismong murder case ni Vertudes. Pero sa pagkakaintindi ko po, ang laban sa droga ng ating mahal na Pangulo ay walang pinipili, walang kinakampihan, walang kaibigan. The mandate of President Duterte is an all-out war against drugs, and I join him in this war. This is why I am using this platform, Mme. Speaker, to show you the drug menace existing in my province. Kaya ito po ang mga hiling at hamon ko sa ating Presidente, sa ating Chief PNP, sa head ng PDEA at sa ating NBI chief.

Imbestigahan at ipatawag na si Vertudes at lahat ng kasama niya sa kanyang grupo. If it is shown by evidence that he is being protected by Governor Uy, huwag po bigyan ng pabor si Governor Uy. Dapat din siyang imbestigahan. Dapat ipa-report na siya sa

Camp Crame at magpaliwanag siya kung bakit nasa poder niya ang isang illegal drug distributor. Pending investigation, palitan na ang mga sumusunod: ang aming PNP provincial director, ang aming Dipolog City chief of police, ang aming NBI provincial director and ang aming PDEA provincial chief. Sila po ang nagtatago, nagpi-filter at ang dahilan kung bakit hindi dumarating dito sa national o sa central office ang so-called matrix na mayroon sa aming probinsiya. Kaya kawanggawa po na lumapit at imbestigahan mismo at magamit itong opportunity na maisiwalat, maipakita at marinig. It is a great injustice to the people of the province of Zamboanga del Norte that the first list na lumabas o inilabas ni President Duterte, hindi po kasama ang mga dapat kasama.

I hope this privilege speech that I am making, Mme. Speaker, ang mabigyan po ng pansin ng ating chief of police, ng NBI, ng PDEA at ng DILG. Tingnan po natin kung gaano po sila kaseryoso sa ilang kampanya sa droga kasi hindi po namin nararamdaman ito sa aming probinsiya. Ipakita ang sinseridad ng PNP, PDEA, NBI at iba pang law enforcement units sa Zamboanga del Norte. Iparamdam ninyo na kayo ay tutupad sa ginagawang kampanya laban sa droga ni Pang. Rodrigo Duterte. Bigyan ng proteksyon ang mga taong gustong magsiwalat ng katotohanan sa illegal drug trade na nangyayari sa aming probinsiya. Ipunin lahat ng ebidensya at magsampa ng nararapat na kaso. Imbestigahan at tingnan kung may kinalaman o nagwawalang-bahala lamang ang mga namumuno sa DILG at DOJ sa panahon ng dating administrasyon upang panagutin ng gross neglect of duty. Kasuhan sa madaling panahon ang dating Secretary ng DOJ sa undue favors na ibinigay sa mga taong naghahasik ng kadiliman sa aming lipunan. Panghuli, katulad din ng mga pangyayari sa huling administrasyon, kailangan na gumalaw ang DOJ o Ombudsman sa pagsampa ng kaso sa lahat ng mga may kinalaman.

Maraming salamat po sa panahon na ibinigay ninyo at sa inyong pakikinig, Mme. Speaker. Nawa ay magbunga ang panawagang ito.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker, my dear colleagues.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Rep. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos from the First District of Zamboanga del Norte.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, a Member of the House wishes to interpellate the Hon. Seth Jalosjos. May I therefore move, Mme. Speaker that the Gentleman from the Third District of Negros Oriental, the Hon. Arnolfo "Arnie" A. Teves Jr., be recognized for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Representative Teves is recognized.

REP. TEVES. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Good afternoon to everybody. Will the Gentleman from Dapitan yield to some questions?

REP. JALOSJOS. I am very willing to answer the queries of my very good friend and colleague, Congressman Teves from Dumaguete.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Gentleman will please proceed.

REP. TEVES. Mme. Speaker, may I say that I share the same problem of Congressman Jalosjos. Though I am not a victim of an assassination plot as of today, but I know there is an assassination plot against me. Pahero din kami ng problema, na gusto ko sanang matanggal na ang provincial director namin dahil isa siya sa nagpapalano na patayin ako. At isa pa, pareho din ang aming problema na wala pang nangyayari sa mga requests namin. I would like to ask my friend from Dapitan what he thinks we should do to expedite action on our requests?

REP. JALOSJOS. To my honorable colleague, siguro po, hindi ko lang alam kung bakit parang pinagiinitan ang mga kalbo dito sa House. *(Laughter)* Baka siguro puwede na tayong magpatubo ng buhok, baka hindi na tayo pag-iinitan. Joke lang po.

Actually, honestly speaking, on a more serious note, I really think that we should either conduct an investigation dito sa House prompting a call to the provincial director and all the other officials involved in the so-called attempt, or kung mayroon kayong ebidensya that he is threatening your life.

Siguro po nasa tamang panahon and nasa tamang plataporma kung tayo ay magpapatawag ng House inquiry because, Mme. Speaker, seryoso po ang aming pinagdadaan. In fact, si Congressman Teves po ay partner ko pagdating sa committee hearings at palagi po kaming nag-uunahan kung sino ang unang magtatanong, or kung sino ang unang magsasabi ng kanyang experiences, or kung anong nangyayari sa mga distrito namin. Seryoso po ito, Mme. Speaker, and I hope, being an incumbent Congressman and a Member of this august Body, magamit and ma-exercise po namin ang aming karapatan, ang aming privileges as a Member of the House, to conduct an investigation kung bakit hanggang ngayon ay walang movement. Hindi kami napapakinggan so maybe it is high time that we take this issue directly to our Chief PNP.

REP. TEVES. In addition to that, Mme. Speaker, hindi lang ang buhay namin ang nakasalalay dito, we

also share the same problem of our governor using our jail as a vault for their drug trade. Doon nila iniimbak ang droga dahil bawal ngang i-raid ng mga pulis kung hindi magpaalam sa kanila.

Kanina, during the Committee on Justice hearing, I suggested that we make a legislation to allow the police to raid prison facilities without asking permission from whoever is running the jail. Nawawalan ng saysay ang raid kung magpaalam ka sa head ng jail kung siya naman ang nagtatago ng droga doon.

Again, baka puwede natin itong pagtulongan. I do not think any of us here in the House would want any of us gone, me or "Bullet," huwag na tayong maghintay na tirahin pa kami. Dapat ngayon pa lang magpatulong kami, pending investigation. I-relieve na muna sa puwesto ang mga sangkot na pulis hindi lang sa assassination plot kung hindi lalo na sa pagbebenta at pagpo-proteksyon ng mga nagbebenta ng droga na nangyayari sa probinsiya niya at sa probinsiya namin sa Negros Oriental.

REP. JALOSJOS. Yes, Mme. Speaker, I subscribe to the suggestion of my very good colleague. In fact, we will give it our all and we are willing to cooperate with all the other agencies na matulungan natin, mabigyan natin ng tamang impormasyon at masubaybayan naman na ang tamang listahan na umabot dito sa central office ay ang mga tao na karapat-dapat talaga na mailagay.

Mme. Speaker, ang aking colleague na si Congressman Teves, siya ay kapitbahay ko lang talaga sa Dapitan. The distance between Dumaguete and Dapitan is only a stone's throw away as it only takes 30 minutes by boat from his place to ours, and let us not forget also na ang Dapitan po is the entry point and the exit point closest from the Visayas Island. Sana po, Mme. Speaker, mabigyan po ito ng pansin and ma-check na baka naman po doon pumapasok or doon lumalabas ang droga papuntang Visayas or papasok ng Mindanao.

What we are trying to say, Mme. Speaker, is sana po mas mabigyan ng pansin ng kampanya sa droga dito sa aming mga lugar considering we are in a very strategic point, in a very strategic position when it comes to ports. We are only one of the seven BIMP-EAGA ports that go direct to Singapore and on international waters.

Mme. Speaker, after this, siguro puwede naman kaming mag-usap ni Congressman Teves at magtulongan na lang kami, either ipasok namin sa committee but ultimately, gusto po talaga namin mapakinggan ang mga hinaing ng aming mga sinisilbihan na mga kababayan sa aming mga distrito.

Salamat po, Mme. Speaker.

REP. TEVES. Before I end, Mme. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleague from Dapitan kung nagkakasundo ba kami na pareho kaming nagre-request

na i-relieve muna ang mga provincial directors namin pending investigation?

