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House of Representatives

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No. 34

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo called the session to order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo) The session is now called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). Please remain standing for the Invocation to be delivered by the Hon. France L. Castro from the ACT TEACHERS Party-List.

Everybody remained standing for the Invocation.

INVOCATION

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Let us all place ourselves in the loving presence of God.

Almighty Father in heaven, we honor You, we bless You, we glorify Your most Holy Name, our King of kings, our Lord of lords, the Alpha and the Omega, God of David, God of Jacob, God of Abraham and God of our history.

For all our transgressions, inequities and shortcomings, dear Lord in heaven, we ask for forgiveness in Jesus' name.

We thank You, Father, for all the blessings that You have bestowed upon us despite our frailties; for the gift of life, the gift of family, the gift of well-meaning colleagues and this gift of work for the Filipino people.

As we gather here today to perform our tasks, gargantuan as they may be, we humbly pray for the

presence of the Holy Spirit in each one of us that we may be granted the wisdom and discernment to be able to deliver what is best for our fellowmen.

Indeed, dear Lord, as in any democratic process, there will always be clashes of ideas and principles during deliberations and interpellations and so, we beseech Your guidance that may we be granted the grace to forge alliances and unity amongst us, honorable people in this Chamber, and to work collectively towards passing legislation that would best serve the Filipino people who gave us the mandate to make a difference in uplifting their socio-economic-political conditions based on justice.

We ask all these in the mighty Name of Jesus.
Amen.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll.

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

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

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

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to the Reference of Business.

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

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

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 3863, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10600 ENTITLED, ‘AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SURIGAO DEL NORTE STATE UNIVERSITY IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE BY INTEGRATING THE SURIGAO STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY IN SURIGAO CITY, THE SIARGAO NATIONAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DEL CARMEN AND SURIGAO DEL NORTE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAINIT, ALL LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,’ EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) FOR CONVERSION TO DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Barbers
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3864, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING AND RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BETA BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Go (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 3865, entitled:

“AN ACT ADDRESSING THE SYSTEM OF PROSTITUTION, IMPOSING PENALTIES ON ITS PERPETRATORS, PROVIDING PROTECTIVE MEASURES AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ITS VICTIMS, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 202 AND 341 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 3866, entitled:

“AN ACT DISQUALIFYING ANY PERSON WHO HAS BEEN DEFEATED IN THREE CONSECUTIVE ELECTIONS FROM RUNNING FOR THE SAME PUBLIC OFFICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSABLG. 881, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 3867, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING LOCAL TAXATION AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE SECTION 150, CHAPTER 1, TITLE ONE, BOOK II OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 3868, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 220, CHAPTER II, TITLE VIII OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT AMENDING THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 3869, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1379, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FORFEITURE LAW, TO PROVIDE A FIXED PERCENTAGE OF THE VALUE OF FORFEITED PROPERTIES IN CORRUPTION CASES AS ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3870, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE TAAL VOLCANO ISLAND NATIONAL PARK, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS, ISLAND OF LUZON, AND ITS

WATERSHED AREAS, A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES AS MANDATED FOR BY THE NIPAS ACT OF 1992”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 3871, entitled:

“AN ACT RIGHTSIZING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

House Bill No. 3872, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY MAGDUG, MUNICIPALITY OF GOVERNOR GENEROSO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS MAGDUG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3873, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY TIBLAWAN, MUNICIPALITY OF GOVERNOR GENEROSO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS TIBLAWAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3874, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY CORPORACION, MUNICIPALITY OF LUPON, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS CORPORACION NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3875, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY CABUAYA, CITY

OF MATI, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS CABUAYA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3876, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE POWERS OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION CLASSIFYING SHORT MESSAGING SERVICE, AND INTERNET SERVICES AS UTILITIES IMBUED WITH PUBLIC INTEREST AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREOF, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 7925 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES’ FOR ITS PURPOSE”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 3877, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 910, ENTITLED ‘CREATING AN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT BOARD, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ AND MANDATING THE TRANSFER OF MALAMPAYA FUNDS TO THE GENERAL FUND SUBJECT TO CONGRESSIONAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RENATIONALIZING THE COUNTRY’S POWER AND ENERGY INDUSTRY”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 3878, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE OVERSIGHT AND AUDIT OF GOVERNMENT INTELLIGENCE AND CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 3879, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE COMPENSATION OF PUBLIC UTILITY BUS DRIVERS AND CONDUCTORS BY REQUIRING BUS OPERATORS TO PAY THEM FIXED MONTHLY SALARIES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 3880, entitled:

“AN ACT INTEGRATING LOCAL HISTORY
IN THE TEACHING OF PHILIPPINE
HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE INTO THE
CURRICULUM OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL
EDUCATION”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3881, entitled:

“AN ACT GIVING SPECIAL FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO
VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS WHO
PERISH OR SUSTAIN INJURIES WHILE
SAVING LIVES OR PROPERTIES DURING
FIRES OR ANY CALAMITY, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER
AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 3882, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE
DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENT
GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND
SIMILAR PROGRAMS, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 7722, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE ‘HIGHER EDUCATION ACT OF
1994’ ”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3883, entitled:

“AN ACT REVITALIZING THE COCONUT
INDUSTRY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 3884, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 544, AS AMENDED, OR THE
CIVIL ENGINEERING LAW”

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

House Bill No. 3885, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE SEVENTEENTH
OF NOVEMBER OF EVERY YEAR AS
NATIONAL STUDENT LEADER’S DAY”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3886, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING DISOBEDIENCE TO
THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3887, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING AND
STRENGTHENING ALTERNATIVE CARE
OF CHILDREN, PROVIDING INCENTIVES
TO AGENCIES PROVIDING THE SAME”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF
CHILDREN

House Bill No. 3888, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 386 OR THE CIVIL
CODE AS AMENDED”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF
LAWS

House Bill No. 3889, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE FULL
ACCOUNTING OF ALL DISASTER-RELIEF
AID OR DONATIONS RECEIVED BY
THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT FOR
NATURAL AND HUMAN-INDUCED
CALAMITIES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE
AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 3890, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM
OF REGISTRATION FOR LEASE ON
REGISTERED LANDS”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3891, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7309, ENTITLED,
‘AN ACT CREATING A BOARD OF
CLAIMS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT
OF JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF UNJUST
IMPRISONMENT OR DETENTION AND

VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES' ”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3892, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING CERTAIN ACTS
IN THE IMPOSITION OF EXCESSIVE
PLACEMENT FEES AGAINST OVERSEAS
FILIPINO WORKERS”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS
WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 3893, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE
OF PHARMACY IN THE PHILIPPINES,
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5921, THE PHARMACY
LAW, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 3894, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING MERCHANDISING
STORES AND SERVICE
ESTABLISHMENTS FROM CHARGING
MORE THAN THE CASH RETAIL
PRICE OF GOODS AND SERVICES
PURCHASED WITH CREDIT CARDS
AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR
ANY VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 3895, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING STEREOTYPING
BASED ON RELIGIOUS OR ETHNIC
ORIGIN”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 3896, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 47 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9136, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE ELECTRIC POWER
INDUSTRY REFORM ACT”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 3897, entitled:

“THE CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET AND
IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT”

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 3898, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ACADEMIC
STRUCTURES AS WELL AS REPAIR
AND REHABILITATION OF EXISTING
STRUCTURES OF POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
- QUEZON CITY CAMPUS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3899, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SENIOR CITIZENS
HOSPITAL IN QUEZON CITY TO BE KNOWN
AS THE QUEZON CITY SENIOR CITIZENS
HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3900, entitled:

“AN ACT PRESCRIBING GUIDELINES,
REQUIREMENTS AND STANDARDS
FOR METRO MANILA OUTDOOR
MEDIA THEREBY ENJOINING LOCAL
GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ADOPT A
UNIFORM POLICY AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON METRO MANILA
DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 3901, entitled:

“AN ACT PRESCRIBING PROPER CONDUCT
IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES THEREBY
PROHIBITING DRINKING OF LIQUOR
OR SIMILAR INTOXICATING BEVERAGE
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 3902, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE TO BARANGAY OFFICIALS
WHO HAVE SERVED FOR THREE (3) TERMS
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 3903, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE TRUTH IN GOVERNANCE THRU MEDIA (TGM) BROADCASTING NETWORK A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN PUERTO PRINCESA CITY, AND IN THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN”

By Representative Abueg
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 3904, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING PENSIONS UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 12 OF R.A. 1161, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW”

By Representative Velasco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 3905, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ASSIGNMENT AND ISSUANCE OF LOW-NUMBERED OR PROTOCOL LICENSE PLATES FOR MOTOR VEHICLES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS”

By Representative Ocampo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3906, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO HE YINGYU ZENG ALSO KNOWN AS WILLY HO”

By Representative Collantes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 3907, entitled:

“AN ACT REDUCING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SANGGUNIANG BARANGAY MEMBERS AND CONVERTING THE BARANGAY ELECTIONS TO A FIRST-PAST-THE-POST SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 AND OTHER PERTINENT LAWS”

