



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17th CONGRESS, SECOND REGULAR SESSION

House of Representatives

Vol. 1

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No. 1

OPENING OF THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

At 10:04 a.m., Speaker Panatelon D. Alvarez called the session to order.

THE SPEAKER. Honorable Members of the House of Representatives, today is the fourth Monday of July 2017. The day the Constitution mandates that Congress convene to commence its Regular Session.

I hereby call the Second Regular Session of the Seventeenth Congress to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE SPEAKER. Please rise for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

THE SPEAKER. Please remain standing for the Invocation to be delivered by Dep. Speaker Mylene J. Garcia-Albano from the Second District of Davao City.

Everybody remained standing for the Invocation.

INVOCATION

REP. GARCIA-ALBANO. As we start the Second Regular Session of this Seventeenth Congress, we pray:

Amahan nga magigugmaon, nagabuhat sa kinatibukan, kami isip usa ka nasod nagahangyo diha kanino ug pag amuma. Nangamuyo ug nagadayeg kami kanimo sa makanunayong grasya nga gihatag nimu kanamu. Mangayo kami ug pasaylo sa among mga kakulangan diha kanimo ug sa among isig kaingon. Naga pasalamat kami kanimu Amahan sa paghatag sa nasod Pilipinas ug giya, sa mga maanindot ug pagka adunahan niini sa panginabuhian.

Ihatag ang kalinaw sa among nasod ug katunghayan. Itugyan namu kanimo ang mga mamumuno sa among nasod, ang among President, Bise Presidente, mga

Senador, mga Kongresista ug ang tanang nanrabaho sa gobyerno. Hinaot nga kanunay ang saktong bulohaton ug panghuna-huna ang mupatigbabaw sa ilang kasing-kasing. Kining tanan among gi ampo kanimo langitnong Amahan.

We also lift up our brothers and sisters in Mindanao. May the victory of peace come upon them so that justice and love may reign in their place.

Amen.

REMARKS OF THE SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. The Chair would like to address this august Chamber, please take your seats.

It has been a year since we began our journey in the Seventeenth Congress of the Philippines. With the First Regular Session now adjourned, and as we begin the Second Regular Session, let us look back at the years that passed.

The May 2016 elections was one of the most partisan in the history of our nation. In spite of this, we rolled up our sleeves and went to work. Our performance speaks for itself.

In our First Regular Session, we passed on Third Reading 210 legislative measures. (*Applause*) Given that we had 97 session days, that is an average of two bills on Third Reading for every session day. Our concrete efforts to provide our people with better chances at life is undeniable. While variables beyond our control have marked the First Regular Session with unprecedented challenges, we did not waiver or falter. We did our job. As a matter of fact, for all the 97 session days during the First Regular Session, we had a quorum. This is unheard of.

Let us thank Majority Leader Rodolfo Fariñas for his decisiveness, and the House Members (*Applause*) for their cooperation regarding this matter.

Our collective commitment to discipline also made possible landmark legislative feats. We passed the 2017 budget in record time. Credit goes to Rep. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles (*Applause*) for leading the charge in tackling the budget. We have also succeeded in steering the return of the death penalty for certain heinous crimes. Let us recognize the hard work of

Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali in making this possible. *(Applause)*

The House has also passed on Third Reading the Tax Reform Bill. For the longest time, a comprehensive reform of our tax laws was considered beyond the reach of reality. That remained true until Rep. Dakila Carlo E. Cua stepped into the fight. *(Applause)* Let us thank him for safely navigating the Tax Reform Bill through the rough seas of Congress.

Our legislative task, however, cannot be done alone. It is accomplished through partnership, not only amongst ourselves, but also in tandem with our colleagues in the Senate of the Philippines whom we meet with once every beginning of the month. This has laid the solid ground for a more effective and efficient inter-Chamber operational compatibility. Through a spirited but cordial exchange, we have agreed upon a Common Legislative Agenda of Congress. There are 40 nationally important items on that list.

Our collective hard work paid off as shown by what we were able to accomplish as we reached the legislative finish line during the month of May of this year. The House and the Senate chose 14 measures from the Common Legislative Agenda for passage on Third Reading before the session ended. On the part of the House of Representatives, we delivered 11 of the 14 bills. The remaining three bills are making substantial progress through the legislative process here in our Chamber.

Of the 14 nationally important measures, the House and the Senate successfully passed six bills which are now at the doorstep of becoming laws. All that is required now is the signature of the President. These are landmark reforms, some long overdue, and common sense cures the everyday pain points of life.

To start off, the enactment of R.A. No. 10927, amending the Anti-Money Laundering Act to cover casino transactions. We have created an additional safeguard against the threats posed by those who perpetrated the Bangladesh Bank heist and laid bare the vulnerabilities of our banking systems.

Thanks to the approval of both Chambers of Congress, several bills are also now submitted to the President for his signature. These bills have made tertiary education more accessible, increased interconnectedness of our people through free Internet in public places, updated the backwardness of the fines applicable in the Revised Penal Code to be more in keeping with today's realities, and strengthened emergency health care services, especially for indigent patients.