REP. JALOSJOS. Yes, Mme. Speaker. I agree 100 percent and, in fact, I already have done my moves. Alam ko po na my very good friend, Congressman Teves, has already written to either the Chief, PNP or DILG and kung puwede po, makuha ko rin, Congressman Teves, ang inyong request and isasabay ko na po dito sa DILG or doon po sa Crame kung saan karapat-dapat mag-aksyon na kaagad. Salamat, Mme. Speaker.

REP. TEVES. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, there being no other Member who wishes to interpellate the Hon. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos, may I move that his speech, together with the interpellations, be referred to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of some guests in the gallery. They are the guests of the Hon. Florida "Rida" P. Robes of the Lone District of San Jose Del Monte City of Bulacan, the Apostolado ng Panalangin, Sagrada Familia Parish ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. ... Barangay Sta. Cruz, city of San Jose Del Monte for the Lakbay Aral sa Kongreso 2016. Mme. Speaker, may I move that they all be recognized.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, we would like also to acknowledge the presence in the gallery the guests of the Hon. Anna Katrina M. Enverga, the barangay officials of Barangay Tongohin, Infanta, Quezon. May I move that they all be recognized.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)
The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. BELARO. Good afternoon, Mme. Speaker. I move that we recognize the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List, the Hon. Jose “Lito” L. Atienza Jr. for his privilege speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Honorable Atienza of BUHAY Party-List is now recognized to speak under the Privilege Hour.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ATIENZA

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, thank you.

I stand today on a question of collective privilege as we would like to remind everyone of the significance of September 21 in the life of every Filipino. Noong Setyembre 21, to be exact September 23, we were all surprised, shocked even, when the President of the land then declared the whole nation under a suspended writ of habeas corpus and a one-man rule, in effect, causing a revolution from the center. The year 1972 was a long, long time, that was 44 years ago, and many of us here, I am sure, did not even experience what we did on September 21. I see a few who should remember but many who are young did not go through the process of fighting for our cherished freedom. Noong Setyembre 21, nagdeklara ng one-man rule ang namumuno noon. Ginamit niya ang bisa ng ating Saligang Batas. He cited the constitutional provisions which justified his action, claiming that there was a revolution, there was a rebellion, and there was a threat even from the outside that our nation was imperiled with, that the communists were already knocking in the doors of Metro Manila even. Kaya po iyon, tinanggap po naman ng mga mamamayan na wala pong gaanong gusot sapagkat maganda ang kanyang layunin. He pursued that declaration, 1081, with immediate action, liberating many of us from the bondage of oligarchy ruling the nation. Subalit, pagdaan po ng kaunting panahon, at ilang taon po lamang ang nakaraan, na umaasa kami na iyong kanyang ipinangakong pagbabago ay matutupad niya sa lalong madaling panahon, ito ay hindi po naganap.

Bagkus, ang nagpatuloy po ay abuso sa karapatang pantao ng marami nating mga kapatid na sila po ay hindi makatanggap ng katotohanang tayo ay inalisan ng karapatan. We have been deprived of our writ of habeas corpus. No one was exempted anymore from summary arrest or summary execution even; and lives were sacrificed in the process. Thousands of young Filipinos, some of them were my good friends, my childhood friends, dared to stand up against martial law. Ilan po dito sa ating Kapulungan ay dumaaan din sa napakakitid na paraan upang mabuhay at tayo pong lahat ay nakatawid sa gipit na pamumuhay ng mga panahong iyon.

Iyong mga repormang inumpisahan, iyong disiplinang ipinataw sa atin ay maganda sa simula

subalit sa pagdaan po ng maraming taon—sapagkat hindi po buwan, hindi po taon, kung hindi 14 na taon ang dumaaan bago po tayo nagkamit ng ating kalayaan muli—all the reforms that we experienced were all lost in the end. Balik po tayo sa dati at bagkus, tayo ay pinaghirap pa, sapagkat iyong kalagayan ng Pilipino bago nagkaroon ng Batas Militar ay maunlad. Ang ating salapi ay nagkakahalaga lang ng dalawa sa bawat dolyar. Mataas na po iyong P3.95 to one dollar. Pagkatapos ng Batas Militar, nanatili pong two to one, subalit halos dalawang bayong na piso ang aming dala upang makapagpapalit tayo ng isang dolyar.

So, nakita po natin ang ating demokrasya na ipinaglaban po ng ating mga bayani: Gat Andres Bonifacio, Dr. Jose Rizal, Antonio Luna, Gregorio Del Pilar, at mga kabataang hindi tumigil hanggang hindi natin nakamit ang ating karapatan, dahil ang mga ito po ay pinawalan ng bisa sa Batas Militar, sapagkat ang kamay na bakal ang pinanaig at hindi po iyong karapatan ng mamamayan.

Today as we look back, we must always remember the lessons of Martial Law, the lessons of one-man rule, and the lessons of emergency rule. Dito po sa atin sa lungsod Quezon, mayroon po ditong institusyong kung tawagin ay Dambana ng Kagitingan, na tuwing dadaan po tayo roon, nakikita natin, in big bold letters: “NEVER AGAIN, NEVER FORGET.” Maganda po iyong mga katagang iyon—Never again, never forget—sapagkat hindi na po dapat maulit na tayo ay pamunuan ng isang tao lang. Sa ating paniniwala, ang bisa ng pagiging Pilipino ay biyaya ng Panginoon. Ang pinakamagaling na nilalang sa balat ng lupa ay Pilipino, ang pinakamagandang babae sa balat ng lupa ay Pilipina. Tumingin po kayo sa inyong paligid, pagkagaganda ninyo at hindi lang iyon, matalino, masipag, at mayroon tayong kakayahan na mamuno hindi lamang sa Asya kung hindi sa buong mundo.

Iyong panaginip ni Andres Bonifacio na ang Pilipino ay tanghaling modelo ng mundo ay nagaganap na sana. Sa Asya, number one ang Pilipino. Maski na sa larangan ng paligsahan ng kalakasan, number one ang Pilipino. Noong tayo po ay tinuruan ng pagsunod na lamang at hindi iyong paggamit ng ating kagalingan, naging kulelat na po ang Pilipino. Ngayon, ni hindi tayo mag-qualify sa paligsahan ng kalakasan. Nanalo ang isa nating atleta, kahanga-hanga, sapagkat siya ay naging silver medalist. Samantalang noong araw, tinitingala ang Pilipino. Tayo po ay hindi pangalawa kung hindi champion sa marami pong paligsahan—number one in Asia and contending in the whole world, even that has been lost.

So, it only shows, when you remove the essence of a democracy, which is this checks and balances, we lose our opportunity for greatness. Iyon po ang nais nating dapat matutunan sa yugto at kabanata ng ating

kasaysayan. Sapagkat sa ngayon, ang mga kabataan ay hindi na napansin ang araw na ito. Para sa amin at sana ay para sa ating lahat, sapagkat tayo ay inihalal ng ating mga mamamayan, na mayroon po silang inaasahan—ang pagbabago. Sana ay makawala na tayo sa tanikala ng pag-iisip na isang tao lamang ang kailangan; babaguhin na niya ang landas ng buhay ng Pilipino. Hindi po ganoon ang dapat mangyari. Noong tayong lahat ay nagsasama-sama tungo sa isang direksyon ng ating bansa, maunlad ang Pilipino. Noong tayo ay nilagyan ng tanikala, tayo ay binigyan na lamang ng diktadurya, doon nawala ang kagalingan ng Pilipino.

So, what am I trying to point out, Mme. Speaker? I am trying to remind everybody, as we remind the young of today, that we as Filipinos, we as a nation, have been blessed with so much by the Almighty. Mayaman ang ating lupa. Mayaman ang ating tubig. Mayaman ang lahat ng ating kapaligiran. Ang kailangan lang ay maayos na pamamahala at inspiradong liderato na magbibigay ng karapatang-pantao.

Nakita po natin sa ating kasaysayan, emergency powers have always been a failure in our government, in our nation. Ang akin pong tinuran, Batas Militar noong September 21, 1972. Dumating po ang EDSA Revolution, ang pumalit na pangulo, tinanghal na bayani ng ating kalayaan, ay nagdeklara din ng kanyang bersyon sa pamamagitan ng revolutionary government, emergency powers to be used by the President. Ano po ang naging bunga noong emergency powers na iyon sa pamamagitan ng revolutionary government? Napalitan ng sistemang parlamentarya na noon ay umiiral na, noon ay tumatag na, pinalitan nitong ating sistema ngayon.