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

House Bill No. 3908, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, MARKETING AND

DISTRIBUTION OF MORINGA OLEIFERA OR MALUNGGAY, MANDATING THE CREATION OF A FRAMEWORK FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villarica
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 3909, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE MINDANAO RAILWAYS AUTHORITY (MRA), PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4156 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, AND PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR ITS OPERATION’ AS AMENDED BY R.A. NO. 6366, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Zubiri
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 3910, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY (WVSU)-EXTENSION IN THE CITY OF HIMAMAYLAN, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, INTO A REGULAR CAMPUS OF THE WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY – HIMAMAYLAN CITY CAMPUS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3911, entitled:

“AN ACT REPEALING THE AUTOMATIC APPROPRIATION FOR DEBT SERVICE BY AMENDING SECTION 31 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1177 AND SECTION 26, CHAPTER 4, BOOK VI, OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987’ WHICH REITERATES IN TOTO SECTION 31 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1177”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 3912, entitled:
“AN ACT CREATING THE CONGRESSIONAL
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON THE
NATIONAL BUDGET”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 3913, entitled:
“AN ACT RIGHTSIZING THE NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE PUBLIC
SERVICE DELIVERY”

By Representative Hernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION

House Bill No. 3914, entitled:
“AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM TAX ALL
DONATIONS, GRANTS, ENDOWMENTS,
OR CONTRIBUTIONS USED ACTUALLY,
DIRECTLY, AND EXCLUSIVELY FOR
GOVERNMENT’S YOUTH AND SPORTS
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND
SPORTS COMPETITIONS”

By Representative Del Rosario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS

House Bill No. 3915, entitled:
“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION,
REHABILITATION AND SUSTAINABLE
MANAGEMENT OF MANGROVE
ECOSYSTEMS IN TICA0 AND BURIAS
ISLANDS, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bravo (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

House Bill No. 3916, entitled:
“AN ACT CONVERTING THE DR. EMILIO B.
ESPINOSA MEMORIAL STATE COLLEGE
OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF
MASBATE INTO DR. EMILIO B. ESPINOSA
MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bravo (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3917, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SAN

ROQUE, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ISIDRO,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO
BE KNOWN AS SAN ROQUE NATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3918, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PINTATAGAN,
MUNICIPALITY OF BANAYBANAY,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE
KNOWN AS PINTATAGAN NATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3919, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY TALISAY,
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ISIDRO,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE
KNOWN AS TALISAY NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3920, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL IN BARANGAY MOGBONGCOGON,
MUNICIPALITY OF BANAYBANAY,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE
KNOWN AS MOGBONGCOGON NATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3921, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PISO,
MUNICIPALITY OF BANAYBANAY,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO
BE KNOWN AS PISO NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3922, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SUROP, MUNICIPALITY OF GOVERNOR GENEROSO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS SUROP NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3923, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY MAPUTI, MUNICIPALITY OF BANAYBANAY, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS MAPUTI NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 3924, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION TO INCREASE THE COVERAGE FOR DIALYSIS TREATMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM TO NINETY (90) SESSIONS PER YEAR”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 3925, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING PARENTS WHO WILLFULLY FAIL TO PAY CHILD SUPPORT”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 3926, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE YOUNG FARMERS PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 3927, entitled:

“AN ACT REMOVING THE DIGOS CITY CAMPUS AS PART OF THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES AGRI-BUSINESS AND

MARINE AND AQUATIC SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY (SPAMAST), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 3928, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING RATE CHARGES ON THE SECOND AND SUCCEEDING REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLE AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794”

By Representative Garin (S.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 416, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES AND DEEPEST SYMPATHIES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY OF SENATOR MIRIAM DEFENSOR-SANTIAGO”

By Representatives Deloso-Montalla and Lee
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 417, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE SENATOR MIRIAM PALMA SANTIAGO”

By Representative Montoro
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 418, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO IMMEDIATELY INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ALLEGED ILLEGAL OVERCHARGING OF QUESTIONABLE TRANSMISSION LOSS FEES BY THE POWER SECTOR ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (PSALM) ONELECTRICITY CONSUMERS SERVICED BY THE MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY (MERALCO) IN THE AMOUNT OF P9.1 BILLION”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 419, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO

IMMEDIATELY INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE NUMEROUS COSTS AND LIABILITIES THAT THE POWER SECTOR ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (PSALM) IS TRYING TO PASS ON TO ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 420, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE IN SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT DUTERTE’S UNEQUIVOCAL PRONOUNCEMENT CALLING FOR THE CESSATION OF REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES-UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (RP-US) JOINT MILITARY EXERCISES PERMITTED UNDER THE VISITING FORCES AGREEMENT (VFA) AND ENHANCED DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (EDCA)”

By Representatives De Jesus and Brosas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Resolution No. 421, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED RIOT AT THE NEW BILIBID PRISON THAT CLAIMED THE LIFE OF A HIGH-PROFILE INMATE AND INJURING FOUR OTHERS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROPOSING REMEDIAL LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS THE SECURITY AND SAFETY IN OUR PRISON FACILITIES”

By Representatives Alejano, Baguilat, Billones, Daza, Lagman and Villarin
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 422, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE SCRAPPING OF THE RP-US VISITING FORCES AGREEMENT AND PLANS TO GIVE ACCESS OF PHILIPPINE MILITARY BASES TO AMERICAN FORCES”

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

House Resolution No. 423, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION

ON THE FAILURE OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSION TO SANCTION ERRING INSURANCE COMPANIES ON ITS OBLIGATION REGARDING ISSUED PERFORMANCE BONDS”

By Representative Mercado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 424, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY OF THE HONORABLE VICTORIA HERNANDEZ-REYES, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE THIRD DISTRICT OF BATANGAS”

By Representative Bolilia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 425, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT A REVIEW, PURSUANT TO THE OVERSIGHT FUNCTION OF CONGRESS, AND IN AID OF LEGISLATION, OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECOLOGICAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2000 BY THE NATIONAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF THE LAW PARTICULARLY THE STATED POLICIES THEREIN, TO IDENTIFY THE CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES FACED IN ENFORCING THE PROVISIONS OF THE LAW AND PROPOSING INPUTS FOR AMENDMENTS, IF NEEDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Antonio
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 426, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING ITS DEEPEST SYMPATHIES AND PROFOUND CONDOLENCES ON THE DEATH OF FORMER SENATOR MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 427, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RECENT RIOT THAT OCCURRED

AT THE NEW BILIBID PRISON, BUILDING 14, WHERE ONE HIGH-PROFILE INMATE WAS KILLED”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 428, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES ON THE DEMISE OF HIS EXCELLENCY ISRAELI PRESIDENT SHIMON PERES”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 429, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BASES CONVERSION TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CONTINUOUS STAY OF THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE (PAF) WITHIN THE CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE, IN VIOLATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9400, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992”

By Representative Villanueva
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 430, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO EXPRESS ITS PROFOUND SENSE OF LOSS FOR THE PASSING OF FORMER SENATOR MIRIAM DEFENSOR-SANTIAGO”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 431, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION STRONGLY OPPOSING ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS TO REMOVE THE EXEMPTION FROM THE VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT) OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs)”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Resolution No. 432, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CONDITIONS OF WORKING STUDENTS HIRED ON PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT”

By Representative Ting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 433, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND AGRARIAN REFORM TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SERIES OF ARSON OF FARMERS’ HOUSES AT BARANGAY PARADISE 3, SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY, BULACAN, INVOLVING THE ARANETA PROPERTIES, INC.”

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

House Resolution No. 434, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND AGRARIAN REFORM TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SEPTEMBER 7-EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLING OF ARIEL ORDILLO DIAZ, CHAIRPERSON OF DANGGAYAN DAGITI MANNALON TI ISABELA OR DAGAMI - DELFIN ALBANO CHAPTER AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE INTER-MUNICIPAL PEASANT ALLIANCE AGAINST FOREIGN LAND GRABBING IN NORTHERN ISABELA”

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

House Resolution No. 435, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON HUMAN RIGHTS, NATURAL RESOURCES, AGRARIAN REFORM AND JUSTICE TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FILING OF TRUMPED UP CHARGES AGAINST FARMERS WHO ARE RESISTING LAND GRABBING IN BRGY. ASINGA-VIA, BAGGAO TOWN, CAGAYAN”

By Representatives Casilao, Zarate, De Jesus, Tinio, Brosas, Castro (F.L.), Nolasco, Vargas-Alfonso and Ting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Joint Resolution No. 9, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION CONSTITUTING A CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON SOCIALIZED AND LOW-COST HOUSING LOAN RESTRUCTURING AND CONDONATION

TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9507, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘SOCIALIZED AND LOW-COST HOUSING LOAN RESTRUCTURING AND CONDONATION ACT OF 2008’ ”

By Representative Benitez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Reps. Florencio T. Flores Jr., M.D., Ana Cristina Siquian Go, Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao, Mark O. Go and Ramon C. Nolasco for House Joint Resolution No. 4;