Let us recognize Rep. Ann K. Hofer, Rep. Victor A. Yap, Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali, Rep. Ben B. Evardone and Rep. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D. for making sure that these bills passed on Third Reading here in our Chamber. *(Applause)*

We have also fixed certain everyday problems that bring inconvenience to our people. Now, the validity of a driver's license is five years, and should a driver comply with reasonable conditions, it can even be for as long as 10 years. The same is true for the validity of passports. It can be valid for as long as a decade or 10 years. We also extend our appreciation to Rep. Cesar V. Sarmiento and Rep. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica for their dedication to the cause. *(Applause)*

We were able to do all of these in just one session. Indeed, we have reasons to celebrate, but let us temper our joys with a sobering thought that we still have plenty of challenges left to face. There are remaining items in the Common Legislative Agenda of the House and the Senate. There is also the Presidential Legislative Agenda; and, of course, we all have advocacies we hold close to our hearts which we wish to translate into law.

Our first session aimed at getting the basics right without which we end up hubristically building our nation on shifting sands. Getting the basics right is like finding our granite upon which we can build a sturdy nation—our home—designed to and capable of withstanding the test of time. This principle must be kept in mind as we move forward to our Second Regular Session. Let us not only aim for landmark legislations—grand in scope—but also seek to address concerns that involve the basic unit of our society—the family.

Admittedly, there is a sad reality about some marriages. We do not always get it right the first time around. Unfortunately, the present system practically coerces married persons to remain with each other even if the relationship is beyond repair, and has caused and continues to cause harm to the well-being of the husband, the wife and, worse, the children involved. We have to change this.

I thank Rep. Pia S. Cayetano for her commitment to file a bill that will allow the dissolution of marriage without need of an extensively adversarial system. Married persons can mutually agree to end their marriage subject to the approval of the court. One of the conditions which must be complied with is an agreed-upon executable framework to provide for the care and support of their children. Moreover, previously married persons can remain friends and better parents, despite their differences, since we no longer have to sling mud at each other in front of a judge just to convince the magistrate that their marriage should be declared void or voided. We must also be considerate of the fact that marriage may not be for everyone.

Presently, it even excludes certain groups of people from its fold. Let us tackle this issue head on. I will file a bill that will legally recognize and protect civil

partnerships. I thank Rep. Geraldine B. Roman for her inputs regarding this legislative measure. Our citizens should not be excluded from society just because of the person they love. They must also be treated with equality before the law. I support Representative Roman's fight against discrimination in our society. *(Applause)*

Let us not stop there. Children, through no fault of theirs, have been stigmatized by society for being born outside of a valid marriage. It is time to end the unequal treatment of legitimate and illegitimate children. We can start the process by equalizing the legitimes that children receive regardless of whether or not they were born within or outside wedlock. This is an issue of justice and fairness. *(Applause)* I hope that you support it as well.

Beyond the family, we also have to embark upon the great reorganization of the government bureaucracy. The regulatory framework is chaotic, full of overlaps, conflicts of interests and, at times, there is no clear central regulatory body. Let us start off with PAGCOR. It does not make sense for it to regulate and operate. An entity that has this power runs the risk of dealing itself a favorable hand while undercutting others.

We should also look into how land transportation, railways, airports, and seaports are organized and regulated. Often, a review of said areas of public interest would show how chaotic their regulatory frameworks are. Let us begin by merging the LTO and the LTFRB into the Land Transportation Authority. *(Applause)* Moving forward, our railways must be regulated by a new body, the Philippine Railways Authority, which will set the uniform standards and fares for all railways operating here in the Philippines.

The same holds true for airports. We must create the Philippine Airports Authority since the different airports act autonomously, without sufficient oversight and agreed-upon standards, given that many have their own charters. Let us work closely with Rep. Cesar V. Sarmiento to make this possible.

Now, let us complete the reorganization by adding a safeguard mechanism that will make certain that the public interest will always be protected. We must require that operators of casinos, public transportation, as well as mining companies, secure a legislative franchise from Congress prior to their operations. *(Applause)* This will make certain that their applications are scrutinized deeply. Only the deserving will be allowed to operate. I have met with Rep. Franz E. Alvarez regarding this matter, and I have full confidence in his ability to shepherd these bills through the legislative process.

Last but not the least, we have to concentrate our efforts on passing two legislative measures that hold the key to lasting peace and prosperity for our country. First, the Bangsamoro Basic Law draft has been submitted to the President and will soon be on its way

to our Chambers. This will be the basis for creating a homeland for our Bangsamoro brothers and sisters. Second, we have to exert additional effort in paving the way for the shift from a unitary to a federal form of government. This will address the structural defects that have hampered our national strategy in pursuit of peace, prosperity, and progress. Let us recognize Rep. Roger G. Mercado's contribution in pushing forward with this legislative agenda. *(Applause)*

Evidently, we have our plates full for the rest of the Second Regular Session. I am certain that we can accomplish the tasks ahead of us. And, although I cannot mention everyone due to time constraints, I would like to thank all of you for making our First Regular Session a success. You know who you are. Thank you.