Ang masakit na katotohanan, pagkatapos nating pinalitan ang ating sistema, ngayon naman ang pinag-uusapan, bumalik tayo sa parliamentary system. How and why did it happen that we changed our system? Because we had an emergency power given to the President. Nagkaroon po ng suspension of all our rights. Nobody could go against, nobody could speak against, and the system was changed with one signature of a pen.

Masasabi ko po, sapagkat ako po ay kabilang sa administrasyong iyon, mali ang naging desisyon. Bakit? Sapagkat wala pong tinig ang oposisyon at hindi binigyan ng checks and balances ang ating gobyerno for one whole year. Marami pa pong abuso ang nangyari noon na balang araw ay lalabas din sa ating kasaysayan. Ano po ang dahilan? One-man rule, emergency powers.

Dumating po ang Pangulong Ramos, nagkaroon tayo ng problema sa elektrisidad. Ang hiningi niya, emergency powers. Siya lang ang didiskarte. Ngayon, ang ating minana, pinakamataas na presyo ng elektrisidad sa Asya. Mas mataas pa tayo sa Japan na maunlad na maunlad ang ekonomiya. Sapagkat isang

tao lang ang nagplano ng elektrisidad sa ating bansa, so we inherited the problem rather than liberating the Filipinos from the bondage of our electricity costs.

Ang masasabi ko lang po, never will it work that an emergency power given to one man will work for the improvement of life of our nation. Lalo lamang tayong mahihirapan kapag ito ang inilagay natin sa ating isipan—alisin natin ang mga institusyon na nagbibigay ng check and balance in our democratic system. Ang isang demokrasya, para po ito ay yumabong, umunlad, magamit sa kagalingan ng lahat, kailangan po ay mayroong checks and balances. Kailangan po, mayroong pupuna. Kailangan po, mayroong kontra-opinyon. Kailangan po, mayroong kabilang panig sapagkat kapag isa lang panig ang ating pakikinggan ay wala po tayong pupuntahan. Sayang ang ibinigay sa atin ng Dakilang Lumikha.

Today, as we face the problems of the nation, especially on the problem of the traffic condition, we hear again the clamor of the administration for an emergency power to be given to the President. Alam ninyo, Mme. Speaker, as we look back, President Marcos was a very brilliant leader. He was an inspiring politician, the best during his time, but he failed in his promise to give us a better life. Why? Because of the emergency power that he grabbed from the center. Buti na lang ngayon, hindi na po mangyayari iyan sapagkat ang ating Saligang Batas ay hindi na po nagbibigay ng permiso sa sinumang Pangulo na magsasabing kailangan niyang magdeklara ng Martial Law sa buong kapuluan.

Martial Law now has a very limited way of being implemented. Congress, even, has to concur with the declaration and only for a limited time, not what we went through, 44 long years of our young lives were deprived of us. The ingenuity, and the industry of the Filipinos were removed from our citizens. Tayo po ay naging dictated citizens. Naghihintay na lang tayo kung ano ang desisyon ng isang tao. Hindi po nagtagumpay iyan kay Pangulong Cory. Hindi nagtagumpay iyan kay Pangulong Ramos. Hindi rin magtatagumpay iyan kay Pangulong Duterte kung ang ating ibinigay ay one-man rule dito sa ating bansa.

The traffic condition can be solved by a united effort if the institutions can work together, the local government units in particular, the people in general, and those who are mandated to perform their task. Iyon pong mga may trabaho ngayon sa Department of Transportation, lalong-lalo na kung magta-trabaho lamang at hindi tayo mag-uusap ng emergency powers. Nakikita natin ang naghambalang mga illegally-parked buses occupying EDSA, occupying Buendia, occupying the main avenues of Metro Manila. Ito ang isa mga malaking sanhi ng problema natin sa traffic.

Ano ang kailangan diyan, emergency powers? Hindi po—pagpapatupad ng batas ng mga may hawak

ng kapangyarihan ngayon. Nakikita po natin ang mga problema sa lansangan kung saan wala pong sumusunod sa ating mga regulasyon. Kailangan po ba ng emergency powers niyan? Hindi po. Ang kailangan diyan ay dedicated day-to-day enforcement of our laws involving everybody—mayors, vice mayors, councilors, barangay chairmen, kagawads, tanods of our nation can all help.

If we give everything to one man, all the best intentions of President Duterte will not be accomplished. Sayang itong kanyang magandang panimula sapagkat tama ang kanyang pananaw, subalit kung babaguhin natin ang sistema at iaasa na naman natin sa kanya ang solusyon para sa problema ng traffic lamang ay naniniwala po ako that we are doomed from the very beginning.

Ang traffic conditions po ay hindi sapat para gamitin para alisin ang sistema ng demokrasya sa ating bansa. Wala pong ipapalit diyan sa pagbibigay puna at paglalagay ng bisa ng batas sa lahat ng desisyon ng mga namumuno. If we suspend the Procurement Act, if we suspend the bidding processes, if we just allow those who are heading the Department of Transportation today to exercise absolute power over the decisions of solving the traffic situation, we are doomed to fail and sayang naman po ang pagkakataong ito.

Kaya ako ay nanawagan sa lahat ng ating mga kasama dito sa Kongreso: maging mulat tayo sa ating nakita noong Setyembre 21, kung kailan tayong lahat ay nagpailalim sa isang tao. Lingunin natin kung ano ang naibigay ng revolutionary government ni Cory Aquino. Tanggapin natin ang katotohanang hanggang ngayon ay binubuno natin ang presyo ng kuryente sapagkat lahat iyan ay nangyari under an emergency power.

Kung hindi po natin bibigyan ng paraan na ang paggamit ng solusyon ngayon ng Department of Transportation sa kanilang pagbuo ng mga imprastruktura, pagbili ng mga equipment—malamang, kung hindi man si Presidente Duterte, kung hindi man si Sekretaryo Tugade, ang mga tauhan nila ang mag-aabuso rin at gagamitin lang ang mga kapangyarihang iyan upang sila ang makinabang at hindi ang bayan.

We have to stay awake to guard the freedoms, the system, the democratic rights that we have already inherited through our efforts. Marami pong nagbuwis ng buhay, marami pong mga Pilipino ang nagsakripisyo. Katulad po ng aking kaibigang si Raul Daza, malaki ang kontribusyon niya sa ating kalayaan ngayon. Edcel Lagman, nandito pa po at kasama natin, malaki po ang kontribusyon niya sa ating tinatamasang kalayaan. Subalit kung tayo na mismo ang magbibigay nitong kapangyarihan pantao, itong kapangyarihan ng mamamayan, itong sistemang demokratiko na ating

itinatag para sa atin at para sa ating henerasyon na darating—kasalanan po natin iyan. Kaya huwag nating kalimutan, September 21, one-man rule, emergency powers—iyan ay atin pong dapat itala sa ating puso at damdamin. Never again, never forget—iyan po ang leksyon nitong araw na ito na hindi pwedeng palagpasin, na hindi natin pina-aalala sa lahat ng Pilipino. Sana ang aking tinig na ito, itong aking munting dalangin na ito ay tumimo sa puso ng bawat nakakarinig, na huwag nating ibigay ang ating kapangyarihan sapagkat ito ay sagrado, ito ay binigay ng Panginoong Diyos at dapat lang ipagtanggol natin tuwing ito ay hinahamon ng sinuman.

Maraming, maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker, and we thank our Members for having listened to our message. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Representative Atienza.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. BELARO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from the Second District of Parañaque, the Hon. Gus S. Tambunting, for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Rep. Gus Tambunting of Parañaque is now recognized.

REP. TAMBUNTING. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. May I ask the distinguished Gentleman, ang ini-idolo po natin na kumakatawan sa BUHAY Party-List, kung tatanggap po siya ng kaunting klaripikasyon from this humble Representation.

REP. ATIENZA. Nanggagaling po sa isang maginoo, masipag at inaasahang leader ng Parañaque, maski na anong oras, kakausapin ko po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please proceed.

REP. TAMBUNTING. Mme. Speaker, alam po ninyo, noong nag-declare ng Martial Law ay walong taong gulang pa lang ako. Hindi ko po alam kung ilang taon na po kayo noong panahong na iyan.