Reps. Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr., Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D. and Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta for House Bill No. 51;

Rep. Amado T. Espino Jr. for House Bills No. 4, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 10;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bill No. 3518;

Rep. Arlene B. Arcillas for House Resolution No. 393;

Rep. Jennifer Austria Barzaga for House Bills No. 3518, 3519, 3520, 3521, 3606, 3607, 3608 and 3635;

Rep. Christopher “Toff” Vera Perez De Venecia for House Bill No. 3688;

Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe for House Bills No. 34, 64, 105, 268, 287, 1204, 1205, 1212 and 1213;

Rep. Jericho Jonas B. Nograles for House Bills No. 2564, 2565, 2566 and 2567;

Rep. Marisol C. Panotes for House Bills No. 63, 125 and 637;

Reps. Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Ben P. Evardone, Julieta R. Cortuna, Josephine Ramirez-Sato and Raul V. Del Mar for House Bill No. 1859;

Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas for House Bills No. 315, 477, 1344, 1638, 2055, 2916 and 3177;

Reps. Joseph Stephen S. Paduano and Ramon V.A. “Rav” Rocamora for House Bills No. 315, 335, 336, 477, 1344, 1638, 2055, 2916 and 3177;

Rep. Gwendolyn F. Garcia for House Bills No. 335, 336, 477, 923, 1344, 2055, 2916 and 3177;

Rep. Maximino B. Dalog for House Bills No. 828 and 829;

Reps. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma and Salvador B. Belaro Jr. for House Bills No. 1554, 1555, 1853, 2141, 3556, 3557 and 3632;

Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 3706, 3708, 3724, 3740 and 3745;

Reps. Pia S. Cayetano, Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III and Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos for House Bill No. 267;

Rep. Geraldine B. Roman for House Bills No. 262, 264, 2430, 2567 and 2798 and House Resolution No. 393;

Rep. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr. for House Bill No. 3513;

Rep. Mercedes K. Alvarez for House Bills No. 458 and 3181;

Rep. Roy M. Loyola for House Bill No. 516;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bills No. 1194 and 1197;

Rep. Eugene Michael B. De Vera for House Bills No. 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 533, 534, 535, 796, 797, 798, 1554, 1555, 1859, 1870, 1871, 1872, 2141, 2287, 2396, 2514, 2531, 2774, 2775, 2926, 3518, 3519, 3520, 3521, 3556, 3557, 3606, 3607, 3608, 3632 and 3635;

Rep. Henry C. Ong for House Bill No. 3412;

Rep. Carlos O. Cojuangco for House Bills No. 2505, 3412, 3413 and 3509;

Rep. Evelina G. Escudero for House Bills No. 555, 1859 and 1974;

Rep. Orestes T. Salon for House Bills No. 515, 516, 1039, 1378, 1536, 1836, 2263, 2264 and 3435;

Rep. Renato J. Unico Jr. for House Bill No. 3254;

Rep. Sabiniano S. Canama for House Bill No. 344;

Rep. Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada for House Bills No. 1859 and 2122;

Reps. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Ariel “Ka Ayik” B. Casilao, Peter “Sr. Pedro” M. Unabia, Winston “Winnie” Castelo, Randolph S. Ting, Anna Katrina M. Enverga, Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado, Jose L. Atienza Jr., Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Deogracias B. Ramos Jr., Ricardo T. Belmonte Jr., Greg G. Gasataya, Marisol C. Panotes, Ana Cristina Siquian Go, Melecio J. Yap Jr., Salvador B. Belaro Jr., Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, Orestes T. Salon, Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III, Michael L. Romero, Ph.D., Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Vincent “Bingbong” P. Crisologo and Lawrence H. Fortun for House Resolution No. 393;

Rep. Florencio T. Flores Jr., M.D. for House Bills No. 122 and 123;

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia for House Bills No. 192, 193, 516, 1302 and 1859 and House Resolution No. 393; and

Rep. Celso L. Lobregat for House Bills No. 516 and 1521.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 3), re H.B. No. 3955, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE GOVERNMENT TO PAY THE CAPITAL GAINS TAX AND THE DOCUMENTARY STAMP TAX DUE IN ADDITION TO THE JUST COMPENSATION FOR THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY IN THE EXERCISE OF THE STATE’S POWER OF EMINENT DOMAIN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 24 (D) AND 196 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 3187

Sponsor: Representative Cua
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Revision of Laws (Committee Report No. 4), re H.B. No. 3988, entitled: “AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONJUGAL PARTNERSHIP OF GAINS AS THE GOVERNING REGIME IN THE ABSENCE OF A MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT OR WHEN REGIME AGREED UPON IS VOID, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 75 OF TITLE IV OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 227, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 315

Sponsors: Representatives Primicias-Agabas and Garcia (G.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Revision of Laws (Committee Report No. 5), re H.B. No. 477, entitled: “AN ACT DECLARING JANUARY 23 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE DECLARATION OF THE FIRST PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsors: Representatives Sy-Alvarado and Primicias-Agabas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Revision of Laws (Committee Report No. 6), re H.B. No. 335, entitled: “AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COURT TO REQUIRE COMMUNITY SERVICE IN LIEU OF IMPRISONMENT FOR THE PENALTY OF ARRESTO MENOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTER 5, TITLE 3, BOOK I OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsor: Representative Primicias-Agabas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

RESOLUTION

House Resolution No. 453, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE INCREASE IN THE BUDGETARY SUPPORT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND HEALTH”

By Representatives Cayetano, Singson (E.), Abu, Garcia (G.), Macapagal-Arroyo, Hernandez, Andaya, Lagman, Salceda, Gonzalez, Panotes, Bordado, Fuentebella, Fortuno, Sarmiento (C.), Bravo (M.), Kho, Escudero, Ramos, Gonzales (A.P.), Cueva, Alonte-Naguiat, Gonzales (A.D.), De Venecia, Violago, Sandoval, Aggabao, Nieto, Go (M.), De Vera, Mangaoang, Campos, Ortega (P.), Abayon, Nolasco, Marquez, Belmonte (J.), Banal, Batocabe, Tan (A.), Suansing (E.), Bolilia, Deloso-Montalla, Chipeco, Rodriguez (I.), Collantes, Abaya, Acosta-Alba, Akbar, Albano, Almario, Antonino, Antonio, Arcillas, Atienza, Barzaga, Bagatsing, Bautista-Bandigan, Belmonte (F.), Bernos, Bertiz, Cerilles-Enerio, Cosalan, Defensor, Del Mar, Del Rosario, Dimaporo (A.), Dimaporo (M.), Duavit, Elago, Enverga, Ermita-Buhain, Estrella, Eusebio, Fariñas, Ferriol-Pascual, Garcia (J.), Garin (O.), Go (A.C.), Gullas, Herrera-Dy, Hofer, Lazatin, Lopez (B.), Lopez (M.), Matugas, Mending, Mercado, Montoro, Noel, Nuñez-Malanyaon, Ortega (V.), Pancho, Pichay, Pineda, Primicias-Agabas, Relampagos, Revilla, Roa-Puno, Robes, Roman, Romero, Roque (H.), Salo, Salon, Savellano, Siao, Suarez, Tinio, Tupas, Ty, Ungab, Uybareta, Velasco, Vergara, Villaraza-Suarez, Zubiri and Garin (S.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Floor Leader is recognized.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, today being a Monday and pursuant to our Rules, I move that we proceed to the Privilege Hour.

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

The Chair declares a Privilege Hour.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I now move that the Gentleman from the First District of South Cotabato, the Hon. Pedro B. Acharon Jr., be recognized to avail of the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Honorable Acharon is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ACHARON

REP. ACHARON. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Honorable Members of this august Chamber, I rise today to honor and manifest my solidarity with all local chief executives across the country and the local government units they represent, as the nation commemorates the silver jubilee of the enactment into law of Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as The Local Government Code of 1991, as amended.

Prior to the introduction of the Code, the dominance of imperial Manila where the major government machinery is located, proved less responsive, largely bureaucratic and less efficient, resulting in the uneven distribution of wealth and the lack of resources at the local level, which left many of our local government units develop at a slower pace.

After the People Power Revolution of 1986, the drafting of a new Constitution became an opportunity to even the odds in favor of decentralization and devolution and ensure that our political subdivisions enjoy genuine and meaningful local autonomy and fiscal independence, to enable them to attain their fullest development as self-reliant communities.

Hailed as one of the most significant pieces of legislation ever to pass through the halls of Philippine Congress, the Local Government Code of 1991 was like a magic wand that would revive, reinvigorate and strengthen the local bureaucracy, and usher in a new era of public administration and local self-government. To get the job done, first, the Constitution bestowed upon our local government units the explicit power to create their own sources of revenues, subject to guidelines and limitations as provided for by law; second, the Constitution guaranteed that each local government unit is assured of a just share in the national taxes duly appropriated as determined by law and automatically released; and third, the Constitution explicitly mandated that local governments are entitled to an equitable share in the proceeds of the utilization and development of the national wealth within their respective areas in the manner provided by law, including sharing of the same with the inhabitants by way of direct benefits. Since then, the burden of delivering front-line basic services fell on the shoulders of our governors, mayors, barangay chairpersons, councilors, and their respective government workers who willingly discharged the functions and responsibilities of national agencies devolved to them.