As we embark upon our Second Regular Session, let us remember whom we legislate for—and this is for the generations that will come after our own. The history of our nation is like a book. Each generation is allowed to write a chapter, and then we pass on the torch to those who will inherit what we leave behind. I wonder what the younger generations will speak of when they remember us and our legacy. On my part, I simply want to be remembered as the Speaker of the people who listened to and acted upon the often-unheard cries and complaints of the marginalized and voiceless members of our society. Together, let us empower the disempowered.

I recently found out that the youngest staff here in the House of Representatives works for my office. Like many from her generation, she is both bright and promising. As a matter of fact, she graduated cum laude from the oldest university in Asia. With all the opportunities presented to her, she nonetheless chose the difficult life of public service—a life we in this Chamber are all too familiar with. However, unlike many of us who will soon reach the twilight years of our lives, she has more time. What changes and challenges will her generation meet and overcome?

Will her generation still be full of Filipinos who will have to leave their families to pursue greener pastures abroad? Or will her generation build upon what we, legislators of today, have accomplished—finally say to our OFWs abroad, “Uwi na tayo?”

Will her generation still have to deal with fighting for elusive peace and missing out on progress and development should we fail to pass the Bangsamoro Basic Law and in addition to that, fail to shift our form of government from unitary to federal? Or will her generation reap the dividends of our efforts to end the insurgencies? Will our children still have to fight or can they finally live their lives in peace and happiness? In this endless journey we call nation-building, let us make sure that we write our chapter well so that those who will come after us may build upon what we have

secured. Let us keep this in mind as we begin our Second Regular Session.

Thank you and may God bless the Philippines.
(Applause)

ROLL CALL

THE SPEAKER. The Secretary General will now call the roll of Members of the House of Representatives elected from legislative districts apportioned among the provinces, cities and municipalities and party-list organizations.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL reading: Roll call of Members elected from the legislative districts apportioned among provinces, cities and municipalities and party-list organizations.

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

CALOOCAN CITY

First District

Hon. Dale “Along” R. Malapitan

Second District

Hon. Edgar R. Erice

LAS PIÑAS CITY

Lone District

MAKATI CITY

First District

Hon. Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III

Second District

Hon. Luis Jose Angel N. Campos Jr.

MALABON CITY

Lone District

Hon. Federico “Ricky” S. Sandoval II

MANDALUYONG CITY

Lone District

Hon. Alexandria P. Gonzales

MANILA

First District

Hon. Manuel Luis T. Lopez

Second District

Hon. Carlo V. Lopez

Third District

Hon. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto

Fourth District

Hon. Edward Vera Perez Maceda

Fifth District

Hon. Cristal L. Bagatsing

Sixth District

Hon. Rosenda Ann Ocampo

MARIKINA CITY

First District

Hon. Bayani F. Fernando

Second District

Hon. Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo

MUNTINLUPA CITY

Lone District

Hon. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon

NAVOTAS CITY

Lone District

Hon. Tobias “Toby” M. Tiangco

PARAÑAQUE CITY

First District

Hon. Eric L. Olivarez

Second District

Hon. Gus S. Tambunting

PASAY CITY

Lone District

Hon. Emi G. Calixto-Rubiano

PASIG CITY

Lone District

Hon. Richard C. Eusebio

QUEZON CITY

First District

Hon. Vincent “Bingbong” P. Crisologo

Second District

Hon. Winston “Winnie” Castelo

Third District

Hon. Jorge “Bolet” Banal

Fourth District

Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

Fifth District

Hon. Alfred D. Vargas

Sixth District

Hon. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

SAN JUAN CITY

Lone District

Hon. Ronaldo B. Zamora

TAGUIG CITY/PATEROS

First District

Hon. Arnel M. Cerafica

Second District

Hon. Pia S. Cayetano

VALENZUELA CITY

First District

Hon. Wes Gatchalian

Second District Hon. Eric M. Martinez	Second District Hon. Ana Cristina Siquian Go
REGION I (Ilocos Region)	Third District Hon. Napoleon S. Dy
ILOCOS NORTE (with the city of Laoag)	Fourth District Hon. Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao
First District Hon. Rodolfo C. Fariñas	NUEVA VIZCAYA
Second District Hon. Imelda R. Marcos	Lone District Hon. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma
ILOCOS SUR (with the cities of Vigan and Candon)	QUIRINO
First District Hon. Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano	Lone District Hon. Dakila Carlo E. Cua
Second District Hon. Eric D. Singson	REGION III (Central Luzon)
LA UNION	AURORA
First District Hon. Pablo C. Ortega	Lone District Hon. Bellaflor J. Angara-Castillo
Second District Hon. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D.	BATAAN
PANGASINAN	First District Hon. Geraldine B. Roman
First District Hon. Jesus “Boying” F. Celeste	Second District Hon. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III
Second District Hon. Leopoldo N. Bataoil	BULACAN
Third District Hon. Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas	First District Hon. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado
Fourth District Hon. Christopher V. P. De Venecia	Second District Hon. Gavini “Apol” C. Pancho
Fifth District Hon. Amado T. Espino Jr.	Third District Hon. Lorna C. Silverio
Sixth District Hon. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas	Fourth District Hon. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica
REGION II (Cagayan Valley)	SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY
BATANES	Lone District Hon. Florida “Rida” P. Robes
Lone District Hon. Henedina R. Abad	NUEVA ECIJA
CAGAYAN	First District Hon. Estrellita B. Suansing
First District Hon. Ramon C. Nolasco	Second District Hon. Micaela S. Violago
Second District Hon. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso	Third District Hon. Rosanna “Ria” Vergara
Third District Hon. Randolph S. Ting	Fourth District Hon. Magnolia C. Antonino
ISABELA	PAMPANGA
First District Hon. Rodolfo T. Albano III	First District Hon. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II
	Second District Hon. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Third District
Hon. Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr.
Fourth District
Hon. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc

TARLAC

First District
Hon. Carlos O. Cojuangco
Second District
Hon. Victor A. Yap
Third District
Hon. Noel L. Villanueva

ZAMBALES

First District
Hon. Jeffrey D. Khonghun
Second District
Hon. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla

REGION IV-A (CALABARZON)

ANTIPOLO CITY

First District
Hon. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno
Second District
Hon. Romeo M. Acop

BATANGAS (with the cities of Batangas and Lipa)

First District
Hon. Elenita Milagros “Eileen” Ermita-Buhain
Second District
Hon. Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu
Third District
Hon. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes
Fourth District
Hon. Lianda B. Bolilia
Fifth District
Hon. Marvey A. Mariño
Sixth District
Hon. Vilma Santos-Recto

BIÑAN CITY

Lone District
Hon. Marlyn B. Alonte

CAVITE (with the cities of Cavite, Trece Martires and Tagaytay)

First District
Hon. Francis Gerald A. Abaya
Second District
Hon. Strike B. Revilla
Third District
Hon. Alex “AA” L. Advincula
Fourth District
Hon. Jennifer Austria-Barzaga

Fifth District
Hon. Roy M. Loyola
Sixth District
Hon. Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV
Seventh District
Hon. Abraham “Bambol” N. Tolentino

LAGUNA

First District
Hon. Arlene B. Arcillas
Second District
Hon. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr.
Third District
Hon. Sol Aragonés
Fourth District
Hon. Benjamin C. Agarao Jr.

BIÑAN CITY

Lone District
Hon. Marlyn B. Alonte

QUEZON (with the city of Lucena)

First District
Hon. Anna Katrina M. Enverga
Second District
Hon. Vicente “Kulit” J. Alcala
Third District
Hon. Danilo E. Suarez
Fourth District
Hon. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D.

RIZAL

First District
Hon. Michael John R. Duavit
Second District
Hon. Isidro S. Rodriguez Jr.

REGION IV-B (MIMAROPA)

MARINDUQUE

Lone District
Hon. Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

Lone District
Hon. Josephine Ramirez-Sato

ORIENTAL MINDORO (with the city of Calapan)

First District
Hon. Doy C. Leachon
Second District
Hon. Reynaldo V. Umali

PALAWAN (with the city of Puerto Princesa)

First District
Hon. Franz E. Alvarez

Second District Hon. Frederick "Erick" F. Abueg	REGION VI (Western Visayas)
Third District Hon. Gil "Kabarangay" P. Acosta	AKLAN
ROMBLON	Lone District Hon. Carlito S. Marquez
Lone District Hon. Emmanuel F. Madrona	ANTIQUE
REGION V (Bicol Region)	Lone District Hon. Paolo Everardo S. Javier
ALBAY (with the cities of Legazpi, Ligao and Tabaco)	CAPIZ (with the city of Roxas)
First District Hon. Edcel C. Lagman	First District Hon. Emmanuel A. Billones
Second District Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda	Second District Hon. Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro
Third District Hon. Fernando V. Gonzalez	GUIMARAS
CAMARINES NORTE	Lone District Hon. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D.
First District Hon. Renato J. Unico Jr.	ILOILO (with the city of Passi)
Second District Hon. Marisol C. Panotes	First District Hon. Oscar "Richard" S. Garin Jr.
CAMARINES SUR (with the cities of Naga and Iriga)	Second District Hon. Arcadio H. Gorriceta
First District Hon. Rolando G. Andaya Jr.	Third District Hon. Arthur R. Defensor Jr.
Second District Hon. Luis Raymund F. Villafuerte Jr.	Fourth District Hon. Ferjenel G. Biron, M.D.
Third District Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.	Fifth District Hon. Raul "Boboy" C. Tupas
Fourth District Hon. Arnulfo P. Fuentebella	ILOILO CITY
Fifth District Hon. Salvio B. Fortuno	Lone District Hon. Jerry P. Treñas
CATANDUANES	REGION VII (Central Visayas)
Lone District Hon. Cesar V. Sarmiento	BOHOL (with the city of Tagbilaran)
MASBATE (with the city of Masbate)	First District Hon. Rene L. Relampagos
First District Hon. Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo	Second District Hon. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado
Second District Hon. Elisa "Olga" T. Kho	Third District Hon. Arthur C. Yap
Third District Hon. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.	CEBU
SORSOGON (with the city of Sorsogon)	First District Hon. Gerald Anthony "Samsam" V. Gullas Jr.
First District Hon. Evelina G. Escudero	Second District Hon. Wilfredo S. Caminero
Second District Hon. Deogracias B. Ramos Jr.	Third District Hon. Gwendolyn F. Garcia
	Fourth District Hon. Benhur L. Salimbangon