REP. ATIENZA. Siyam na taon na po.

REP. TAMBUNTING. Hindi ko po alam kung ano ang ekspektasyon ng mga tao noong panahon na iyan, kung ano ang inaasahan nila. Kayo ba ho, personally, pabor ba kayo sa imposition ng Martial Law noong panahon na iyan? At kung kayo ay pabor, ano po ang inaasahan ninyo noong panahon na iyan na mangyayaring pagbabago sa ating bayan?

REP. ATIENZA. Bilang maituturing na isang kabataan, at tama po naman ang aking pinag-aralan noong panahon na iyon, hindi ko po matanggap na tayong mga Pilipino ay kinakailangang bigyan ng diktadurya. Subalit karamihan ng mga Pilipino noon talagang tinanggap ang mga kadahilanan kaya pumayag sila. Ang mga lider politiko natin noon, marami sa kanila ay sumakabilang buhay na, ay aking talagang kinausap, tinawagan sa telepono at tinanong, “Ano ang gagawin natin?” Lahat po sila ay pumayag e, wala akong narinig na hindi sumang-ayon. Ano ang gagawin? Ang sabi, “Tumahimik tayo.”

Isa lang po ang talagang hindi pumayag noon, kaso po, ikinulong agad noong gabi ng deklarasyon ng Martial Law. Ikinulong si Ninoy Aquino sapagkat alam ng ating Pangulong Marcos na hindi papayag si Sen. Benigno Aquino doon sa Martial Law declaration. Sa pangkalahatan, tahimik ang bayan kaya bubulong-bulong na lang po ang nangyari at sumbungan sa kanyang kanyang kaibigan pero wala pong gumalaw kung hindi iyong mga kabataan na talagang hindi makapag-pigil sa kanilang sarili. Ang nakakasakit pong katotohanan, marami sa kanila ay napatay. Kaya lalo pong tumibay ang paniniwalang tanggapin na lang muna natin ito, maganda naman ang intensiyon.

REP. TAMBUNTING. So, binanggit ho ninyo kanina sa inyong talumpati na ang Martial Law ay maganda noong the first few years. Tama po ba ang intindi ko? At bakit siya naging maganda?

REP. ATIENZA. I would say in the first few months sapagkat ...

REP. TAMBUNTING. Months?

REP. ATIENZA. ... talagang binigyang diin ni Mr. Marcos na disiplina ang kailangan, na kailangang sumunod tayo sa ordinansa, sumunod tayo sa batas, sumunod tayo sa tamang aral ng ating paaralaan. In other words, Mr. Marcos attempted to really reshape society at iyong kanyang pangakong “New Society” ay sinimulan niya. Ang mga naghaharing uri noon, the oligarchy at that time, lahat sila hinuli. Kinulong din sila sapagkat gustong ipadama ni Mr. Marcos iyong sinseridad niya, na kailangang pantay-pantay tayo, walang maraming super-millionaire, wala rin namang mahirap na mahirap na Pilipino. Kaya marami po talagang na-kumbinse ang Martial Law noong simula.

REP. TAMBUNTING. So, sa panahon po ngayon, sa tingin po ninyo, hindi po disiplinado ang ating mga kababayan kaya ganito ang sitwasyon, at sa trapiko ay humihingi po tayo ng emergency powers?

REP. ATIENZA. Marami po talagang problema

tayo sapagkat unang-una, dumaan nga tayo sa pagiging command society na kinakailangang utusan tayo bago tayo gumalaw. Iyan po ay para bagang tumibay sa ating ugali na kanya-kanya tayo at una-unahan tayo pero sa ngayon, nakikita ko po na natututo na tayo. Iyon lamang pila sa tren kung kayo ay madadaan sa mga istasyon ng MRT, LRT, makikita ninyo mga kababayan natin, nakapila, kung minsan isang kilometro ang haba, umaambon, nakayuko, malungkot sapagkat pauwi na sila ng kanilang tahanan pero hindi pa sila makasakay ng tren pauwi. Iyan ay disiplina na hindi po nangyayari noong araw, Mme. Speaker. Noong araw, basta mayroong pila ay una-unahan, nag-aaway pa sa pila. Pila lamang sa sine e nag-una-unahan; iyong pang pila sa sasakyan, nako, wala po, hindi po ito kilala ng mga Pilipino noong araw pero ngayon ay natututo na tayo. Magandang senyales po iyan. Ibig sabihin niyan ay mayroon na rin po tayong disiplinang natututunan ngayon.

REP. TAMBUNTING. The Gentleman made the reference po doon sa emergency powers na ginamit po sa kuryente noong panahon po ng dating Pangulong Ramos. He also stated na because of it, tumaas po at naging napakamahal ng kuryente sa ating bansa—isa sa pinakamahal sa Asian region. Ang tanong ko, hindi ho ba naniniwala ang Kinatawan sa kasabihan that “No power is the most expensive power”? Mas mabuting ganito na tumaas dahil at least, may kuryente kaysa sa wala tayong kuryente at laging nagkakaroon ng shortage, lagi ho tayong may mga brownouts, scheduled brownouts, because of the mismanagement of the administration before his time?

REP. ATIENZA. Opo, naniniwala po ako na ang problema ay dulot ng kapabayaang mga namamahala at mga namahala pero ang solusyon, nakita natin, hindi emergency powers sapagkat nagkaroon ng mga kontratang questionable, to say the least, at iyong presyo ng kuryente ay nawala sa kontrol ng mamamayan, nawala sa kontrol ng Kongreso. Ngayon, mayroon tayong Kongresong masipag, mayroon tayong Kongresong matatag. Kung ano ang kailangan e di ibibigay natin, tutulongan natin magkaroon ng solusyon.

Ang problema po natin sa trapik, primarily, iyong mga tren natin, hindi maayos ang pagtakbo. To cite one example, iyong MRT 3, kung patatakbuhan lang po ng tama iyan, kalahating milyong commuters araw-araw ang maihatid nito sa trabaho at maiuuwi sa kanilang mga tahanan. Subalit, ano ang nangyayari ngayon? Breakdown sa kaliwa, breakdown sa kanan. Ano po ang solusyon? Aba, e di iyong mga nagpapatakbo roon, inutusan ng ating Pangulo: “Kapag kayo ay pumalpak, magpalit na kayo ng trabaho. Gagawin ko kayong mga adorno sa inyong kagawaran.”

Katulad na lang po nang ginawa niya sa tanim-bala.

Hindi mapigil-pigil noong nakaraang administrasyon ang tanim-bala, para bagang wala ng solusyon. Alam na natin ang nangyayari; alam na natin kung sino ang may kagagawan niyan. Walang nagawa iyong gobyernong nakaraan. Ano ang sabi ni Pangulong Duterte? “Kapagka mayroon pang tanim-bala na mangyari diyan, mananagot kayo sa akin, personal.” Mayroon pa po bang naganap? Wala na ni isang insidente. Wala, not even one incident of tanim-bala. Nawala po ba iyong nagtatanim ng bala? Hindi po, nandoon pa rin, pero sumunod sa utos ng ating Pangulo.

Ang hinihintay ko pong marinig mula kay Pangulong Duterte, warningan niya lahat ng nagpapatakbo ng PNR, ng nagpapatakbo ng LRT 2, LRT 3, LRT 1, iyong bumubuo ng LRT 7, iyong bumubuo ng LRT papuntang Dasmariñas, Cavite: “Magluko-loko kayo, abusuhin ninyo iyong inyong trabaho diyan, lahat kayo ikukulong ko.” Tingnan nating kapag hindi nag-ingat po lahat iyan.

Therefore, what I am trying to stress is those traffic problems will always exist but the effectivity of management, of those entrusted, they must perform their tasks. Kailangan po ayusin nila ang dapat. Iyon lamang mga vehicular traffic, puna ako nang puna at ngayon sinasamantala ko na naman, pinupuna ko iyong 12 traffic or vehicular tunnels sa Metro Manila. Marami diyan ay madilim. Iyong pagkahaba-habang tunnel sa Makati, madilim po iyon. Tuwing darating tayo at dadaan tayo roon, magmemenor kayo. Ano iyon? Iyon ang isa sa mga sanhi ng traffic condition. Kaya ang kailangan lang po talaga ay masinsin na pagmamalasakit ng mga namumuno.