The incremental share in the internal revenues and expenditure responsibilities of the national government allowed the local bureaucracy to respond more appropriately and even faster to the needs of their constituents for basic public services. A case in point is that the aggregate expenditures on health and other devolved services even exceeded that of the national government and moreover, the decentralization led to innovations in local services delivery after the enactment of the Code. Having attained greater local fiscal autonomy and increased people's participation and local civic activities, local governments developed at a faster pace.

Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, in spite of the performance of select local government units, most of them registered sluggish growth since 1987 and the list of the richest and poorest local governments largely remained the same in the last 25 years. Despite the improvements introduced by the Local Government Code, it is widely acknowledged by stakeholders that the Code suffers from a number of structural deficiencies. The law itself calls on Congress to undertake a mandatory review of the Code at least once every five years. While several attempts were made in the past to review the Code, the most recent evaluation—the result of which came out in February 2015—was led by the Department of Interior and Local Government.

To mention, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, from 1991 to 2014, Congress introduced legislation that further devolved national government functions and responsibilities to local government units which greatly affected the manner by which basic services should and could be delivered, given their already limited resources. You will note, Mme. Speaker, that we already have 340 laws enacted by this Congress from 1991 to 2014. Allow me to mention, Mme. Speaker, some laws that directly amend the Local Government Code: Republic Act No. 7279, known as the Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992; Republic Act No. 9009, increasing the average annual income requirement for a municipality or cluster of barangays to be converted into a component city; Republic Act No. 9184, known as the Government Procurement Reform Act; Republic Act No. 9640, the reduction of the percentage of amusement tax on admission from 30 percent to 10 percent; and Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act. There are also laws that assign expenditures to local government units: Republic Act No. 7876, the Senior Citizen's Center Act of the Philippines; Republic Act No. 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000; Republic Act No. 9275, Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004; and many more, Mme. Speaker. There are also laws that assign revenue and taxing powers to local government units.

Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, the devolution of responsibilities for service delivery from the national government down to the local government is largely incomplete. The central government has yet to clarify the roles and responsibilities across levels of government to remedy the vague and ambiguous assignment of specific functions. There are legally devolved functions from the national government to the local governments which are not accompanied by funding sources, prompting the local governments to realign their budgets to comply with their legal obligations. This is usually known in Philippine decentralization as “unfunded mandates.”

One example, Mme. Speaker, is Republic Act No. 7305, otherwise known as the Magna Carta of Public Health Workers. We are all aware that in most instances, government health workers are overworked yet underpaid. The Magna Carta of Public Health Workers was legislated promising a host of incentives, primarily financial and non-monetary incentives to health workers to compensate for their services and attract others to government health service as well. However, it is evident in many local government units that the law has failed to live up to its promise and a significant number of public health workers have not received the incentives and benefits due them.

Another is Republic Act No. 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act. This is to strengthen the system of disaster risk reduction and management and institutionalize disaster risk reduction and management plans in all levels of government. After five years, we are now seeing the significant imbalance between the risk exposure of the poor and the vulnerability of LGUs, and their available resources to prevent and cope with the impact of disasters. The LGUs in poorer islands and provinces are at a disadvantage as they have lower revenues, thus, less available resources for their calamity fund. While it is true, Mme. Speaker, that LGUs have varying disaster-related expenses as demanded and revenue-raising capacities, these differences are not taken into account in the allocation of resources for disaster management.

Nevertheless, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, this is not to dismiss the many shining examples of successful local governments that were able to introduce innovative solutions to age-old problems. As a matter of record, even in this august Chamber, many of our colleagues who served as local chief executives as governors, mayors, and even barangay chairpersons led many of these innovations and brought honor, prestige and pride to their constituents. Yet, we cannot deny that there are still many local governments throughout the country who cannot address the most basic needs of their constituents.

So, there are several questions that need to be

answered, Mme. Speaker. Does this mean that the Local Government Code of 1991 failed to effect genuine and meaningful local autonomy to enable provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays attain their fullest development as self-reliant communities? If we are looking forward for these communities to be the frontliners in nation-building, does this mean that they have not been effective partners in the attainment of national goals?

Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, we are now standing at political crossroads. Acknowledging the lessons of decentralization in the past 25 years, the time has come to seriously consider the equitable distribution of economic and political power from the center to the countryside. Should we deny our local authorities the right to regulate, manage and be responsible for a sustainable share of public affairs in the interest of the local population within their limits? Should we now convene and exercise the oversight functions of Congress and consider reviewing the Local Government Code of 1991 to further strengthen local governance as well as more autonomy on public land use, disposition or administration? These are tough questions, Mme. Speaker, and our constituents need the assurance that the progress we have attained thus far will be sustained.

In closing, I take this opportunity to thank the framers of the Local Government Code of 1991. To all the men and women in all local governments who belabored day in and day out to ensure that streets are swept clean, community health centers are open, garbage is collected and all other things that many from even among your communities have taken for granted, from the bottom of my heart, I thank all of you.

Mabuhay ang lahat ng mga local chief executives!

Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker, and good afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List, the Hon. Jose L. Atienza Jr., be recognized for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Gentleman, the Hon. Jose L. Atienza Jr., is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. With the permission of the Gentleman from Cotabato and GenSan, we would like to, first, congratulate him for this very timely calling of our attention to the need to revisit the Local Government Code, but I would like

to ask him some more questions so that we can further elucidate all our colleagues in the issues that he had brought to us.

REP. ACHARON. Gladly, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Tama po iyong inyong panawagan, kailangan i-review natin ang Local Government Code dahil panahon na upang mabigyan natin ng tamang bisa/epekto ang ating pagsisikap i-promote ang local development. Hindi po ba ang purpose ng Local Government Code ay to promote local development and progress in every part of our country?

REP. ACHARON. Totoo po iyon, Mme. Speaker, Your Honor, but there are laws that were enacted in which responsibilities were given to the local government units without the necessary funding from the national government. That is why the local governments were not able to maximize their potentials, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. What you are saying, honorable Gentleman, is that the intention of the Local Government Code has not been realized because of, primarily, lack of funds. Tama po ba iyon?

REP. ACHARON. Yes, tama po iyon. There were other, as I have said, several devolutions or devolved functions of the national government to the local government but without the necessary source of funds. That is why the local governments are prompted to realign their budgets to dispose these devolved functions from the national government.

REP. ATIENZA. This Representation agrees with you 100 percent that funding is one of the main reasons the LGUs have not been able to deliver the expectations in the Local Government Code, as mandated by law, simply because LGUs do not have the means to implement the intentions of the Code.

Aaminin din po ninyo na mayroon namang mga kadahilanan din on the part of the LGUs probably because of lack of knowledge but definitely, the lack of the initiative on the part of the LGUs to enforce the necessary laws passed in accordance with the Code is also one of the main reasons, because you mentioned so many laws which are the fruits of this Code which have not taken effect—one of the main reasons for this, you may agree with me, is non-enforcement by those who should have been enforcing the impact of the law.

REP. ACHARON. Yes, I agree, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. You mentioned the Housing and Urban Development Act. That is a good law that

is supposed to address the problem of housing and settlements in the country to prevent the proliferation of informal settlers and the development or deterioration of the settlements. Along this line, giving full mandate to the LGUs, and giving them a deadline for this, they should have enforced the law long after the full implementation of the Code. Kung sinunod po ay ngayon, wala na siguro tayong mga problema along this line. Pero hindi po ipinatupad, hindi po ba?

REP. ACHARON. Yes, Mme. Speaker. I agree that there are some local government units which were not able to initiate programs that will enhance the development of their community, but as I have said, there were several devolved functions to the local government units that also need funds.

I have also mentioned, Mme. Speaker, that there were laws enacted to amend the Local Government Code to help the local governments manage their development or improve their governance, and one of those is Republic Act No. 7279, actually.

I agree to the Honorable Atienza, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, the Gentleman mentioned Republic Act No. 9003, that Act is for proper waste disposal so that all LGUs are required to close their open dumpsites, and instead comply with the intention of that law giving full responsibility on the part of the LGUs. To your knowledge, ito po ba ay ipinatupad ng ating mga kapatid na mayors and governors from its passage in year 2000, if I am not mistaken—in 2003, rather.

REP. ACHARON. Mme. Speaker, that is one of the laws that affect the governance of local government units because, as far as I know, several local government units were not able to implement the provision of sanitary landfill and dumpsites. Some local government units have to resort to borrowing money just to construct or provide sanitary landfills and for that, they have to realign their budgets for this law, Mme. Speaker, and this is one of the laws that affect the governance of local government units.

REP. ATIENZA. Therefore, the Gentleman is stressing that the non-implementation of the law has affected our direction of development for the Philippines. Tama po iyon and I agree with him.

REP. ACHARON. Yes, somehow, Mme. Speaker, because ...