Fifth District
Hon. Ramon “Red” H. Durano VI
Sixth District
Hon. Jonas C. Cortes
Seventh District
Hon. Peter John D. Calderon

CEBU CITY

First District
Hon. Raul V. Del Mar
Second District
Hon. Rodrigo A. Abellanos

LAPU-LAPU CITY

Lone District
Hon. Aileen C. Radaza

SIQUIJOR

Lone District
Hon. Ramon V. A. “RAV” Rocamora

REGION VIII (Eastern Visayas)

BILIRAN

Lone District
Hon. Rogelio J. Espina, M.D.

EASTERN SAMAR

Lone District
Hon. Ben P. Evardone

LEYTE

First District
Hon. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez
Second District
Hon. Henry C. Ong
Third District
Hon. Vicente “Ching” S.E. Veloso
Fourth District
Hon. Lucy T. Gomez
Fifth District
Hon. Jose Carlos L. Cari

NORTHERN SAMAR

First District
Hon. Raul A. Daza
Second District
Hon. Edwin C. Ong

SAMAR

First District
Hon. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento
Second District
Hon. Milagrosa “Mila” T. Tan

SOUTHERN LEYTE

Lone District
Hon. Roger G. Mercado

REGION IX (Zamboanga Peninsula)

ZAMBOANGA CITY

First District
Hon. Celso L. Lobregat
Second District
Hon. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe

ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE

First District
Hon. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos
Second District
Hon. Glona G. Labadlabad
Third District
Hon. Isagani S. Amatong

ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR

First District
Hon. Divina Grace C. Yu
Second District
Hon. Aurora Enerio-Cerilles

ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY

First District
Hon. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II
Second District
Hon. Ann K. Hofer

REGION X (Northern Mindanao)

BUKIDNON (with the cities of Malaybalay and Bukidnon)

First District
Hon. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba
Second District
Hon. Florencio T. Flores Jr., M.D.
Third District
Hon. Manuel F. Zubiri
Fourth District
Hon. Rogelio Neil P. Roque

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

First District
Hon. Rolando “Klarex” A. Uy
Second District
Hon. Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr.

CAMIGUIN

Lone District
Hon. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo

ILIGAN CITY

Lone District
Hon. Frederick W. Siao

LANAO DEL NORTE

First District
Hon. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo
Second District
Hon. Abdullah D. Dimaporo

MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL

First District
Hon. Jorge T. Almonte
Second District
Hon. Henry S. Oaminal

MISAMIS ORIENTAL

First District
Hon. Peter "Sr. Pedro" M. Unabia
Second District
Hon. Juliette T. Uy

REGION XI (Davao Region)

COMPOSTELA VALLEY

First District
Hon. Maria Carmen S. Zamora
Second District
Hon. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga

DAVAO CITY

First District
Hon. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles
Second District
Hon. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano
Third District
Hon. Alberto T. Ungab

DAVAO DEL NORTE

First District
Hon. Pantaleon D. Alvarez
Second District
Hon. Antonio R. Floirendo Jr.

DAVAO DEL SUR

Lone District
Hon. Mercedes "Didi" C. Cagas

DAVAO OCCIDENTAL

Lone District
Hon. Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan

DAVAO ORIENTAL

First District
Hon. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon

Second District

Hon. Joel Mayo Z. Almario

REGION XII (SOCCSKSARGEN)

NORTH COTABATO (with the city of Kidapawan)

First District
Hon. Jesus Nonato Sacdalan
Second District
Hon. Nancy A. Catamco
Third District
Hon. Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada

SARANGANI

Lone District
Hon. Rogelio "Ruel" D. Pacquiao

SOUTH COTABATO

First District
Hon. Pedro B. Acharon Jr.
Second District
Hon. Ferdinand L. Hernandez

SULTAN KUDARAT

First District
Hon. Suharto T. Mangudadatu
Second District
Hon. Horacio P. Suansing Jr.

AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (ARMM)

BASILAN

Lone District

LANAO DEL SUR

First District
Hon. Ansaruddin A.M.A. Adiong
Second District
Hon. Mauyag "Jun" B. Papandayan Jr.

MAGUINDANAO AND COTABATO CITY

First District
Hon. Bai Sandra Sinsuat A. Sema
Second District
Hon. Zajid G. Mangudadatu

SULU

First District

Second District
Hon. Munir M. Arbison

TAWI-TAWI

Lone District
Hon. Ruby M. Sahali

CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

ABRA

Lone District

Hon. Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos

APAYAO

Lone District

Hon. Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang

BAGUIO CITY

Lone District

Hon. Mark O. Go

BENGUET

Lone District

Hon. Ronaldo M. Cosalan

IFUGAO

Lone District

Hon. Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr.