The Department of Transportation should work with all institutions. Hindi po makakayanan ni Secretary Tugade ang trabaho. Kapag siya ay binigyan ng emergency powers, ang mangyayari po diyan ay emergency corruption sapagkat hindi po traffic ang pag-uusapan diyan kung hindi papaano si Eddie—sinong Eddie e di ako—iyon ang magiging kalakaran.

The checks and balances in our system, if we are to continue as a democracy, must always be protected. We cannot give up our duties, our powers to correct whatever and whenever the government is wrong. The government cannot always be right. There are many instances where they have to be corrected, and President Duterte will be helped greatly if he has the whole Congress and if he has the whole citizenry, helping him correct possible abuses.

So, hindi ko po nakikita na iyong emergency powers sa kamay po ng Pangulo, na ibibigay naman niya sa mga tauhan niya, ang magiging solusyon sa ating problema. It will only aggravate the problems and after a certain time, we will still be discussing the traffic problem of Metro Manila.

REP. TAMBUNTING. Hindi po ba dapat na

ngayon ito ay—I agree with the Gentleman na ang isang ahensya ay, and I will agree with the Gentleman, as good as the people who are managing it. Ang isang batas ay maganda kung maayos iyong mag-iimplementa at maayos iyong pamamaraan ng pag-iimplementa.

Hindi ba ho dapat na pagbigyan natin at tingnan natin ang hinihiling ng ating Pangulo dahil siya mismo, nakikita niya iyong balakid na hinaharap niya kung talagang aayusin niya iyong trapiko in the next six years. Ang hinihingi niya, ang pagkakaintindi ko, ito ay maikling panahon lang, very temporary—dalawang taon at pagkatapos ng dalawang taon, finished or not finished, pass your papers ang kanyang hinihingi. Hindi ba ho dapat na ito ay pagbigyan natin para sila ay makapagsimula at hindi po nila tayo sisihihin later on at sasabihin nila na kaya hindi nila nagawa ito dahil nga doon sa hindi pagbigay sa kanya ng emergency powers?

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, the observation of the Gentleman from Parañaque is well-meaning, but I would say, iyan din po ang sinabi ni Mr. Marcos, “Pagbigyan lang ninyo ako mamuno ng mag-isa.” Iyan din po ang sinabi ng Pangulong Cory, “Trust me as I have nothing in mind but the good of the Filipino people.” Iyan din po naman ang sinabi ng Pangulong Ramos, “Pagkatiwalaan ninyo ako sapagkat wala po akong gagawin na kontra sa interes ng mamamayan.”

Ang sinasabi ko po, lahat po ng nangakong iyan, hindi po nila nagawa iyong kanilang kagustuhan, marahil, dahil nga sa mali ang sistema ng one-man rule or emergency power. Kailangan matatag ang mga institusyon. Mayroong checks and balances everywhere, from the national to the local levels, down to the barangay, so that each democratic cell of our government structure and the bureaucracy will be functioning in a democratic way.

Liliwanagin ko: ayaw ko pong pumalpak si Pangulong Duterte. I want him to succeed, especially in this fight against drugs. We are willing to do anything to help him except declaring, again, an emergency rule because emergency powers, the emergency rule will only breed more dictators in our society. I am very happy sapagkat sa kanyang pagbisita sa mga kampo militar, ngayon sinasabi niya, “I will never declare Martial Law because I do not want you, the military men, to commit abuses as we have seen in the past.”

REP. TAMBUNTING. Thank you very much for answering the questions that I have. Maraming salamat po, Congressman Atienza. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Magandang hapon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

REP. ATIENZA. I would like to thank the Gentleman for taking interest.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. BELARO. Mme. Speaker, our next colleague who registered his intention to avail of the Privilege Hour is the Gentleman from the Third District of Camarines Sur—I am sorry, he registered for his interpellation, the Gentleman from the Third District of Camarines Sur, the Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.

Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Gabriel Bordado for his interpellation.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Representative from Camarines Sur is now recognized.

REP. BORDADO. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker. I am sure that the honorable Gentleman from Manila, the former mayor of Manila, will be more than willing to field some questions from this Representation.

REP. ATIENZA. Very gladly, Mme. Speaker, but I am not representing the city of Manila, Mme. Speaker. I stand here now as a Representative of ...

REP. BORDADO. The BUHAY Party-List ...

REP. ATIENZA. ... the BUHAY Party-List.

REP. BORDADO. I am sorry for that.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you. Please proceed.

REP. BORDADO. Thank you very much, Honorable Atienza, for reminding all of us here regarding the declaration of Martial Law 44 years ago, on September 21, 1972, although this was officially announced in the media by Kit Tatad on September 23, 1972.

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po.

REP. BORDADO. Okay. So, Mme. Speaker, a great British philosopher and writer pointed out that those who do not study history, those who do not look back, those who do not consider the past, are doomed to repeat its devastating blunders. So, thank you very much, Congressman, for reminding us.

So, thank you very much, Congressman, for reminding us. Now, Mme. Speaker, how do we address

this so-called collective amnesia of the nation? We, Filipinos, tend to have very short memories. In your opinion, Congressman Atienza, how do we address this malady?

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyon. May problema tayo talaga. We have a collective, even probably a semi-nationwide case of amnesia. Nakalimutan na natin ang ating nakaraan. Iyan po ay pagkukulang din ng mga namuno sapagkat hindi naman nila itinala sa ating mga paaralan na hindi dapat kalimutan ang aral ng Batas Militar. Wala pong Pangulo na nagsikap upang ang bawat lumalaking Pilipino ay natututo nang tama. Marami pong pagkukulang. Hanggang ngayon, mayroon din pong pagkukulang. Iyon lamang ating kultura bilang Pilipino na mapagmahal sa ating sariling bayan, sa ating sariling wika, sa ating pagiging Pilipino, ay hindi rin po naituturo na. Sa totoo lamang, maraming Pangulo po ang nagdaan, hindi po nila pinansin ang kulturang Pilipino. Para tayong pinabayaan na lang na mga bata sa Internet. Makipag-usap kayo sa buong mundo pero hindi ninyo makikilala ang sarili ninyo.

Kaya iyong ating mapait na kapalaran, karanasan sa Batas Militar, ay hindi po talaga naaalala ng marami. Ako ay talagang nalulungkot kapagka iyong mga bata ngayon ay tinutuligsa pa iyong pagpapaalala natin. Hindi po tayo nami-mersonal. Ako po, pinatawad ko na po si Mr. Marcos ng matagal na panahon. Tumayo rin po ako rito para sabihing ilibing na natin si Mr. Marcos sa kung saan siya gustong ilibing ng kanyang pamilya sapagkat dapat magpatawad tayo, pero hindi tayo dapat makalimot sa lahat ng nakaraan sa ating kasaysayan.

REP. BORDADO. So, Mme. Speaker, can we, therefore, pursue the proposal to come up with a definitive history of Martial Law detailing the atrocities and the abuses, and the use of a textbook or a reference material for our senior high school students, for instance?

REP. ATIENZA. Maganda po iyan. Mme. Speaker. Kung mayroon po kayong ganyang kalseng panukala, I would be very happy to join you in the advocacy. Kailangan po talagang maibigay sa ating mga paaralan ang mga alaala, ang mga aral, at ang ating mga dapat na gamitin na natutunan natin sa Batas Militar. Kumbaga sa pag-aaral, iyan ay graduate na tayo. Nakakuha tayo ng doctorate sapagkat 14 taon po tayong ipinailalim sa Batas Militar, 14 years. More than a doctorate, more than a triple doctorate, ay mayroon po tayong dapat na talagang maituturo sa mga bata na pakikinabangan ng ating bansa.

REP. BORDADO. Actually, Mme. Speaker, I had

the opportunity to discuss this matter with the Secretary of Education, Mme. Leonor Briones, this morning, and she is more than willing to come up with this definitive history which should be used as reference material for our grade school pupils or students.

So, thank you very much, Congressman Atienza. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Maraming salamat po kay Congressman Bordado sa kanyang pagtanggap ng hamon sa ating panahon. We must do something about the lessons of Martial Law, and that is the real purpose of this privilege speech which I consider not only personal but a collective one concerning all of us, Members of Congress.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. BELARO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from the Lone District of Southern Leyte, the Hon. Roger G. Mercado, for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Representative Mercado is now recognized.

REP. MERCADO. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker. May the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List, my respected and whom I consider as mentor, accept some interpellations?