REP. ATIENZA. That one of the main reasons this law has not been fully implemented is the problem of funding. Iyon po ang kanyang point of view and I agree with him.

REP. ACHARON. Tootoo po iyon, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. As far as I know, there is only one President who really pushed for not only the passage of this law, but the full implementation of this law, realizing the value of proper disposal of our garbage and proper waste disposal in the country. Sad to say, up to now, there are more than 500 open dumpsites operating all over the islands. I mentioned the only President who has taken note of this and committed herself to pursue the good intentions of the law, and we are fortunate because today she is our Presiding Officer, no less than the former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

REP. ACHARON. I agree, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. She devoted time and money and support for any LGU showing any interest in enforcing that particular law but after her, wala na po. Up to now, in the budget deliberations on the floor and in the committees, I questioned the corresponding departments on the non-implementation of this law, and I do not hear anything from the administration or from President Duterte on his intentions to help enforce this law.

Kaya pinupuna po namin sa Minority na ang problema ng bansa ay hindi lamang po droga. Droga ang pinakamalaki; criminality, number two, but, of course, our continuing pollution of our environment and allowing of the most primitive way of disposing garbage—and that is to just throw it out in the open—not only violates the law, but it causes a lot of harm to the communities around these open dumpsites. We are shocked by the reality that six years had passed under the past administration, but they did not attend to this particular law or particular requirement for a progressive Philippines.

This present government is starting now, and after 100 days, I do not think I have heard any single announcement or pronouncement about compliance with RA 9003. Wala po silang ibinibigay na pansin at hindi ako naniniwalang magkakaroon ng pansin sapagkat masyadong busy ang lahat doon sa mga ibang bagay. Nakakalimutan po iyong panawagan ng Kinatawan ngayon, to which I am reacting because I agree with him. Many of the requirements of a progressive, developed Philippines are not happening. Even if the instrument for development, which is the Local Government Code, is already in place, the expected results are not being felt by the nation. So, your call for a review is in order; we support that 100 percent.

REP. ACHARON. But, Mme. Speaker,...

REP. ATIENZA. In our review, Mme. Speaker, we should include also the non-enforcement of the

basic requirement of the Constitution. To make LGUs more effective, devolution should not stop with the devolution of functions and responsibilities but should also include the devolution of funding. Marami po sa ating mga kaibigang gobernador, mayor katulad ng inyong lingkod—itong inyong abang lingkod, dinaanan po natin iyang landas na iyan na ang kulang natin ay salapi. So, the Gentleman's call, as we appeal to all our colleagues, should touch the listening ears and hearts of our colleagues to collectively review the Local Government Code because this is the instrument for a progressive nation. Tama po ba iyon?

REP. ACHARON. I agree, Mme. Speaker, and I would like to thank the honorable Congressman from BUHAY Party-List for agreeing to my observation. That is why this Representation is calling for the convening of the oversight function of the Committee on Local Government.

REP. ATIENZA. Kailangan po ito ay gawin natin sa lalong madaling panahon sapagkat ngayon tayo po ay napipinto sa pagbabago ng ating sistema. Ang sabi ng ilan, ang solusyon sa ating bansa at sa paghihirap ay federalization. Ang sabi nila, federalization will give powers to the local government units and the regions. Ang sabi nila, kung hindi tayo magbabago ng ating sistema ay hindi tayo uunlad kailanman. Ang tanong ay simple: hindi po ba ito ay isinasaad na ng ating kasalukuyang batas? The fundamental law of the land clearly provides that local autonomy, local power, local authority to develop the local communities, should be given the local government units. Alam naman natin itong mandatong ito ay hindi po sinunod kailanman. Hanggang ngayon, tayo ay nagpapalimos sa mga LGUs. Ibigay natin iyong ating bahagi ng buwis na karapat-dapat.

The honorable Gentleman will agree that, I am sure, his city did not get a single centavo from the VAT collection which started more than a decade ago. They did not get a single centavo. We did not also get a single centavo, but we should have gotten our share, which is 50 percent of the increment of the second year compared to the first year, and a continuing share thereafter. Wala po tayong nakuha ni isang sentimo diyan sa koleksiyon ng VAT which is one of the biggest taxes today. The LGUs are not getting anything from this tax and this law, but if we have gotten hold of more money, the laws which we had mentioned would have been attended to.

Risk reduction—mayroon na rin po sanang mga resolusyon diyan. Uulitin ko ho. Hindi naman ako sumisipsip pero ang ating Presiding Officer, siya po ang bumuo noong geohazard mapping ng ating bansa na nagbibigay ng larawan kung ano ang mga panganib sa lahat ng probinsiya, sa lahat ng munisipyo, sa bundok,

sa baba, sa parang. Na-implement po ba iyan? Ang sagot po ay hindi. Iyan po ba ay ginamit para ang mga LGUs ay matuto kung papaano sila haharap sa panahon ng ulan, bagyo, mga potential landslides sa kanilang kinaroroonan? Ang sagot ay hindi.

So, what I am saying, the situation today, Mme. Speaker, is aggravated simply because, one, local government units also fail to realize that the development of their communities are already in their hands; and two, the national government, many times, has deprived local government units of their just share in fiscal autonomy. Iyong local autonomy cannot be performed without money. Does the Gentleman agree with me that money, funding, budgets are very critical in enforcing anything in planning the development of any city or province?

REP. ACHARON. I agree, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Opo, pera, e kung hindi ibinibigay sa atin iyong bahagi natin, anong gagamitin ng LGU para sa kanilang pagpapalano ng development? Wala. Wala pong magagamit, hindi po ba?

So, will the Gentleman join me in my position that if we implement fully the intention of the Constitution of 1987 and that is, to decentralize government and promote local autonomy, follow the dictum, the mandate, the order of the Constitution that the State shall ensure—hindi po sinabing “may,” hindi po sinabing “maybe,” but “shall ensure local autonomy”—kapag ito po ay tinupad at iyong pera na nakalaan po sa lokal ay ibinigay, makakakita tayo ng panibagong sigla. A new energy will flow all over the country where LGUs will plan the development, will pursue that development using their own ingenious materials, their own talents of architects, and engineers. Hindi po manggagaling iyan sa Maynila. Sa kanilang mga probinsiya, marami na po silang mga technical men who can help plan pero kailangan po diyan, pera. Without money, we will continue to wallow in poverty.

Will the Gentleman agree with me that changing the system is not the solution, because if we want to decentralize the government, we can do it now. We will ask from the national leadership for a new direction, an inspiring leadership to implement the full intention of the Local Government Code as we will work to improve on its many provisions and enforce the full intention of the Constitution. We may not need to experiment anymore on a system that is totally unknown to many of us.

REP. ACHARON. Everything has been well said, Mme. Speaker, by the Representative from the BUHAY Party-List. It is true that if we will fully implement autonomy to local government units, we might not need federalism anymore; we might just have to improve autonomy as enshrined in the Local Government Code

of 1991. That is the real federalism that we can give to the local government units.

REP. ATIENZA. So again, I stand up here in total agreement with the Gentleman’s message. I would like to appeal to all Members of Congress now, lalong-lalo na iyong mga dumaaan sa pagka-mayor, pagka-gobernador, pagka-provincial board member, naging barangay chairman. Lahat po nang nakakaalam ng ating problemang lokal ay dapat magka-isa, pagtulung-tulungan natin ito. Tumugon tayo, let us answer the call of our colleague from GenSan. We must respond to this call of the Congressman from Mindanao. We should be embracing totally federalization.

I am happy that, today, he pointed out to us and reminded us that the solution is not just shifting from one system to another. The solution lies in the mindset of those who are leading us. Kung tototohanin natin na gusto natin ng pagbabago, ay huwag lang natin ibigay sa local government unit iyong trabaho, and I pointed this out in the budget deliberations. They devolved social welfare functions; they devolved health services; they devolved even local peace and order; duties and functions, but the mayors do not have control over the police and neither do the governors. The mayors do not have any control over, not even the CCT fund. Ang kumukontrol po niyan ay ang Social Welfare Department, ang national government. Gayundin po iyong pangkalusugan. Pagkalaki-laki ng pondo nila, lahat po iyan nanggagaling sa national government. The local and provincial governments do not have a say in the expenditures on health.

So ang nangyayari po ngayon, hindi natin malaman itong sistema natin. The Constitution was passed in 1987; hindi po sinusunod. Iyong ating Local Government Code has been in place since—what was the year of the founding?

REP. ACHARON. 1992 po.

REP. ATIENZA. 1992. Can you imagine that for 24 years ...

REP. ACHARON. 25 years.

REP. ATIENZA. ... the Local Government Code has been in place, but hindi rin sinusunod. Kaya tayong mga Congressmen ngayon, gumising tayo sa katotohanan. We must collectively take a strong position on local autonomy. Together with that fiscal autonomy, getting what is due the local government units, and we may not even have to play around with changing the system, which may become prejudicial as we cannot foretell the full effect of federalization whose only aim and only promise na ipinapangako nitong pagbabago ng sistemang ito ay bibigyan daw ng kapangyarihang

lokal ang mga probinsiya. The only promise is that progress and development will now be started at the local levels with the empowerment of the provincial governments in the regions. E lahat po iyan, puwede na nating gawin ngayon without a big shift from one system to another, especially considering, galing na po tayo roon e. Pinapangako nila, magkakaroon ng parliamentary system, e ipinagmamalaki ko sa inyo, once upon a time we already had a parliamentary system and without admitting my age, Mme. Speaker, I was a Member of the Batasang Pambansa, a parliament of the Philippines.