KALINGA

Lone District

Hon. Allen Jesse C. Mangaoang

MOUNTAIN PROVINCE

Lone District

CARAGA REGION

AGUSAN DEL NORTE

First District

Hon. Lawrence H. Fortun

Second District

Hon. Erlpe John "Ping" M. Amante

AGUSAN DEL SUR (with the city of Bayugan)

First District

Hon. Maria Valentina G. Plaza

Second District

Hon. Evelyn P. Mellana

DINAGAT ISLANDS

Lone District

Hon. Kaka J. Bag-a-o

SURIGAO DEL NORTE

First District

Hon. Francisco Jose F. Matugas II

Second District

Hon. Robert Ace S. Barbers

SURIGAO DEL SUR

First District

Hon. Prospero A. Pichay Jr.

Second District

Hon. Johnny Ty Pimentel

REGION XVIII (Negros Island Region)

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL (with the cities of San Carlos, Cadiz, Bago, La Carlota, Silay, Kabankalan, Sagay, Victoria, Escalante, Sipalay and Himamaylan)

First District

Hon. Melecio J. Yap Jr.

Second District

Hon. Leo Rafael M. Cueva

Third District

Hon. Alfredo "Albee" B. Benitez

Fourth District

Hon. Juliet Marie D. Ferrer

Fifth District

Hon. Alejandro Y. Mirasol

Sixth District

Hon. Mercedes K. Alvarez

BACOLOD CITY

Lone District

Hon. Greg G. Gasataya

NEGROS ORIENTAL

First District

Hon. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong

Second District

Hon. Manuel T. Sagarbarria

Third District

Hon. Arnolfo "Arnie" A. Teves Jr.

PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVES

1-Ang Edukasyon (Una ang Edukasyon)

Hon. Salvador B. Belaro Jr.

1-CARE (1st Consumers Alliance for Rural Energy, Inc.)

Hon. Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta

1-PACMAN (One Patriotic Coalition of Marginalized Nationals)

Hon. Michael L. Romero, Ph.D.

Hon. Enrico A. Pineda

A TEACHER, INC. (Advocacy for Teacher Empowerment Through Action, Cooperation and Harmony Towards Educational Reforms, Inc.)

Hon. Julieta R. Cortuna

AAMBIS-OWA (Ang Asosasyon Sang Mangunguma Nga Bisaya-OWA Mangunguma, Inc.)

Hon. Sharon S. Garin

AANGAT TAYO (Aangat Tayo) Hon. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III	ANAC-IP (Ang National Coalition of Indigenous Peoples Action Na! Inc.) Hon. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA; LLB
AASENSO (Ating Agapay Sentrong Samahan ng mga Obrero, Inc.) Hon. Teodoro “Ted” G. Montoro	ANAKPAWIS Hon. Ariel “Ka Ayik” B. Casilao
ABANG LINGKOD, INC. (Abang Lingkod, Inc.) Hon. Joseph Stephen S. Paduano	ANG KABUHAYAN Hon. Dennis C. Laogan
ABONO (Abono Party-List) Hon. Conrado M. Estrella III Hon. Vini Nola A. Ortega	ANGKLA (Ang Partido ng mga Pilipinong Marino, Inc.) Hon. Jesulito A. Manalo
ABS (Arts Business and Science Professionals) Hon. Eugene Michael B. De Vera	BAYAN MUNA Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate
ACT TEACHERS (Act Teachers Party-List) Hon. Antonio L. Tinio Hon. France L. Castro	BH (Bagong Henerasyon) Hon. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy
ACTS-OFW (Acts-Overseas Filipino Workers Coalition of Organizations) Hon. Aniceto “John” D. Bertiz III	BUHAY (Buhay Hayaan Yumabong) Hon. Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr. Hon. Jose L. Atienza Jr.
AGAP (Agricultural Sector Alliance of the Philippines) Hon. Rico B. Geron	BUTIL (Butil Farmers Party) Hon. Cecilia Leonila V. Chavez
AGBIAG (Agbiag! Timpuyog Ilocano, Inc.) Hon. Michelle M. Antonio	CIBAC (Citizens’ Battle Against Corruption) Hon. Sherwin N. Tugna
AGRI (Agri-Agra na Reporma Para sa Magsasaka ng Pilipinas Movement) Hon. Delphine Gan Lee Hon. Orestes T. Salon	COOP-NATCCO (Cooperative NATCCO Network Party) Hon. Anthony M. Bravo, Ph.D. Hon. Sabiniano S. Canama
AKBAYAN (Akbayan Citizens’ Action Party) Hon. Tom S. Villarín	DIWA (Democratic Independent Workers Association, Inc.) Hon. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar
AKO BICOL (Ako Bicol Political Party) Hon. Rodel M. Batocabe Hon. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr. Hon. Christopher S. Co	GABRIELA (Gabriela Women’s Party) Hon. Emmi A. De Jesus Hon. Arlene D. Brosas
ALONA (Alliance of Organizations, Networks and Associations of the Philippines, Inc.) Hon. Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez	KABATAAN (Kabataan Party-List) Hon. Sarah Jane I. Elago
AMIN (Anak Mindanao Party-List) Hon. Sitti Djalía A. Turabin-Hataman Hon. Makmod D. Mending Jr.	KABAYAN (Kabalikat ng Mamamayan) Hon. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. Hon. Ron P. Salo
AN WARAY (An Waray) Hon. Victoria Isabel G. Noel	KALINGA (Advocacy for Social Empowerment and Nation Building Through Easing Poverty, Inc.) Hon. Abigail Faye C. Ferriol-Pascual
	KUSUG TAUSUG Hon. Shernee Abubakar Tan