REP. ATIENZA. Gladly, Mme. Speaker, coming from a Gentleman like Congressman Mercado at sisikapin ko pong sagutin lahat ng mga katanungan niya.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you. Please proceed.

REP. MERCADO. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, in the entire experience of this humble Representation, I think this is only my second time, of my seven terms as a Member of Congress, to make an interpellation. The first was during the budget deliberation where the region which I represent, Region VIII, was only allotted around eight percent of the entire national budget, and we strongly brought to the attention of the Appropriations Committee to find ways and means to, at least, increase the budget for our region. Now, this is my second time, Mme. Speaker. I feel that it is my duty and responsibility as a member of the super majority to, at least, bring forth to this august Body my feeling about the present administration and

most especially our beloved President who, by the way, Mme. Speaker, was born and baptized in my beloved native land of Maasin, Southern Leyte.

My interpellation will focus on some clarification. Mme. Speaker, my colleague, you are with me when we say that our President was adamant and did not even want to become the President of this country. Am I correct?

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyon, narinig ko po iyon na sinabi niya.

REP. MERCADO. Also, Mme. Speaker, I do not know what happened but he went to our province and made a courtesy call to this Representation during that time when I was the Governor of Southern Leyte, and I told him, "Southern Leyte is very proud of you, Mayor." He was a mayor then, and he went on to become the President of this Republic. Just imagine, Mme. Speaker, my colleague, Southern Leyte, a small province, will have the chance to have a President, because there were only four of them who were then running for the presidency, the highest position of the land. I told him, "Sir, thank you for coming. We are really honored by your visit and we are proud that you will be running for President. We wish you the best and we even hope that, who knows, you will become the President of this country but, Sir, please understand our situation."

We were members of the Liberal Party then, and we have discipline in our party and in a candidate. We had to support the candidate of the Liberal Party during the last election although now, I am already a member of the Majority party, the PDP-Laban. He was very happy, and I think with a little sense of humor, Mme. Speaker, when he said and answered me, "Wala na, Bay, no problem. Kung may sobra-sobra lang, andito na nako." What he meant was, "There is no problem, please support your candidate, but if there are crumbs and extra votes, just give it to me." He is really such a sportsman and a gentleman. So, history unravels and now, he has been elected as President, and you are with me, Mme. Speaker, that he garnered 16 million votes, and a majority of six million votes over the next candidate. Is that correct, Mme. Speaker?

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyon, Mme. Speaker.

REP. MERCADO. That is why, Mme. Speaker, the good Gentleman, our respected Gentleman, I have to stand here because I feel, I hope—correct me if I am wrong—that our President has no other dream and purpose for his presidency except to solve this menace of our society, the drug problem, shabu, on which we believe he is an expert because he was able to at least eliminate or minimize, if not eliminate, the drug problem in his city of Davao. That is why I feel,

Mme. Speaker, that his sincerity goes and with his knowledge of the law as a lawyer and a prosecutor, I believe, Mme. Speaker, that it is in his mind, the principle of our democratic system where the authority of the government emanates from the people and that it is for the people, by the people, and of the people; and it is farthest from his mind that he will declare things like what we should declare during times of emergency, and more so, the declaration of Martial Law. Are you amenable to that, Mme. Speaker?

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, I have not accused the President of wanting to declare Martial Law. Wala po iyon sa paksa ng aking paalala. Ako ay naniniwala sa integridad ng ating Pangulo. Nakita ko po nang magtrabaho iyan as Mayor of Davao, while I was Mayor of Manila. Kahanga-hanga po ang kanyang performance as a Mayor of Davao, kaya ako po ay lubos na naniniwala sa kanyang sinseridad. Ang akin nga pong inaalala ay iyong maganda niyang hangarin sa kanyang sinseridad ay madungisan lamang ng abuso kapagka ibinigay natin sa kanya ang lahat ng kapangyarihan na dapat ay binabantayan ng bawat mamamayan. We have to support the President in the right way, and that is to support him in all his positive endeavors, and to call his attention when there is a need for it. To me emergency powers for the Department of Transportation is not the solution to the problem of traffic. It will only affect his credibility as one who believes in the democratic way of life. Iyong kanyang maganda at malinis na hangarin ay mamantsahan ng abuso ng magpapatupad noong emergency powers na iyon sapagkat hindi po naman ang Pangulo ang gagamit noon e. I-de-delegate po niya iyan sa Department of Transportation. He can delegate that power to the Department of Public Works; he can delegate that to the other bureaus of the government; e hindi po natin matitiyak iyon kung iyon ay gagamitin nga nang tama ng mga pagkakatiwalaan niya.

We want him to succeed, saying this sincerely from my own personal being, my soul and my heart. I want President Duterte to succeed in his dedicated effort to give the Filipinos genuine change—pagbabago—pero kailangan po, huwag natin pabayaang siyang maligaw ng landas na siyang pagsisisihan natin later on. Kasama po tayo sa sisihan kapag hindi nagtagumpay ang Pangulong Duterte. We are the present Congress and we are expected by the people to be on the right track in his leadership.

REP. MERCADO. Mme. Speaker, the good Gentleman, is it right to say that our President is different from the President who declared Martial Law?

REP. ATIENZA. Ngayon po ay hindi natin masasabi iyan sapagkat wala pang tatlong buwang pangulo ang ating Pangulong Duterte. Si Pangulong Marcos ay

nagpakita ng kanyang kagalingan bilang isang lider noong panahon niya. He was a tested political leader and a leader of his province, a leader of our nation in our democratic system.

Ang sinasabi ko nga po, nasira iyong kanyang magandang landasin noong siya ay nagdeklara ng Martial Law dahil nawala po sa kanyang kamay ang kapangyarihan na naririnig kong sinasabi po ngayon ng Pangulong Duterte, “I will not declare Martial Law because the military will abuse.” Ang ganda pong pakinggan niyan dahil iyon ang ating nakita doon sa labing-apat na taon na tayo ay napailalim sa Batas Militar.

REP. MERCADO. Mme. Speaker, correct me if I am wrong that our president today, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, wants to improve the system of our government and in fact, he has instructed his Cabinet Members to do what is best to serve our country. Is that correct, Mme. Speaker?

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyon. Nagugustuhan ko po iyong kanyang pagtugis kay Secretary De Lima dahil hindi siya nagdalawang-isip na sabihin na isa sa mga dahilan ng paglala ng problema ng droga ay itong ating dating Secretary ng DOJ. Iyon po ay political will on his part and I admire him for that.

REP. MERCADO. Therefore, Mme. Speaker, considering the discussion, am I correct to say that our President does not believe in declaring emergency, getting emergency powers, or declaring Martial Law?

REP. ATIENZA. I agree with you, Mme. Speaker. Ang pinag-uusapan po natin dito ay emergency power to address the problem of traffic, the traffic situation all over the country; in other words, emergency power given to the Department of Transportation which may not be acceptable to many of us because of the lessons precisely of an emergency rule. Mawawalan po ng checks and balances, e hindi po demokrasya iyan. “Demo-crazy” po iyan.

REP. MERCADO. So, Mme. Speaker, we are one in saying that in solving all these problems and in order for our President to be happy, the citizens should also help by being disciplined and by exercising also our duty to help improve our traffic, improve the livelihood of our people, try to solve poverty.

It is not only for the government to do it, it is also our social obligation as citizens. To paraphrase what President Kennedy has said,: “Ask not what your government can do for you but ask what you, we the people, can do also to help our President.”

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyon. Iyon pong tinuran na iyon ng Pangulong John F. Kennedy, ngayon

ay nakatala na po sa ating mga aklat ng pag-aaral sa tamang pagharap sa mga problema sa loob ng isang demokrasya. A democracy can only flourish if the people cherish their rights as a democratic nation.

REP. MERCADO. Yes, Mme. Speaker. I admire the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List, a respected, experienced administrator and former city mayor of the city of Manila that he stood this afternoon to give just a little bit of light for all of us, Members of Congress, to think that this is an opportunity, this is the time that we have to be united, this is the time that we have to think of sacrificing in order to help our countrymen by letting our President, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte implement what he believes is good, what he has experienced in Davao City, Mme. Speaker. Let us support him and give him a chance to implement it in our entire country, not only in Mindanao, not only in the Visayas but also in Luzon and the entire Philippines, Mme. Speaker.