Kaya I join the honorable Congressman Acharon in his call and I appeal to the Members of Congress now: Let us help develop the full potential of the nation with the correct system in place which is already in our control. All it takes is a little more effort and a little more direction coming from our leadership. Magagawa po natin ito kung iyong sigla ni Pangulong Duterte sa paghabol sa droga at kriminalidad ay gagamitin niya sa pagpapatupad ng Local Government Code.

Congratulations, Congressman Acharon. Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ACHARON. Thank you, Mme. Speaker, and thank you also to the Honorable Atienza for his wisdom. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that the speech of the Hon. Pedro B. Acharon Jr., with its interpellation, be referred to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The speech is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Cong. Dale "Along" R. Malapitan: the students of Interact Club of Divine Mercy College Foundation accompanied by the following faculty members: Ms. Christina Madridano, Ms. Virginia Tejuco, Mr. Francis Roel T. Rivera; and the officers and members of the Rotary Club of Caloocan North led by Mr. Richard C. Vargas, Club Director for Youth.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move to recognize the honorable Cong. Emmi A. De Jesus of the Party-List GABRIELA for her privilege speech. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Honorable De Jesus is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. DE JESUS

REP. DE JESUS. Maraming salamat po.

Ang pahayag na ito ay pagkilala o paggunita doon sa ikalawang anibersaryo ng krimeng pagpatay sa isang kabaro natin, sa isang kababayan natin, isang transgender na si Jennifer Laude sa kamay ng US Marine Private First Class Joseph Scott Pemberton. Maaalala na ang hatol ng korte na guilty si Pemberton ay pinalabnaw sa salang homicide sa halip na murder, at ang dagdag na insulto ay ang higit na malaganap na pagtampalasan sa ating soberanya na patuloy na nagaganap dahil sag pag-iral pa rin ng dominasyon ng dayuhang puwersa ng Amerika.

Sinariwa ng pagpatay kay Jennifer Laude ang naunang rape kay Nicole sa kamay din ng isang US Marine, si Corporal Joseph Smith, kung saan pinahintulutan din ng gobyerno ng Pilipinas na makaalis ang salarin sa ating jurisdiction at sumailalim sa kapangyarihan ng kanyang bansa.

Dalawang kaso ito na nagpapatotoo na ang tratado katulad ng Visiting Forces Agreement ay nagpapairal ng hindi pantay na trato sa Pilipino na nagtitiis sa pananatili ng sundalo at kagamitang pang-giyera ng Amerika. Dalawang kaso ito na nagpatingkad kung bakit ngayon ay kailangang aralin ang kabuluhan ng VFA at ng Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement.

Tumitindig ang Representasyong ito ng GABRIELA para sa kababaihan. Kami ay patuloy na nagpapatotoo na hindi maihihiwalay ang kaugnayan ng mga military agreements na ito sa isyu ng iba't ibang social, economic, political at military costs, lalo na sa karahasan sa kababaihan. Sa halip na ipagtanggol si Jennifer at Nicole, tiniyak pa ng mga nakaraang pamahalaan ang pagkilala sa boses ng gobyerno ng Estados Unidos at nagbigay ng special treatment sa pagkapiit at proseso ng paglilitis sa mga sundalong sangkot kay Jennifer at kay Nicole. Sa halip na ipagtanggol ang nilalaman ng Konstitusyon na hindi dapat naririto ang base ng tropang dayuhan at baka ang armas nukleyar ay kasama doon sa kanilang mga base, nagbukas pa ng panibagong EDCA Agreed Locations provision para sa tropa at higitang gamit pandigma ng Amerika. Hindi maitatangi na ang pagpatay kay Jennifer ay isa lamang sa mga larawan ng bulnerabilidad ng ating kababayan lalo na ng kababaihan, na maging biktima ng iba't ibang anyo ng karahasan sa kamay ng mga dayuhang sundalo. Napatunayan na natin ito sa kasaysayan na higit

pang umiral ang culture of impunity sa panig ng mga sundalong sangkot sa iba't ibang krimen at pang-aabuso.

Sa pamamagitan ng EDCA, maaaring magmukhang malaking base militar ang ating bansa at lunsaran ng pakikidigma. Nararapat lamang na ang EDCA ay aralin kung ito nga ba ay kasunduang may kapakinabangan ang Pilipinas, bagkus, baka ito ay nagtutulak lamang sa mga interes lalong-lalo na sa programa ng Amerika sa ilalim ng kanyang Pivot to Asia na matagal na niyang idineklara. Sa Article VII ng EDCA, halos isuko na ng gobyerno ang kapangyarihang magpataw ng buwis sa paggamit ng US forces sa utilities, at ang masahol pa, maaaring ito ay isang magneto sa giyera, ang pagkakaroon ng ganitong kasunduan dahil sa dami ng kaaway ng Amerika sa mundo. Matatandaan ang kasaysayan na pagkatapos ng Ikalawang Digmaang Pandaigdig, ang pambobombang ginawa sa Maynila ng magkabilang panig ay halos pangalawa sa mga durog na siyudad at dapat matuto na tayo, na tayo ay nakaladkad lamang sa giyera at nagamit pa ang ating kalupaan, karagatan at kalawakan sa pagpasok sa giyerang ito.

Batay sa mga nabanggit, kinikilala ko ang kolektibong pagkilos ng mga mamamayang Pilipino, at sana kasama ang kapulungan ng Kongreso, tungo sa pagkakamit ng katarungan sa mga katulad ni Jennifer Laude hanggang sa tuluyang maiwaksi ang mga kasunduang hindi pantay at naglalagay sa ating bansa at sa kanyang mamamayan sa bulnerableng kalagayan. Kinikilala ko rin ang malakas na tinig ng kasalukuyang Pangulong Duterte sa pagbatikos sa pagpapatuloy ng giyera ng Amerika sa iba't ibang bansang kanyang niligalig at nilusob. Sana huwag nang maulit ang malagim na nangyari kay Jennifer, maging sa mga naulila ng mga masaker ng tropang Amerikano sa iba't ibang lugar sa ating bansa. At habang isinisigaw natin ang panawagan na wakasan na sa malaon at madali ang mga kasunduang nagiging dehado tayo, huwag nating bitiwang ang ating lehitimong demanda na si Pemberton bilang isang kriminal ay ilipat sa piitan ng Pilipinas at alisin siya sa pamamahala ng dayuhang Amerika.

Kaya ang isinisigaw po sa ngalan ng aming partido, "Justice for Jennifer Laude, justice for the Filipino people."

Magandang hapon po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of honorable Cong. Emmi A. De Jesus to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

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

The speech is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Cong. Emmanuel F. Madrona here in the gallery now and they are the following: Vice Mayor Zaldy Marin; SB Member Norman Fatalla; SB Member Johnny Jesalva; SB Member Yolly Burguete; SB Member Rowel Manasan; SB Member Roland Abero; SB Member Sancho Faigao Jr.; SB Member Ruben Montesa; SB Member Benito Magracia; Secretary to the SB, Eduardo Solidum; Juvy Duroy, administrative aide; Vicky Mangaya; Emmanuel Jose Montesa; Mrs. Linda Jean Abero; Mrs. Pricilla Faigao; and Ma. Jean Fines.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I also move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Rep. Michael L. Romero, Ph.D. of 1-PACMAN Party-List. They are Mayor Joric Gacula of Taytay, Rizal; Mr. Jay Wambangco; and Mr. Zito Amistoso.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Floor Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, may I move for a one-minute suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The session is suspended.