LPGMA (LPG Marketers Association, Inc.)
Hon. Arnel U. Ty

MAGDALO (Magdalo para sa Pilipino)
Hon. Gary C. Alejano

MANILA TEACHERS (Manila Teachers' Savings and Loan Association, Inc.)
Hon. Virgilio S. Lacson

MATA (Ang Mata'y Alagaan)
Hon. Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera

PBA (Puwersa ng Bayaning Atleta)
Hon. Mark Aeron H. Sambar
Hon. Jericho Jonas B. Nograles

SAGIP (Social Amelioration & Genuine Intervention on Poverty)
Hon. Rodante D. Marcoleta

SENIOR CITIZENS (Coalition of Associations of Senior Citizens in the Philippines, Inc.)
Hon. Francisco G. Datol Jr.
Hon. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay

SBP (Serbisyo sa Bayan Party)
Hon. Ricardo "RJ" T. Belmonte Jr.

TUCP (Trade Union Congress Party)
Hon. Raymond Democrito C. Mendoza

YACAP (You Against Corruption And Poverty)
Hon. Benjur B. Lopez Jr.

Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 264 Members responded to the call.

THE SPEAKER. There being 264 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The honorable Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of a certificate of finality issued by the Commission on Elections en banc relative to its Resolution promulgated on May 3, 2017 recognizing the legitimate nominees and declaring them as the Representatives of the Coalition of Associations of Senior Citizens in the Philippines Incorporated.

Pursuant to Section 6, Rule II of the Rules of the House, I move that the honorable Speaker administer the Oath of Affirmation to Mr. Francisco G. Datol Jr., and Mme. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay (*Applause*) in open session as the duly elected Representatives of the SENIOR CITIZENS Party-List, and that the members

of their immediate families be allowed to accompany them.

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

The Hon. Francisco Datol Jr. and Hon. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay are invited to ascend the rostrum for their oath taking as the Representatives of the Coalition of Associations of Senior Citizens in the Philippines.

We also invite their immediate families to witness the same.

May I request all the Members of the House to stand.

At this juncture, Representatives Datol Jr. and Aquino-Magsaysay, accompanied by the members of their families, ascended the rostrum and took their oath of office in the House of Representatives before the Speaker.

OATH-TAKING OF REPS. DATOL AND AQUINO-MAGSAYSAY

THE SPEAKER. Please raise your right hands and recite your oaths before me.

I, FRANCISCO DATOL JR. of Quezon City/MILAGROS AQUINO-MAGSAYSAY of 25 Gaerlan St., Barangay Ili Sur, San Juan, La Union, having been elected as Representative of the Coalition of Associations of Senior Citizens of the Philippines, Incorporated/ Senior Citizens Party-List, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

(*Applause*)

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

THE SPEAKER. The session is suspended for a few minutes to allow the other Members of the House to meet the Honorable Datol and Honorable Magsaysay. Congratulations.

It was 11:03 a.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 11:05 a.m., the session was resumed.

THE SPEAKER. The session is resumed.
The honorable Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1104

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 1104, and that the Secretary General be directed to read the title and text of the Resolution.

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

The consideration of House Resolution No. 1104 is now in order.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 1104, entitled: RESOLUTION INFORMING THE SENATE THAT A QUORUM BEING PRESENT, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS.

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, that the Senate be informed that a quorum being present, the House of Representatives has entered upon the exercise of its functions.

Adopted,

(Sgd.) RODOLFO C. FARIÑAS
Majority Leader

(Sgd.) DANILO E. SUAREZ
Minority Leader

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Resolution No. 1104.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1104

THE SPEAKER. There is a motion to adopt House Resolution No. 1104.

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

House Resolution No. 1104 is adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1105

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the consideration of House Resolution No. 1105, and that the Secretary General be directed to read the title and text of the Resolution.

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

The consideration of House Resolution No. 1105 is now in order.

The Secretary General is instructed to read the title and text of the Resolution.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 1105, entitled: RESOLUTION INFORMING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS.

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, that President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, be informed that the House of Representatives has entered upon the exercise of its functions.

Adopted,

(Sgd.) RODOLFO C. FARIÑAS
Majority Leader

(Sgd.) DANILO E. SUAREZ
Minority Leader

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Resolution No. 1105.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1105

THE SPEAKER. There is a motion to adopt House Resolution No. 1105.

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

House Resolution No. 1105 is adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 11

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution No. 11, and that the Secretary General be instructed to read the title and text of the resolution.