That is why I am very happy to hear from our colleague, Mme. Speaker, that our President is sincere, that our President has no plans of using his emergency power even if it is provided for in the Constitution. All he is asking for is the citizens' support—that we have to be disciplined. We have to think now because if we pass this time, there might be no more other time and no more other leader who wants to be with us, who wants to lead us in providing a better government that will help the poor and will serve our countrymen.

That is why, Mme. Speaker, may I respectfully urge our people and the Representatives of our people, the Members of Congress, because we are a republican country. We are governed by the people and this government is governed through its Representatives. I would like today to request, to appeal to the Members of this House and even to the Members of the Senate, that we should be one—that we should help our President, that we should try to tell our people to respect the law because we believe that our President, if he can see that our people has changed as what the good Gentleman, Mme. Speaker, has said this afternoon, that people are starting to obey the laws by lining up to ride the LRT, by doing something, and we can already feel, even in my province, Mme. Speaker, we can feel that the administration of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has improved the criminality situation as there is now an air of peace and order in the land. So, let us continue this, Mme. Speaker. Let us continue this by doing things. Let us help each other--the community, the church, the academe, and the people who are implementing the laws--the enforcers, the people, the judges, the prosecutors. Let us help each other so that, hopefully, we will not miss this chance and opportunity.

With that, Mme. Speaker, I rest. I would like to thank our colleague for rising up, and stimulating our minds and clarifying things for the good of our country. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, let me put it on record that our intention was merely to remind everyone of the relevance of September 21 in our quest for a genuine democracy to rule the land and the economic successes that we all dream of. I agree with the Gentleman from Leyte, that President Duterte has all the chances now to be the leader we are looking for. Therefore, we must all support him but not in a manner that we will repeat the lessons of September 21, 1972. I believe that 99 percent of Members of Congress today agree with that notion, but I think we will all be also anxious to defend the democratic system that we already are enjoying now by not giving the President a weapon that could destroy himself and his administration. One-man rule is no longer the rule of the day in the world. Hindi na po uso ngayon si Superman. Si Superman po, kaaway na po si Batman. Ang uso po ngayon Pokemon Go. We see everything and everybody doing his own thing because that is what is called people empowerment.

Congratulations for the efforts of the Gentleman to help me elucidate further the message of today. We must not forget September 21 as it is very, very critical in our times today and the future of our country.

Salamat po.

REP. MERCADO. Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Representative Mercado, and thank you, Rep. Lito Atienza.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. BELARO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from the Third District of Palawan, the Hon. Gil "Kabarangay" P. Acosta, for his interpellation. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Representative Gil Acosta of the Third District of Palawan is now recognized.

REP. ACOSTA. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker. Distinguished colleagues, and, of course, the Gentleman representing the Party-List BUHAY, magandang hapon po sa ating lahat.

Mme. Speaker, ako po sana ay makikinig lamang but now, my listening to the principal speaker could

not stop me to reminisce the days when I was a 17-year old student, nakikipaghabulan sa mga Philippine Constabulary, sa mga pulis doon sa aming bayan sa Puerto Princesa, lalawigan ng Palawan. Para po matanggal din naman ang aking pag-aalala, being a first-termer Congressman but a senior citizen just like the distinguished Gentleman, kasi po, ako po ay ngayon lang naging Congressman, Mme. Speaker, at masasabi ko na hindi ko puwedeng ikumpara ang situation noong 1972 sa sitwasyon natin ngayon. Now, let us go back a little, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Representative Atienza, are you willing to accept more questions?

REP. ATIENZA. Kung papayagan po ng Kapulungan, maski abutin tayo rito ng magdamag.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). I hope not. Please proceed.

REP. ACOSTA. Sorry, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Pero kung sa tingin po nila ay ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

REP. ATIENZA. ... napag-usapan na natin nang sapat, ako po ay susunod sa kagustuhan ng nakararami.

REP. ACOSTA. Yes, Mme. Speaker, with your indulgence, kasi na-excite na rin ako, I was informed that I have to hurry up my interpellation. Okay po.

Noong 1965, nanalo si Marcos na Presidente kaya nga lang, ayaw nang umalis, kaya nga he declared martial law. Is it correct, Mme. Speaker?

REP. ATIENZA. Alam ninyo, nagkaroon pa tayo ng halalan noong 1969.

REP. ACOSTA. Opo, 1969.

REP. ATIENZA. Nanalo po siyang muli.

REP. ACOSTA. That is correct.

REP. ATIENZA. He got reelected.

REP. ACOSTA. Supposedly, sa 1972 ay magkakaroon tayo ng election, hindi po ba?

REP. ATIENZA. 1973 po, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ACOSTA. Kaya nga lang ...

REP. ATIENZA. 1973 was the schedule of the election.

REP. ACOSTA. Ah 1973, yes, correct po. Kaya nga lang, nasarapan na si Marcos. So, iyong situation noong panahon na iyon as relayed to us by the distinguished Gentleman, ay magandang-maganda ang ekonomiya ng ating bansa. In fact, as I recall, the Philippines was number two sa Japan dito sa Asia.

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyon.

REP. ACOSTA. Pero po, Mme. Speaker, naging aral din sa atin na noong 1986 ay nagkaroon ng People Power Revolution, hindi po ba?

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyon.

REP. ACOSTA. Pagkatapos niyan, nagkaroon ng another power na naibigay natin kay dating Pangulong Cory Aquino. From then on, Mme. Speaker, sinundan pa ng isang emergency power na naibigay sa dating Pangulong FVR pero sa panahon ngayon, Mme. Speaker, ay kakaiba dahil ang atin pong Pangulo ay hindi nagnanais to stay in power for more than six years. Ang sabi nga niya, pag naayos niya ang ating problema ay kailangang hindi abutin ng anim na taon. Hindi po ba tama lamang na pagbigyan natin ang Pangulo, or rather compare the situation in 1970s sa ngayon, Mme. Speaker, Congressman Atienza?

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, may kasabihan po tayo, huwag nating kalilimutan, "The road to hell is paved with good intentions." Kaya iyong intensyon ay maaari pong hindi mangyari iyan. Iyong intensyon ni Marcos—magaling po iyon, tama po iyon—is to create a new society. Nobody can argue with that. I used to argue with my own father sapagkat siya naniwala siya agad. Sabi niya, "Tama iyan, we have to create a new society" pero sabi ko nga po, pag ang sistema mali, ang magiging bunga ay mali. Iyong one-man rule, iyong emergency power, the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, iyon po ang mga kamaliang naganap na hindi na dapat maulit, iyong pag-alis ng karapatan at kapangyarihan ng mga mamamayan.

REP. ACOSTA. The situation right now, Mme. Speaker, is entirely a different thing dahil wala po sa hinagap doon sa mga pahayag ng ating kagalang-galang na Pangulong Duterte. Just the same, I respect the opinion of the distinguished Party-List Representative, but to my mind, Mme. Speaker, it is worth trying giving this power to the President, believing na may time frame po, hindi po lalagpas ng anim na taon, at very, very specific lamang po ang lugar na gusto niyang ayusin, not the entire country. Kung mapapansin natin

ang binabanggit lagi patungkol sa traffic ay ang Metro Manila and the city of Cebu, but not the entire country of the Republic of the Philippines, Mme. Speaker, Congressman Atienza, Sir.

REP. ATIENZA. We respect the position of the Gentleman from Palawan, Mme. Speaker. I would agree with him in his own thinking but please, permit me to respect my own thinking that the system will always destroy the good intentions of any man.

Mayroon tayong kasabihan uli, uulitin ko, “Power corrupts, ...

REP. ACOSTA. Yes, thank you very much.

REP. ATIENZA. ... and absolute power corrupts absolutely. “So, we know all these principles. Why should we expose the good President to possible temptations? Sinabi na nila, ang gagamitin nilang salapi ay mahigit isang trillion, P1 trillion will be spent by the government for the projects that they have in mind. Aalisin natin iyong ating mga nakalagay na mga paraan upang iyan ay mabantayan. Hindi mababantayan ni Pangulong Duterte iyan. Hindi rin mababantayan ni Secretary Tugade iyan. Ang magpapatakbo niyan ay iyong mga tao ng ating burukrasya, na nahirati na sa SOP. Alam ba ninyo iyong SOP?

REP. ACOSTA. Opo pero, Mme. ...