It was 5:07 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:07 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The session is resumed.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

ROLL CALL

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). 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. 34, dated October 10, 2016:

PRESENT

Abaya	Co	Labadlabad	Rodriguez (M.)
Abayon	Cortes	Lacson	Roman
Abellanos	Cortuna	Lagman	Romero
Abu	Cosalan	Lanete	Romualdez
Acharon	Cua	Laogan	Romualdo
Acosta	Cueva	Lee	Salceda
Acosta-Alba	Dalipe	Limkaichong	Salimbangon
Advincula	Dalog	Lopez (B.)	Salon
Agarao	Daza	Lopez (C.)	Sambar
Aggabao	De Jesus	Lopez (M.L.)	Sandoval
Aglipay-Villar	De Venecia	Loyola	Santos-Recto
Alejano	De Vera	Macapagal-Arroyo	Sarmiento (C.)
Almonte	Del Mar	Maceda	Sarmiento (E.M.)
Alonte-Naguiat	Del Rosario	Madrona	Savellano
Alvarez (F.)	Deloso-Montalla	Malapitan	Siao
Alvarez (P.)	Dimaporo (A.)	Manalo	Silverio
Amante	Dimaporo (M.K.)	Marcos	Singson
Amatong	Elago	Mariño	Suansing (E.)
Andaya	Enverga	Marquez	Suansing (H.)
Angara-Castillo	Eriguel	Martinez	Sy-Alvarado
Antonio	Ermita-Buhain	Matugas	Tambunting
Aragones	Escudero	Mending	Tan (A.)
Arcillas	Espina	Mercado	Tejada
Arenas	Estrella	Mirasol	Teves
Atienza	Fariñas	Nava	Tiangco
Aumentado	Fernando	Nieto	Ting
Banal	Ferrer (J.)	Noel	Tinio
Barzaga	Ferriol-Pascual	Nogralas (J.J.)	Tolentino
Batocabe	Floirendo	Nogralas (K.A.)	Unabia
Bautista-Bandigan	Flores	Nolasco	Ungab
Belmonte (F.)	Fortuno	Nuñez-Malanyaon	Unico
Belmonte (J.C.)	Fuentebella	Olivarez	Uy (J.)
Belmonte (R.)	Garcia (J.E.)	Ong (H.)	Uy (R.)
Bernos	Garcia-Albano	Ortega (P.)	Uybarreta
Bertiz	Garin (R.)	Pacquiao	Vargas-Alfonso
Billones	Garin (S.)	Palma	Velarde
Bolilia	Gasataya	Pancho	Vergara
Bondoc	Geron	Panganiban	Villafuerte
Bordado	Go (M.)	Panotes	Villanueva
Bravo (A.)	Gonzaga	Papandayan	Villarica
Bravo (M.V.)	Gonzales (A.P.)	Pichay	Villarin
Brosas	Gonzales (A.D.)	Primicias-Agabas	Violago
Calixto-Rubiano	Gonzalez	Quimbo	Yap (M.)
Cari	Gorriceta	Radaza	Yap (V.)
Castelo	Gullas	Ramos	Yu
Castro (F.L.)	Herrera-Dy	Relampagos	Zamora (M.C.)
Castro (F.H.)	Hofer	Revilla	Zamora (R.)
Cerilles	Jalosjos	Roa-Puno	Zubiri
Chavez	Javier	Rodriguez (I.)	
Chipeco	Kho		

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The roll call shows that 197 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). With 197 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

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

The Majority Leader read the names of the House Members elected to various committees, per Journal No. 34, dated October 10, 2016.

COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

As members:

Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II
Rep. Bellaflor J. Angara-Castillo
Rep. Ferjenel G. Biron, M.D.
Rep. Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas
Rep. Anna Katrina M. Enverga
Rep. Vini Nola A. Ortega
Rep. Rico B. Geron

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

As Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Jesus Nonato Sacdalan

As members:

Rep. Paolo Everardo S. Javier
Rep. Suharto T. Mangudadatu
Rep. Makmod D. Mending Jr.
Rep. Erlpe John “Ping” M. Amante

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

As members:

Rep. Suharto T. Mangudadatu
Rep. Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas
Rep. Rogelio J. Espina, M.D.

COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

As members:

Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon
Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya
Rep. Benhur L. Salimbangon
Rep. Strike B. Revilla
Rep. Jesulito A. Manalo

COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

As Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Cristal L. Bagatsing

As members:

Rep. Rosenda Ann Ocampo
Rep. Eric L. Olivarez

Rep. Suharto T. Mangudadatu
Rep. Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas
Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

As Vice Chairpersons:

Rep. Fernando V. Gonzalez
Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda

As members:

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing
Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta
Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba
Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho
Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.
Rep. Arthur C. Yap
Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

As member:

Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EAST ASEAN GROWTH AREA

As members:

Rep. Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr.
Rep. Glona G. Labadlabad
Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D.
Rep. Rogelio Neil P. Roque
Rep. Nancy A. Catamco

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

As Vice Chairperson:

Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta

As members:

Rep. Jesus Nonato Sacdalan
Rep. Noel L. Villanueva
Rep. Michael L. Romero, Ph.D.
Rep. Sitti Djalila A. Turabin-Hataman
Rep. Rico B. Geron
Rep. Jesulito A. Manalo

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

As members:

Rep. Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas
Rep. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes
Rep. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D.
Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda
Rep. Milagrosa “Mila” T. Tan

Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba
Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho
Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato
Rep. Michelle M. Antonio
Rep. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON
GLOBALIZATION AND WTO

As Vice Chairpersons:

Rep. Fernando V. Gonzalez
Rep. Peter John D. Calderon

As members:

Rep. Ronald M. Cosalan
Rep. Carlo V. Lopez
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As member:
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As member:
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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY

As member:
Rep. Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr.

COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND FAMILY RELATIONS

As member:
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As member:
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COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

As member:
Rep. Emmanuel A. Billones

COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

As members:
Rep. Edcel C. Lagman
Rep. Edgar R. Erice

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

As members:
Rep. Raul A. Daza
Rep. Edgar R. Erice
Rep. Emmanuel A. Billones
I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Members so named are hereby elected to the various Committees.

REP. BONDOC. Mme. Speaker, Your Honor, I move that we reconsider the approval of Journal No. 30, dated Friday, September 30, 2016, to give way to a proposed amendment of the Hon. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. I so move, Mme. Speaker, Your Honor.

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

The Dep. Majority is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mme. Speaker, the motion is for the approval of an amendment to Journal No. 30 of Friday, September 30, 2016, on the second sentence of the paragraph entitled: INTERPELLATION OF REP. ROQUE (H.). I move that it be amended to read: “They tackled the ISSUE OF WHY RESIDENTS OF SOUTHVILLE 3, MUNTINLUPA CITY HAVE ONLY BEEN GIVEN USUFRUCT IN THEIR RELOCATION SITE. REP. ROQUE INQUIRED WHEN, IF AT ALL, RESIDENTS OF SOUTHVILLE 3, MUNTINLUPA CITY CAN HAVE TITLES TO THEIR LAND, WITH THE SPONSOR SAYING HIS CONCERN WILL BE ADDRESSED BY 2017.

I move that the amendment to Journal No. 30 be accepted. I so move, Mme. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL, AS AMENDED

REP. BONDOC. Mme. Speaker, I move for the approval of Journal No. 30, Friday, September 30, 2016, as amended. I so move, Mme. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Journal, as amended, is approved.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of honorable Cong. Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III. They are the founder and officers of the Candon Youth Movement led by Candon City Councilor Joanne G. Valdez and writer Lou Gepuela of Rappler.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

PRIVILEGE HOUR *Continuation*

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos of the First District of Zamboanga del Norte for his privilege speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The honorable Congressman Jalosjos is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. JALOSJOS

REP. JALOSJOS. Good afternoon, Mme. Speaker, and my dear colleagues in this august Chamber.

I rise before you today on this matter entitled: “Hiding Behind the Immunity of the Halls of Congress” which, to my understanding, affects not only the integrity of this humble Representation but the entire Congress as an institution as well. Ito bang immunity na ito ay sadyang ginagamit ng mga Miyembro ng Kongreso upang makapagpahayag ng saloobin para siraan ang isang indibidwal o institusyon? Ang pagkakaalam ko, ito ay isang karapatan ng mga Miyembro ng Kongreso upang maisiwalat ang mga kahina-hinalang mga gawain na higit makakatulong sa pagbabalangkas ng mga batas.

Mme. Speaker, for the record, in my privilege speech last September 21, 2016, I mentioned illegal drug trading activities in our province in Zamboanga del Norte. Politicians and PNP were among those mentioned as protectors, and if I may recall also in that speech, I mentioned the name SPO2 Vertudez, the chief, the most trusted security officer of suspended Gov. Roberto Uy, tagged as operator in illegal drug dealings in the province. This is not only public knowledge but this is sustained, and I repeat, Mme. Speaker, sustained by various affidavits involving him in illegal drug activities. Let me say it right, Mme. Speaker, and my dear colleagues, na tahasang itinataggi ito sa kanilang press conference na naganap noong October 1, 2016, 10 araw pagkalipas ng aking privilege speech.

Suspended Governor Uy in his statement, and I quote: “Nga confused ang iyang kaatbang sa politika tungod kay nagpasagad lang kini ug gamagama ug istorya aron lamang madaot ang iyang dungod.” Meaning, I am confused politically because of fabricating allegations to damage his personal reputations. Ngunit ang kahina-hinala, Mme. Speaker, hindi man lang niya nababanggit patungkol sa kanyang chief at trusted security na si SPO2 Vertudez na itinuturo ng mga assets at informant mula sa hanay ng local law enforcement agencies na sangkot sa illegal activities. Is this an admission of concealing or likewise protecting? Hindi ba niya ito nalalaman na kung saan personal niya itong kasa-kasama? Ako ay nahihiwagaan lamang.

You know, Mme. Speaker, and my esteemed colleagues, I really appreciate people and leaders who are perceived to be believers of God, bringing with them always the Holy Scripture, much less to be considered as prophets, which I am not of this kind because I know that I am a sinner, maybe more than most. But God strictly warned, in the book of St. Matthew, Chapter 7, Verse 15 and I quote: “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.”