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

The consideration of House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 is now in order.

The Secretary General is instructed to read the title and text of the Resolution.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Concurrent Resolution No. 11, entitled: CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO HOLD A JOINT SESSION TO HEAR THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that both Houses of Congress of the Republic of the Philippines hold a Joint Session on Monday, July Twenty-Four, Year Two Thousand and Seventeen, at four o'clock in the afternoon at the Session Hall of the House of Representatives, to hear the message of the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

Adopted,

(Sgd.) RODOLFO C FARIÑAS
Majority Leader

(Sgd.) DANILO E. SUAREZ
Minority Leader

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution No. 11.

ADOPTION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 11

THE SPEAKER. There is a motion to adopt House Concurrent Resolution No. 11. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 is adopted.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, in order to give the House Secretariat time to transmit to the Senate the copies of the Resolutions we have just adopted, and until we have received Messages from the Senate, I move for the suspension of our session.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is suspended.

It was 11:09 a.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 11:10 a.m., the session was resumed.

THE SPEAKER. The session is resumed. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of Messages from the Senate.

I move for the consideration of the same.

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

The consideration of Messages from the Senate is now in order.

The Secretary General is instructed to read the Messages from the Senate.

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Senate Resolution No. 422, entitled: RESOLUTION INFORMING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT A QUORUM IS PRESENT IN THE SENATE AND THAT THIS BODY HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE SPEAKER. To the Archives.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Senate Resolution No. 423, entitled: RESOLUTION INFORMING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE THAT A QUORUM IS PRESENT IN THE SENATE AND THAT THIS BODY HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE SPEAKER. To the Archives.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6, entitled: CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES THAT CONGRESS, NOW CONVENED FOR ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, IS READY TO HEAR HIS STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS IN A JOINT SESSION OF BOTH HOUSES.

THE SPEAKER. To the Calendar of Business for the Day.

CONSIDERATION OF S. CT. RES. NO. 6

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 and that the Secretary General be instructed to read the title and text of the resolution.

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

The consideration of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 is now in order.

The Secretary General is instructed to read the title of the resolution.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6, entitled: CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES THAT CONGRESS, NOW CONVENED FOR ITS SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, IS READY TO HEAR HIS STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS IN A JOINT SESSION OF BOTH HOUSES.

Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives of the Philippines concurring, That a Joint Committee of both Houses of Congress be created, composed of nineteen Members, six to be appointed by the President of the Senate and thirteen to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to notify the President of the Philippines that Congress, now convened for its Second Regular Session of the Seventeenth Congress of the Philippines, is ready to hear his State of the Nation Address in a Joint Session of both Houses.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6.

ADOPTION OF S. CT. RES. NO. 6

THE SPEAKER. There is a motion to adopt Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6 is adopted.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, in view of the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 6, authorizing the creation of a Joint Committee of both Houses to notify the President of the Philippines that Congress is convened and ready to hear his message, on the part of the House, I move that all Deputy Speakers be appointed to the Joint Committee.

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

All the Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives are hereby appointed to the Joint Committee and are requested to immediately discharge their responsibilities.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, in order to give the members of the Joint Committee time to perform their assigned task and until the House counterpart is ready to report back their accomplishment to this House, I move that we suspend our session for a few minutes.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the session is suspended.

It was 11:14 a.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 11:15 a.m., the session was resumed.

THE SPEAKER. The session is resumed. The honorable Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, we have received a report from the notification committee that the President has been informed that Congress will convene in Joint Session this afternoon to hear his State of the Nation Address.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind my colleagues to be here at three o'clock this afternoon, one hour before the opening of the session.

THE SPEAKER. The remarks of the Majority Leader are duly noted.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, before I move to adjourn, and from the direction of the Speaker, he also wishes to thank and commend our Deputy Speakers and the members of the Rules Committee headed by Sr. Dep. Majority Leader Rimpay Bondoc, our colleagues from the Minority headed by Minority Leader Danny Suarez, and Sr. Dep. Minority Leader Lito Atienza, our colleagues from the Group of Independents for their partnership in steering the proceedings of this Body. *(Applause)*

On behalf of the Speaker, he also wishes to thank our contingents to the Commission on Appointments headed by Rep. Ronnie Zamora and to the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal headed by Rep. Jorge Almonte. *(Applause)*

Before that, with the permission of the Speaker, I also wish to acknowledge the presence of my 95-year-old mother in the Session Hall as a representative of all our mothers. *(Applause)*

On behalf of my colleagues, to all our mothers and fathers, we love and thank you so much for raising us so well that our respective districts and sectors have chosen us and elected us to represent them in this august hall of Congress. *(Applause)*

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. FARÍÑAS. On that note, Mr. Speaker, I move that we now adjourn the regular session until four o'clock today to hear the State of the Nation Address of the President. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. Tomorrow.

REP. FARÍÑAS. We adjourn until four o'clock tomorrow afternoon, Tuesday, July 25, 2017.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)*
The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until four o'clock tomorrow afternoon.

It was 11:18 a.m.