REP. ATIENZA. Magbabago pa po ba iyan?

REP. ACOSTA. Opo.

REP. ATIENZA. E di ganoon din ang mangyayari diyan. Pag nag-uusap na po iyan, e hindi natin alam, ang tanungan diyan, papaano si Eddie? Sinong Eddie? E di ako. Wala na naman po si Juan Dela Cruz sa usapan.

Ang akin lang po naman, gusto kong magtagumpay siya. Hindi niya kailangan ng emergency rule, ng emergency power. Magtrabaho lamang nang puspusan ang gobyerno at pagtrabahuhin ang mga mayors. Hindi puwedeng walang pakialam ang mga mayors sa Metro Manila. E ako ay nalulungkot sapagkat sabi ni Secretary Tugade, “I will assume full responsibility and full power.” Hindi puwede iyon. Hindi na uso ngayon iyong mga Superman. Ang kailangan natin iyong mga institution na pinagta-trabahuhan natin ay magtrabaho. Ang makita natin sa lansangan na nagta-trabahong mga enforcers, iyon po ang solusyon. Linisin iyong mga side streets na dinadaan natin. Alisin po iyong mga illegally-parked vehicles, iyong iligal na paggamit ng ating mga lansangan, ginagawang garahe ng marami, ginagawang laundry pa nga. E iyon ay mga ileial. Ipatupad po ni Secretary Tugade iyan at pag nakita nating ginagawa niya ang lahat at kulang

pa, tungkulin natin sa Kongreso, dagdagan pa natin pero hindi ko po nakikita iyan, Mme. Speaker. I go home every night. I spend about two hours and a half on the road. I come here everyday like the rest of you, and we spend two hours a day. Do we see any effort to improve the condition? Are we now allowed to use the side streets? Hindi po. Hindi po tayo makadaan sa Mandaluyong sapagkat barado po doon. Hindi tayo makadaan sa Maynila dahil marami ring mga unfinished diggings at marami pong mga baradong lansangan na dapat nagagamit nating lahat.

If we see the government doing its best and it is not enough, then, we should consider other measures but right now, we should set it aside. We must not talk about shortcuts. There is only one way—hard work.

REP. ACOSTA. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker. Maraming salamat po, Congressman Atienza, sa iyong mga pananaw. Like what you have said, sana ay igalang din ninyo ang aking pananaw, in the same manner that I respect your view and opinion about this subject matter.

Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. BELARO. Mme. Speaker, there being no other Members of the House who indicated their intention to conduct an interpellation, we move that the privilege speech of the Hon. Lito Atienza, as well as all the interpellations, be referred to the Committee on Rules for appropriate action. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ATIENZA. Maraming salamat po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Representative Atienza.

REP. BELARO. Mme. Speaker, at this juncture, I move that we terminate the Privilege Hour. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is now terminated.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of guests in the gallery of the Honorable Primicias- Agabao, namely, ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise as your name is called.

REP. NOEL. ... the former Deputy Speaker Giorgidi B. Aggabao and his family.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Welcome, former Deputy Speaker Giorgidi Aggabao. *(Applause)* Isa sa pinakamagaling.

ROLL CALL

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we call the roll.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). 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. 25, dated September 21, 2016:

PRESENT

Abaya	Bagatsing	Co	Khonghun
Abayon	Baguilat	Cojuangco	Labadlabad
Abellanos	Banal	Collantes	Lacson
Abu	Bataoil	Cortes	Lagman
Abueg	Batocabe	Cosalan	Lanete
Acharon	Bautista-Bandigan	Crisologo	Laogan
Acop	Belaro	Cua	Lazatin
Acosta	Belmonte (F.)	Cuaresma	Leachon
Acosta-Alba	Belmonte (J.)	Cueva	Lee
Adiong	Belmonte (R.)	Dalog	Lobregat
Advincula	Benitez	Daza	Lopez (B.)
Aggabao	Billones	De Jesus	Lopez (C.)
Akbar	Bolilia	De Venecia	Lopez (M.)
Alejano	Bondoc	De Vera	Maceda
Almonte	Bordado	Defensor	Madrona
Alonte-Naguiat	Bravo (A.)	Del Mar	Malapitan
Alvarez (F.)	Brosas	Deloso-Montalla	Manalo
Alvarez (M.)	Cagas	Dimaporo (A.)	Mangaoang
Alvarez (P.)	Calderon	Dimaporo (M.)	Mangudadatu (Z.)
Amante	Calixto-Rubiano	Dy	Marcos
Andaya	Campos	Enverga	Marquez
Angara-Castillo	Canama	Erice	Martinez
Antonino	Cari	Eriguel	Mending
Antonio	Casilao	Ermita-Buhain	Mercado
Aragones	Castelo	Escudero	Mirasol
Arbison	Castro (F.L.)	Espina	Montoro
Arcillas	Castro (F.H.)	Espino	Nava
Atienza	Catamco	Estrella	Nieto
Aumentado	Celeste	Eusebio	Noel
Bag-ao	Chavez	Evardone	Nolasco
		Fariñas	Nuñez-Malanyaon
		Fernando	Ong (E.)
		Floirendo	Ong (H.)
		Fortuno	Ortega (P.)
		Fuentebella	Ortega (V.)
		Garbin	Pacquiao
		Garcia (G.)	Paduano
		Garcia (J.)	Palma
		Garcia-Albano	Pancho
		Garin (R.)	Panganiban
		Garin (S.)	Panotes
		Gasataya	Papandayan
		Geron	Pichay
		Go (A.C.)	Pimentel
		Go (M.)	Pineda
		Gomez	Plaza
		Gonzaga	Primicias-Agabas
		Gonzales (A.P.)	Quimbo
		Gonzales (A.D.)	Radaza
		Gonzalez	Ramos
		Gullas	Relampagos
		Herrera-Dy	Roa-Puno
		Hofer	Robes
		Jalosjos	Rodriguez (I.)
		Javier	Roman
		Kho	Romero

Romualdez	Tiangco
Roque (H.)	Ting
Sacdalan	Tinio
Sagarbarria	Tugna
Sahali	Tupas
Salceda	Turabin-Hataman
Salo	Ty
Salon	Unabia
Sambar	Ungab
Sandoval	Unico
Santos-Recto	Uy (J.)
Sarmiento (C.)	Uy (R.)
Sarmiento (E.)	Vargas
Savellano	Vargas-Alfonso
Sema	Velarde
Siao	Velasco
Silverio	Velasco-Catera
Singson	Vergara
Suansing (E.)	Villanueva
Suarez	Villaraza-Suarez
Sy-Alvarado	Villarica
Tambunting	Villarin
Tan (A.)	Violago
Tan (M.)	Yap (M.)
Tan (S.)	Yap (V.)
Tejada	Yu
Teves	Zubiri

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 226 Members are present in accordance with Rule XI, Section 71, and with the authority of the Committee on Rules at the meetings of the Committee on Justice and the Committee on Appropriations.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). With 226 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 24, dated September 20, 2016.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; Journal No. 24 of Tuesday, September 20, 2016, is hereby approved.

REFERRAL OF RESOLUTIONS ON INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, in accordance with our Rules Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation, I move that we refer the following resolutions to the appropriate committees:

House Resolution No. 314 re proliferation of illegal drugs at the Cebu Provincial Detention and Rehabilitation Center (CPDRC), to the Committee on Justice;

House Resolution No. 316 re alleged irregularities in the conduct of the May 9, 2016 elections with special attention on the participation of the Smartmatic Company and concerned public officials, including the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), to the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms;

House Resolution No. 320 re killing of Arnold Jamarillo and six (6) others in an alleged encounter with the 41st Infantry Battalion under the 5th Infantry Division of the Armed Forces of the Philippines on September 4, 2014 in Guinguinabang, Lacub, Abra, to the Committee on Human Rights; and

House Resolution No. 323 re present status of Kampilan Multi-Purpose Cooperative (KMPC) and the existing policy issuances related to the loan collection management of the cooperative and other cooperatives similarly situated, to the Committee on Cooperatives Development

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, may I remind all the Members of the House that the session on Monday, September 26, 2016, will begin at 10:00 a.m., and that the roll call will be at any time every day.

With that, Mme. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until Monday, September 26, 2016, at 10:00 a.m.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is adjourned until 10:00 a.m. on Monday, September 26, 2016.

It was 6:15 p.m.