In the other press conference, nagpahayag din sa kanyang presscon ang Provincial PNP Director Edwin Wagan, and I quote: “Wala ni isang information

na dumating sa amin regarding sa involvement ni suspended Governor Uy sa illegal drugs. At bakit idinadaan sa privilege speech na kung saan may immunity? At mag-file na lang sila ng kaso.”

Mme. Speaker, PD Wagan seems to know very well how to protect someone by invoking the Congress Member’s privilege and blatantly questioning the use of immunity in delivering privilege speech in the halls of Congress. To my mind, this may cause damage not only to this humble Representation but to Congress as an institution. Is PD Wagan of Zamboanga del Norte really performing his duties by gathering in-depth intelligence work regarding illegal drug activities in our province, or is he conspiring in all these illegal activities in the province? Hindi nakapagtataka na hanggang ngayon, wala pa pong tamang matrix na lumalabas sa Zamboanga del Norte. PD Wagan must wait in God’s time as the proper time. I, ako po, this humble Representation has the complete matrix na po indicating personalities based on the affidavits of informants and assets from within the various active local law enforcement agencies, and this will be submitted immediately to the President, to the DILG Secretary, and to the Chief PNP as prior information pending the scheduled hearing in the House of Representatives.

Mme. Speaker, alam po ninyo, noong ako ay nag-umpisa sa pag-privilege speech ko, I had five assets, I had five witnesses na puwedeng magbigay ng testimonya sa aking isinisiwalat ngayong gabi. Mme. Speaker, unfortunately, and I am sad to tell all the Members of this august Body, na sa limang mga assets ko, dalawa na lang ang buhay, tatlo na po ang patay, in three weeks, Mme. Speaker.

What is the truth?

My dear colleagues, I am so much delighted and even somehow vindicated that during the presentation of the resource persons in the light of the investigation as regards House Resolution No. 105 last Thursday, October 6, 2016, two of the witnesses, namely: Messrs. Engelberto Durano and Nonilo Arile categorically mentioned Zamboanga del Norte and Dipolog City, in their separate statements regarding the syndicated illegal drug trading transacted in the National Bilibid Prison. My privilege speech last September 21, 2016 was not in vain because Zamboanga del Norte and Dipolog City were specially and specifically mentioned. It corroborated the statements of my informants and assets.

Sa mga pangyayaring ito, Mme. Speaker, I maintain that I am not using my immunity in the halls of Congress. But this is again a matter of my duty, without fear, though they are so powerful even before this administration, because I seek strength in the Book of Acts, Chapter 18, Verses 9 to 10: “Do not fear, but speak, do not be silent, for I am with you.”

If I will not speak, I will be hounded by my conscience of cowardice. Who will speak for the fate of our province? We all know that, dahil sa talamak na

droga sa probinsiya, this will damage the future of our youth at lalong yumayaman ang mga nasa kapangyarihan at mga miyembro ng local law enforcement agencies sa pagpo-protekta nito.

Mme. Speaker, what have they done? Ginagawa ba nila ang kanilang tungkulin sa lokal na pamahalaan ng Zamboanga del Norte at Dipolog City—PNP, PDEA, NBI? I challenge the heads of these agencies and departments na maglabas ng statement na hindi naman personal, na nagiging lawyering sa aming gobernador na si Berto Uy. Maglabas sila ng kongkretong ebidensiya o kongkretong imbestigasyon kung totoo ba ang mga isinisiwalat ko sa mga privilege speeches ko and I tell you, baka magulat sila kung gaano kadami at kakonektado ang pinapag-usapan natin on a national scale dito sa House probe sa NBP at ang probinsiya na Zamboanga del Norte.

Mme. Speaker, I will now read some quotes na binanggit sa affidavit doon sa probe last week:

Noong February 2014 ay tinawagan ako ni Jaguar kung saan inutusan niya ako para alamin ang isang Joenel Pederio (Joenel) mula sa Zamboanga del Norte. Ayon pa kay Jaguar, si Joenel ay tao ni Ronnie Dayan na malakas ang market ng shabu sa buong Zamboanga del Norte. Makalipas ang dalawang araw, tumawag sa akin si Ronnie Dayan at sinabi ‘Bert, tulungan mo ako na mabigyan ni Jaguar ang tao ko sa Zamboanga del Norte.’ Sagot ko naman, ‘Ok, walang problema, Bay.’

Number 13 sa affidavit:

Nagtanong ako agad sa mga kasama kong Muslim sa loob ng NBP at nalaman ko na itong si Joenel ay isa palang police chief inspector na may laro din ng shabu at kakompetensya nila sa pagbebenta nito at sa katunayan ay ‘untouchable’ ito sa kanyang lugar. Agad ko itong binalita kay Jaguar sa pamamagitan ng text message.

Number 14 sa affidavit:

Makalipas ang isang linggo, nagsimula nang magbigay si Jaguar ng ‘item’ o shabu kay Joenel. Nag-text sa akin si Jaguar at pinaparecord niya sa akin ang petsa kung natanggap ni Joenel ang napadalang ‘item’ mula kay Jaguar. Tinext ko si Jaguar at ibinalita ko sa kanya na natanggap na ni Joenel ang tatlong kilo. Nagpatuloy ang mga transaksyon ni Joenel at Jaguar at tumibay din ang ugnayan ni Ronnie at Jaguar dahil sa maganda ang remittance ni Joenel kay Jaguar.

Mme. Speaker, sa aking palagay, hindi magagawa ni Inspector Joenel Pederio ang malakihang operation na ito ng ilegal na droga sa Zamboanga del Norte at Dipolog City kung hindi nalalaman ito ng Provincial Director at higit sa makapangyarihang suspended Governor Uy ng Zamboanga del Norte, dahil maliwanag pa sa sikat ng araw ang sinabi sa affidavit ni Durano na si Inspector Joenel Pederio ay “untouchable” sa lugar ng Zamboanga del Norte at alam naman ng lahat na sobrang kadikit ng suspended Governor Uy ang makapangyarihang namumuno noon ng DILG, kaya hindi malayo ito na may sabwatan at proteksyon si Inspector Joenel Pederio. Bakit hindi nila alam ito at magpasa-hanggang ngayon, sinasabi ni PD Wagan na wala silang impormasyon sa involvement dito ng mga politiko sa Zamboanga del Norte. May I suggest, please tell it to the Marines. Kung hindi naging Pangulo ng ating bansa si President Duterte, hindi ito mabubunyag sa pamamagitan ng House Resolution No. 105 kung saan ang sangkot ng kalakaran ng droga sa Bilibid Prison ay may malaking bahagi sa transaksyon ang probinsiya ng Zamboanga del Norte.

Mme. Speaker and my esteemed colleagues, maybe for some, this issue in our province is somehow parochial and political per se, but please allow me to quote the manifestation and observation of our esteemed Majority Leader, the Hon. Rodolfo Fariñas, during the deliberation and hearing on House Resolution No. 105 last October 6, 2016, and I quote, “Mr. Chairman, I think the issue of drugs in Bilibid Prison has wider scope that it is but appropriate and proper for the Committee on Dangerous Drugs to conduct its own investigation.”

I will stand corrected by the Majority Leader if somehow the verbatim context of his observation is not accurate, but I am just getting his personal thoughts and observations.

I am very much thankful to the Majority Leader because the said observation was raised and my privilege speeches pertaining to illegal drugs in Zamboanga del Norte and Dipolog City based on the statements of Messrs. Durano and Arile will form part of the Record of the House of Representative which, as I see, are not parochial in nature but of national concern and security interest.

To end, Mme. Speaker, the ball is now rolling, heads must fall down. It is very imminent to transfer at alisin na lahat ang mga opisyal sa local law enforcement agencies sa aming probinsiya, particularly ang PNP Provincial Director, PDEA, and the NBI. Hindi po ako titigil and hindi po ako tatahimik kung hindi po ma-transfer o ma-reshuffle

all these erring, incompetent, and inefficient officials in our province. If these officials will not be transferred, the concealment or pagtatago at pagtatakip ng tamang impormasyon patungkol sa kalakaran sa droga sa Zamboanga del Norte at Dipolog City ay mananatili, at matatakot ang mga assets and informants na lumantad dahil alam ng mga opisyal na ito ang mga kalakaran, and justice will not be served. This will deprave the campaign of our President Duterte in his total war against illegal drugs.

For the proper information of my esteemed colleagues, House Resolution No. 456, calling for an urgent investigation on the illegal drug trading activities in the province of Zamboanga del Norte has already been filed and, likewise, I had manifested the need for a speedy hearing on the same, which content and intent form part of House Resolution 105.

Maraming, maraming salamat sa inyong lahat sa pakikinig at pagbibigay ninyo ng oras sa hapong ito. Pagpalain po nawa ng ating butihing Diyos ang ating mga gawain dito sa House of Representatives for the brighter future of our nation.

Salamat po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Hon. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

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

The privilege speech is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we terminate the Privilege Hour.

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

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 33 dated October 5, 2016.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. MATUGAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until tomorrow, October 11, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Macapagal-Arroyo). The session is adjourned until Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 5:43 p.m.